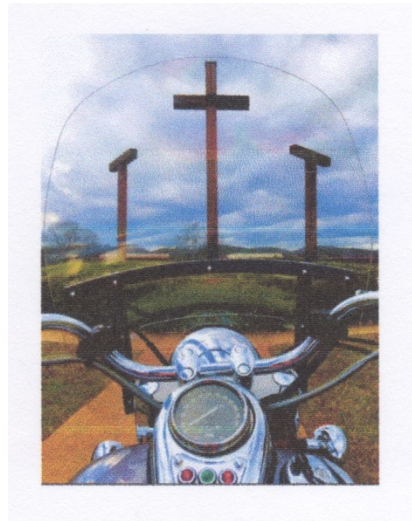




MJM'S TEAM VOICE NEWSLETTER

<http://www.go2mjm.com>

August 2019



LIST OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

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CHAPTER & VERSE

SKIN IN THE GAME

Why the Word Became Flesh and Dwelt Among Us

BY JOSHUA RYAN BUTLER ILLUSTRATION BY ADAM CRUFT

➔ “IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD,” John famously opens his gospel, “and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” (1:1). That’s a powerful and mysterious introduction to our Savior, but what does it mean? We’re used to calling Scripture the Word of God, which makes more sense since it has a bunch of, well, *words* in it. But what does it mean to call *Jesus* the Word of God? It’s really a strange title, but the apostle John is drawing on a deep Old Testament understanding when he refers to Jesus in this way.

THE AGENT OF CREATION God’s “word” is the agent of creation. That’s why the psalmist praised, “By the word of the LORD the heavens were made” (33:6), and Peter called God’s people to recognize that “by God’s word the heavens came into being” (2 Pet. 3:5 NIV). The author of Hebrews rejoiced, “The worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible” (11:3).

All these authors are riffing on Genesis 1. When God began to build the world, He did not pull out a hammer and nails to start constructing but instead simply spoke: “Let there be!” And there was. I can barely get my kids to clean their room, but God communicates and creation coordinates around His voice. Like the decree of a mighty king, our Creator’s word is powerful. When God speaks, things happen. This means Jesus is the agent of creation. As the Word of God, He is the one through whom “all things came into being,” according to John 1:3. Jesus is the pulsating power of God, the life-giving center through which all things hold together.

A VEHICLE OF COMMUNICATION For us, words are primarily a vehicle of communication. Imagine I’m at a coffee shop and, seeing someone I’ve never met, begin to guess from across the room, *I bet his name is Bill. He’s probably an architect, and I’ll wager he’s single and likes playing golf.* But then he walks across the room, introduces himself and tells me he’s a doctor who’s been married for 12 years, has three kids, and is a passionate equestrian. I was all wrong. But I didn’t know it until he spoke. His words *reveal* what’s within—they take the “internal” and make it “external” and let me in on who he is. Without that, it’s all just guesswork done from afar.

Similarly, God’s words reveal who He is. “The word of the LORD” comes to God’s people throughout the Bible—particularly in the

prophets’ writings—to let them in on God’s perspective. And this word is tied to His character, “For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does” (Ps. 33:4 NIV). So our confidence is grounded in the revelation of who God is, like that of the psalmist who sang in difficult circumstances, “You are my hiding place and my shield; I wait for Your word” (119:114). God’s *speech* gives us courage to trust in God’s *character*.

Jesus is God’s deepest communication to us. Without Him, we’d be guessing what God is like from across the universe, our imaginations coming up with all sorts of crazy things that are not actually true. But when “the Word became flesh” (John 1:14), God walked across the room and said, “Let Me sit down and tell you who I really am.” Our Creator communicates the core of who He is through Christ.

Jesus not only *is* the Word of God; He also *brings us* the words of God, telling His disciples, “If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you” (15:7). Isn’t that crazy? When *the words of God’s Word*—the speech of Jesus—take root in us and indwell us, we can approach God with boldness, because God’s very presence dwells in the power of His words.

A COMMUNION OF LOVE John says the Word was not only *with* God but also *was* God. This is interesting. Think about your words for a moment. They are *identified with* you and yet are *distinct from* you. Your words can take on a life of their own, Continued on pg 68

in a sense, as they proceed from your mouth. However, they have no life on their own, because they cannot exist independently without you.

