



Team Jesus Racing Ministry

December 2009

Acts 20:24 However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace. (from NIV)

So what do I do as a racing chaplain?

I am sure some wonder what I do as a. My primary work is to share the hope of Jesus Christ as LORD. I do that by hanging out more than anything waiting for God to give me an open heart and door. Not that I can save anyone but I declare God's Word.

So there is an overview. How does that get done?

One, **hanging out**, I arrive at the track or event early and hang around the pits talking to drivers, crews, fan and the people with the track or series. The chats can be about the last week of racing to what the Bible says about so and so. I do a lot of just hanging out.

Two, **prayer**. I pray with the drivers at the drivers meeting, I am allowed to do the invocation prior to the national anthem. At many of the bigger events I will ask to pray with the drivers individually as they are getting strapped in, most accept the offer. And then I pray with those involved in accidents if they want. Prayer is a large pray of the ministry to the drivers and families. One of the most encouraging opportunities this summer was when Big 8 invited me to hang out with them at Jefferson Speedway and I was allowed to pray over the drivers as a group and individually but the big deal was I was allowed to do the invocation and that may have been the first invocation at Jefferson. Thanks Gregg McKarns!

Three, **Devotions**. With the MidAM guys I get to do a short devotional at the drivers meeting, Thanks Julie and Doug. The second cool thing is Madison Intentional Speedway does a weekly newsletter in the season and monthly out of season and I am allowed to write short devotion for each one. I am able to share Scripture and applications.

One other fun thing I get to do is the AWANA Grand Prix devotion. I have been able to share at a couple of churches and annually at DEFC.

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Fourth, **care to the injured and ill**. This is a sport of high risk. Often there are accidents and injuries. I help comfort the family, teams, fans, and other while helping the driver as much as I can. In some cases this includes calming down guys really upset with a driver to a mom wondering if her child will be ok. I also do follow up calls and e mails and hospital and home visits. This summer I had a special opportunity as I went to visit a driver sister who had been hit by a truck (not at the track). As I ministered to the family I looked at the driver's dad and reminded them that a year almost to the day Ryan's dad was told he would not leave his bed after a heart attack. We had prayed for his healing and God granted favor. It was a perfect time to see evidence of the Lord's healing. Five, **chapels**. We hold church at the track. This year we were able to have a few chapels and two stand out. One Butch M has drove more races then anyone I know and he showed up at a chapel at MIS and said that in all the years of racing he had never gone to a church service at a track. The second was I was allowed to bring a chapel service back to the National Short Track Championships at Rockford.

Six, **encouragement ministry**. I deal with a lot of fans and others and encourage them to be in the Word and prayer. The other thing I try to do is encourage and support the other couple of chaplains in Wisconsin. I would really like to team up with others that want to minister at tracks.

Hope this helps you in praying for me and Merry CHRISTmas. I pray that you are focused on Jesus and Him being Lord.

Upcoming date: January 14-16 we will go to our first NFRM Annual meeting and training. A praise is that our loving local church is sending us!