



Iron Horse Saints Motorcycle Ministry

PURPOSE

- **REACHING** America's bikers and motorcyclists with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- **TRAINING** and organizing Christian motorcyclists in evangelism and discipleship.
- **EVANGELISM** Go out and spread the Good News and prepare to receive newly saved bikers and motorcyclists

It is our firm belief that a believer cannot mature spiritually without a committed relationship with a local church., Eph. 4:9-16

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

We the members of the Iron Horse Saints believe:

- A. The Bible is the inerrant, inspired Word of God that tells us what to believe and how to live.
- B. There is one God, revealed in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C. Jesus Christ came in the flesh born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died on the cross to pay For our sins, was raised from the dead, ascended into Heaven and will come again to judge the living and the dead.
- D. All people are sinners and need the grace of God.
- E. Salvation is only through faith in Jesus.

MEMBERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

God calls all Christians to serve Him through worship, acts of ministry, personal spiritual growth and the use of our spiritual gifts. As Christians, we have the responsibility to:

1. Love God, our neighbors, and our enemies.
2. Live holy lives.
3. Avoid destructive behavior such as: alcohol and drug abuse, pornography, gambling, dishonest practices, gossip, lying, immorality, etc.
4. Glorify God in all we say and do.
5. Share the Good News of life in Jesus Christ.
6. Support the work of the Kingdom through regular, faithful giving.
7. Actively participate in the life of the church.

CORE VALUES

The Core Values of the Iron Horse Saints are based on *characteristics* demonstrated by the Lord Jesus Christ and on *precepts* found in the Word of God.

Excellence

We value the pursuit of excellence in our service to Christ. *Therefore*, we believe everything offered to God should reflect our best and that our acts of service be done to His honor and glory.

Grace

We value grace as the proclamation of God's complete love for each person, as they are, and because forgiveness is granted to us as an act of grace from God through Jesus Christ. *Therefore*, we desire to offer forgiveness to others because we ourselves have been forgiven.

Honesty

We value honesty in relationships with people and with God. *Therefore*, we affirm that people struggle with sin, are redeemed only by Christ, and that we are all travelers on the journey of faith.

Love

We value love because God loves us completely and unconditionally. *Therefore*, we desire to treat one another with dignity, respect and mercy, recognizing that our testimony to the world and our identity in Christ is demonstrated by our love.

Ministry

We value ministry because God has given us the responsibility to build up the church and advance the gospel of Christ. *Therefore*, we desire to faithfully use the gifts, talents and abilities that God has given to each of us individually.

Relationships

We value people. *Therefore*, we seek to encourage each person to develop healthy intimate relationships with God, their family and the family of faith.

Stewardship

We value the biblical principle of stewardship because we know that everything we have belongs to God. *Therefore*, we desire to be responsible and faithful in managing the resources He has entrusted to us.

Truth

We value the process of God transforming lives by the power of His truth. *Therefore*, we desire to help people understand the inerrant truth of God's Word through preaching, worship, education ministries, discipleship and personal study.

METHODS OF MINISTRY

1. Members are encouraged to wear their patch (Colors) and participate in secular motorcycle events and activities such as rallies, races, bike shows, runs and club functions.
2. Members should always be ready to share their faith in Jesus and be willing to pray for other needs and minister as the Holy Spirit leads.
3. Anyone unwilling to pray with others or share their faith in Christ should question why they want to wear the Iron Horse Saints Motorcycle Club Patch (Colors). IHS is a ministry — and a fellowship club.

COLORS

- A. Patch (Colors) consisting of a motorcycle, a horse and a cross. This is the symbol of the Iron Horse Saints.
- B. The Patch (Colors) will remain the property of the Iron Horse Saints. No reproduction of the Patch (Colors) is permitted without written permission. The patch may not be altered. Members may be required to return their Patch (Colors) if they are found to have dishonored the guidelines of the IHS.
- C. Patch (Colors) will be worn as often as possible when riding, always when representing IHS and at all IHS functions and ministry activities.

- D. Colors and membership costs a suggested \$40.00 donation and may be purchased upon approval of the existing ministry in place.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Complete the Iron Horse Saints Motorcycle Ministry Application form, including Pastor's endorsement.