Jesus both proceeds *from* God and *is* God. As the eternal Word, He is both *distinct from* the Father and *identified with* the Father. Their identity is inextricably intertwined. “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father,” Jesus tells us later in John, for “I am in the Father, and the Father is in me,” and “I and the Father are one” (14:9, 11; 10:30 NIV). Jesus is not just someone who’s been *with* God, but someone intimately identified *as* God.

This brings us to the mysterious and beautiful realm of the Trinity—the historic Christian doctrine that proclaims God is an eternal communion of love. The Father, Son, and Spirit are the one God. Though many people think the New Testament created this concept out of thin air, its **roots** are actually grounded deep in Old Testament soil.

The Hebrew Scriptures present many of God’s attributes—like His wisdom, name, and



glory—in ways that are *identified with* God yet *distinct from* Him. Wisdom, for example, is personified as a character *with* God at creation and *through* whom God created the world (Prov. 8:22-31). Likewise, the “angel of the Lord,” a frequent figure people regularly interacted with in the Old Testament, was an independent messenger from God, yet He responded to the name Yahweh (Gen. 16:13, 32:30; Judg. 6:11-23). Similarly, when we encounter Jesus, we’re not simply meeting a messenger from God but rather are coming in contact with God’s very presence.

WHEN AUDIO BECAME VISUAL When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the audio became visual. The very first time the phrase “word of the LORD” appears in the Old Testament is

in Genesis 15:1, when “the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision.” This phrase is strange, both in English and the original Hebrew. Words are *audiological*, but Abram encounters God’s voice as something *visual*. The word is something he “sees.”

The same thing happens when Samuel is called as a prophet; the “word of the LORD” comes to him as a “vision” (1 Sam. 3:1, 15). Ezekiel also encounters “the word of the LORD” as a dramatic vision of God (Ezek. 1:3). With the coming of Christ, however, something even more dramatic happened. He wasn’t just a vision of God but a face-to-face, flesh-and-blood encounter. When “the Word became flesh,” the Savior took on skin (John 1:14).

The word *incarnation* has at its root the Latin *carne*, or “meat.” (It’s the same word in *carne asada*, my favorite kind of taco.) And like an animal in the temple, the Savior served as the Lamb of God, sacrificed to atone for the sin of the world. The majesty of the incarnation is that divinity became physical; the eternal Word took on flesh and bone, assuming the fullness of our humanity, for us and our salvation.

God has skin in the game. Literally. The incarnation means God is fully invested in and committed to us. This is the power of the Word made flesh. Our Creator was willing to do whatever was necessary to become our Redeemer. God communicated His great love for us by entering the fullness of our condition—all to welcome us back home into the triune God’s eternal communion of love. ©

Jesus is the pulsating
power of God, the life-giving
center through which
all things hold together.

LIST OF MJM T.E.A.M.'s

FLORIDA

Good NeWs Riders

Lake Placid, Fl.

Gary Decker

KENTUCKY

Holy Ghost Riders

Finchville, Ky.

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Vern402@yahoo.com

Freedom Praise Riders

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Chuck Moore 1-717-224-8790

Chuckmoore603@gmail.com

VERMONT

Vermont Christian Riders

Pittsford, Vt.

Phil Guica 1-802-483-2540

bikingforj@yahoo.com



MJM OPERATING ACCOUNT – MAY ENDING BALANCE	\$9,200.86
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JUNE DEPOSITS

DUES (ELECTRONIC TRANSFER)	\$480.00	
DONATIONS	145.00	
AMA EASY RIDER REFUND	265.00	
BANK TRANSFER FEE	(.50)	\$889.50

JUNE EXPENSES

SERVANT RIDERS	\$1.00
(MONEY ORDER BANK FEE)	

JUNE ENDING BALANCE ***	\$10,089.36
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*** 2,369.68 GOODIES ***
 7,719.68 MJM OPERATING

MJM LIFETIME SAVINGS ACCOUNT - MAY ENDING BALANCE	\$6,955.23
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JUNE INTEREST	\$.11
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JUNE ENDING BALANCE	\$6,955.46
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2020 MJM National Spring Kick-Off

Save the Date:
29-31 May 2020

MJM SKO Hosted by the
Living Water Riders T.E.A.M.
Portland, MI.

