

DRIVING FORWARD FOR JESUS



Greetings from your friends at Racing with Jesus Ministries. We have passed the halfway mark of the season. As we get to crunch time and prepare for the stretch run, things are going well. We appreciate you being alongside for the journey. Thank you all for your continued support.

Have you ever stopped and looked around to see who is coming behind you, following in your footsteps, preparing to continue what you are doing? We can be guilty of focusing too much on our efforts and overlook the next generation. We need to pay attention to those who come behind us.



Meet Ezra Heft and Robert Sly; our youngest Chaplain in Training and our most senior chaplain well into his 70's.

Continuation is not something that just happens, we need to prepare for it. One of the most important activities we can be involved in is identifying who the next generation is and pouring our wealth of experience and knowledge into them.

Racing with Jesus Ministries is the same as any other organization, provisions need to be made for who is coming next. For us there are many facets to that. We need to raise up leadership capable of stepping in seamlessly and also chaplains who can start filling the needs of those we serve. As Dan and I look at the hands of time we realize those all-night drives across the countryside have lost their luster and recovery time is on the upswing.



I share with some pride that we are poised to move forward. God has provided opportunities to raise up those who are next, we have recognized that and are pouring into those who will be the leaders and chaplains of tomorrow.

Listen to the perspective of two young men who recently spent time shadowing several of our chaplains in an effort to grasp what it is that we do. Both Noah and Ezra Heft, Chaplains in Training, spent a month attending races with different chaplains at different tracks.



Noah writes; "Across these four races, I have stretched my comfort zone, built new relationships with people, and become a part of the racing community. I look forward to serving more races and in other chaplaincy roles in the future; it is, I believe, what I was born to do."

Ezra shared; "During the four weeks I spent with the ministry, my primary focus was on building relationships. This meant everything from praying with the drivers to simply spending time talking to officials and spectators. Although I may not remember everyone's name, and they may not remember mine, I pray that they can remember the ministry I was serving with, and who I was serving for, since it certainly wasn't myself ..."

"This is what was truly amazing to me; although people connect with us because of the relationships we have built, that it is still us connecting them with God, so long as we reflect His light."

2 Timothy 4:5-7; NLT; But you should keep a clear mind in every situation. Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you.

These perspectives come from young men whom God has called to serve. They have recognized that at a young age and are ready to learn what that entails. Our responsibility is to pour into them, train them, encourage them and discipline them as they grow in their walk with God.

Thank you again for your partnership. Please continue to lift up our chaplains and ministry.

In His Service, Rev. Don Rivers and the entire RWJM Team

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