

WILL WE “PLEASANTLY” ALLOW GOD TO INTERRUPT OUR PLANS?

Marina will tell you, and I believe I've shared this with you before; I'm often not a patient person when things don't go according to plan. Who's plan? Mine! Therein lays the problem. As a child of God, my desire should be to fit in with God's plan for me, even if it means changing course at times to get on His path. Yeah, preaching to myself.

On two (2) separate occasions, while leading a group of bikers on a fellowship ride, God has found a way to interrupt plans. In each instance, a bike problem caused us to slow down and see what He had in store for us.

In spring of this year, Easter eve (if you will), I was leading a ride to The Cross at The University of the South when one of our bikers broke down in Huntland, TN, before we reached the cross. We had planned to visit the cross and pray (remembering what our Savior did for us over 2,000 years ago), and then eat. I witnessed a patient group of our Christian bikers and friends spend time working on the bike and others hung out until it was fixed. This caused a delay in our plans for approximately 1.5 hours. After bike repair, before we left Huntland, we decided to eat first then go to The Cross. Following a great meal and fellowship time at The Smokehouse in Monteagle, TN, we headed to The Cross. Don't you know it! It was perfect timing – God's timing – as we rode into the park area where the large cross is located, and we find a couple right in the middle of their wedding ceremony. Muffler rumble and exhaust fumes added to the ambiance (he says ... not Marina). The newly wedded couple welcomed us to join with them. We had an opportunity to pray over this couple, speaking life-long blessing over this marriage, and get pictures with them. What a sight!? God's timing ... you bet ya! He knew all along where and when He wanted us but He had to slow us down to set the stage for all of this to happen in His timing.

Recently (Sat., Oct. 6 to be exact), God's hand was at work again. Following our chapter meeting, I led a small group of bikers (including my bride on her new-to-her ride; a '14 candy red Honda Rebel 250) from Hartselle toward Lynchburg, TN, via country back roads. We never made it! In backwoods TN Vol country, about 3 miles west of Petersburg, TN, Marina's bike decided it needed a rest or it really wanted lots of attention. In other words, it broke down with clutch slipping problems. We spent a while trying to fix the problem, calling a friend for tips/help, etc. Quite a bit of time passed. Various autos passed by us on the country road. Some drives asked if we needed help with gas while others were just curious what was up. Since we weren't getting anywhere, Marina said, "I can push it toward Petersburg." Yeah, the "I" turned into "we" because anyone who knows anything about TN vs FL coast knows TN is not flat. So began the group push of her bike up hills (she would coast down other side) and then we would drop back and catch the other bikes up. This scenario went on for a while until a guy ("Danny") and his wife stopped by us with "A TRAILER" and said he could take us somewhere

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if needed. Praise the Lord! How about the Dollar General (DG) in Petersburg, TN? Yes! Danny took Marina’s bike to the DG there and we caught the other bikes up to this revised stop. This was not a plan on our journey, but it was in God’s plan. When I arrived inside the DG, following my bike pick-up (I had left it at Danny’s house, while escorting Marina’s bike on trailer to DG), I found Marina earnestly praying with one of the DG workers. WOW! Now I know why plans were interrupted/changed. Before I left our God-send, Danny, I had an opportunity to pray and speak blessing over he and his family.

Father God, please forgive me for all the times I tried and/or succeeded in pushing ahead with my plans versus what you had in store for me. Your plan is always best and right for any occasion.

God is good ALL the time, and ALL the time God is good.

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