POC: Billy Rose – BRUSN121@GMAIL.COM- 517-802-7454

Hotel: American Heritage Inn – 517-647-2200

MJM will be attending the 2012 Daytona Beach Bike Week, we are looking at stay in the Opus, if you are interested in attending please contact Fred McClincy

<https://www.vrbo.com/search/keywords:Opus%20Condominium%2C%20Daytona%20Beach%20Shores%2C%20FL%2C%20USA/arrival:2021-03-06/departure:2021-03-13?adultsCount=6&petIncluded=false>

Also, if you purchase items from Amazon you can log into <https://smile.amazon.com/>

You can select Motorcyclists for Jesus Ministries and MJM will receive a donation from Amazon.

Positions open for MJM Members;

MJM Historian - position is open for candidate to maintain up to date record of MJM Officers, Events, to record MJM's history for future Members, etc...

MJM Membership Secretary - position is open for candidate to maintain up to date records of Membership, providing the National Newsletter Editor with Monthly Birthdays and Anniversaries, reporting New, Deleted Member/s to the MJM Board, Road Reps, etc...

MJM National Newsletter Editor – position is open for a candidate to produce a Monthly Newsletter to be posted on the MJM Web Site and sent out to the MJM Membership via e-mail

For additional information / requirements on each position please contact Fred McClincy at 215-234-8611, or e-mail bikerfredz@gmail.com

It's time to nominate members in good standing to serve on the MJM Board of Directors. Nominations must be received in writing by Fred McClincy, B.O.D. Chairman, by October 1, 2017. You can email the members name and a brief explanation why you believe they should serve on the Board of Directors to Fred at 215-234-8611 or E-mail it to Fred at bikerfredz@gmail.com Please speak to the person(s) you are considering nominating to be sure they are in agreement to serve on the MJM Board.

Also, members may not nominate themselves. Please refer to your MJM Handbook on the qualifications for Board Members. Thank you for participating in this process. MJM is a self-governing ministry and depends on the participation of its members.

Also MJM Board is excepting Nominations for the following Awards, Missionary of the Year, FoundersAward, Pappy's TEAM Award. MJM Members can nominate members and /or TEAM's for these Awards to be given to Fred McClincy. Nominations must be received in writing by Fred McClincy, B.O.D. President, by October 1, 2018.

You can email the members name and a brief explanation why you believe they should serve on the B.O.D. to Fred at 215-234-8611 or mail it to him at bikerfredz@gmail.com

A brief description of these Awards can be found in the Members Only Page of the National MJM Web Site, if you need the password please contact Steve Modricker at steven.modricker@comcast.net

Thanks,
 Fred McClincy
 Chairman of the MJM Board of Directors

August 2019 Voice Newsletter Report - July 22, 2019

Years of Service

James	Major	1	Steven	Modricker	9
Angela	Major	1	Fiona Wehmeyer	Modricker	9
Esther	Medina	14	Nathan	Brubaker	1
Stanley	Stauffer	15	Carl	Riddle	6
Robin	Stauffer	15			

Birthdays

Kerma	Wardlaw	8/1	Alvin	Bankert	8/22
WC "Santo"	Landerer	8/2	Laura J.	Van Aken	8/23
John	Van Aken	8/3	Tonya G.	McDonald	8/25
Sharon	Platchek	8/11	Kimberly M.	Ream	8/27
Greg	Walde	8/14	Debra	Domenici	8/28
Linda	Hawkins	8/17	Vernon	Hawkins	8/28

Anniversaries

Shelley and Maxine	Cobb	8/9	Ziggy and Amber	Jorgensen	8/25
Gary and Kathleen	Cobb	8/22			

God Bless

Respectfully Submitted By:

Michael Fields - National Membership Secretary

Seasons

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 Complete Jewish Bible (CJB)

For everything there is a season, a right time for every intention under heaven —
a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to throw stones and a time to gather stones, a time to embrace and a time to refrain,
a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to discard,
a time to tear and a time to sew, a time to keep silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

Let me say it's been a pleasure to be able to help out our MJM group as the newsletter editor. But, as we all go through seasons in this life, this season has to come to a close. All things ("under the sun") come to an ending. A bittersweet ending too, but for the best. I am not ending my membership with MJM in case this is sounding like this, just my part with the Team Voice. May The Lord our God lead the new editor in this endeavor.

Always looking up- gt