If by check for \$40.00 donation made payable to Iron Horse Saints Motorcycle Ministry

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHURCHES AND INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED IN BEGINNING MINISTRY TO MOTORCYCLISTS

Ministry to motorcyclists can begin at three different/overlapping levels:

- * Fellowship
- * Evangelism
- * Discipleship

I. Fellowship

Examples would include, but not be limited to:

- Meeting at the church for a Saturday morning ride together for breakfast.
- Encouraging motorcycle riders to ride their bikes to church, complete with riding apparel, and providing a special place for bikes only parking. *This could establish a "biker friendly" atmosphere which will help visitors who ride feel welcome and comfortable.*
- Encourage riders in the church to bring their bikes to other church functions. People are fascinated with motorcycles.
- Have bikers in the church sell or auction off rides to church members to raise money for mission's projects.
- Meet at the church to ride to other motorcycle events in the community.

II. Evangelism

Biker specific events can be scheduled to begin establishing a relationship with the motorcycle riders in your community. Men and women already involved in fellowship activities may be ready to take their fellowship rides to the next level. Decide whether these events are intended to be evangelistic outreaches or fund raisers. It is very difficult to combine the two. One thing that really tears down walls that exist between the church and the world is to not charge or accept donations. It provides a perfect opportunity to explain "Free Grace".

Biker Sundays - Like any other special event at church, success will depend upon individual involvement. Simply declaring any given Sunday to be a "Biker Sunday" may not guarantee success. Non church riders will come because they have been personally invited by someone in the church. Encourage church folks to dress casually for that service, provide special parking and a free meal after church. Share the gospel and provide an opportunity to respond.



Bike Show - A free bike show complete with free food and trophies will attract local riders. If your church is located on a main street or highway in your community, the church parking lot may be a good choice. If not, shopping center or supermarket parking lots are often available. End with a brief presentation emphasizing God's love and forgiveness.



Hospitality Tent - If your church is near a major motorcycle event or on a heavily traveled route to or from one, you may be able to set up a tent to give out free coffee, ice water and snacks. Evangelism material can be available as well as someone willing to pray with anyone in need. Highway rest areas, motorcycle dealerships, swap meets and bike races are all possibilities. Permission is always needed. Sometimes you may have to pay a fee to set up as any other vendor.



Bike Blessings - This can be done in conjunction with other events or as an event of its own. We're not really blessing a machine, but praying for the rider and passenger. Ask if there is anything specific you can pray about for them. If someone invites you to pray with them about anything they have opened their heart just a little to receive more of God farther down the road.

Free Bike Wash - This means free, no donations, no tips. Offer them a cup of water or coffee while you wash their bike. Provide and encourage them to read a short evangelism tract you have ready. When finished offer to pray for them about anything. Be prepared to answer their questions about "Why are you doing this for free?"



Toy Runs - A toy run is a motorcycle ride usually of less than 100 miles with the intent of collecting toys for kids around Christmas time. Bikers donate a new toy to be able to make the ride. Free food is good. Some of the hardest bikers have a soft heart when it comes to kids. What better chance than to explain what Christmas is really all about.

Hospital Visits - If you have a way of knowing about bikers who have been in accidents in your area and have someone in your church that can relate and is willing to make these visits, incredible ministry opportunity is available.

Motorcycle Riding Fellowship - Motorcycle riders within the church who wish to identify as a group for the purpose of fellowship and evangelism within the motorcycle community. The motorcycle community, like many other sub groups within our culture, has its own set of rules and protocol. Join in other Motorcycle Clubs events such as poker runs, toy runs, fund raisers, etc.

III. Discipleship

Are you a true disciple? Riders in the church who are maturing believers with a love for motorcycles and the people who ride them, with a desire to commit to more than fellowship, more than an occasional outreach to the local biker community.

Jesus' disciples did more than just enjoy His teachings and one another's company. They brought others to Jesus. They were recognized in their community as disciples of Jesus.

The next step in motorcycle ministry is a core of committed riders called to ministry to bikers, willing to become informed in the rules and protocol of the biker world and ready to do whatever it takes to bring unsaved bikers to a relationship with Jesus. These individuals may be interested in becoming a part of the Iron Horse Saints.