



Team Jesus Racing Ministry

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)

2010 Season Summary by the numbers

Fun Facts:

Events – 36
Tracks – 9
Series – 6
Chapels – 6
Kids events at churches – 2 events with over 500 attendance
Wrote devotions – 39 (Posted on web site)
Tracts given out – over 500
Bibles given out – 7
Prayer in drivers meetings – 30
Individual prayer w/ teams and drivers – 1000's (seriously)
Invocations – 27
Miles – Lots
Oh, and I got to race, a 2nd and a 5th (charity race at MIS)

Looking ahead to 2011 Season

We are working on plans for the 2011 season. We are hoping to work with Madison International Speedway again this year. It will be season 11 if I remember right. We are so thankful to God opening the doors to this ministry and being allowed to present the goodness and greatness of the Lord to many that are aware of the God and their need. We get to hang out and wait for opportunity. **Pray** that we will be alert to the opportunities as they present themselves. **Thanks** to John Wells who is working on carving out a time in the weekly schedule to have a short chapel time.

Again this year Doug and Julie have invited us back to work with Mid-American Sport Car Series. We are looking forward to an exciting year. Our **prayer** is again for opportunities to present the gospel, and that there would be those ready to respond to God's offer of salvation. MASCs season opener is Rockford, April 17th.

www.teamjrm.com

February 2011

In association with:

National Fellowship of Raceway Ministry

Chaplain: Todd Christopherson

Cell: 608-630-7301

E Mail: torch_for_jesus@yahoo.com

Address: 512 Chippewa Court; DeForest, WI 53532

Looking ahead to 2011 Season, cont.

We have several major events we are looking forward to in 2011:

Rockford Spring opener on April 17th. This is always a great event and we are allowed to have chapel. Gregg McKarns and Rockford Speedway are always very generous in giving us a good time slot and place to hold chapel at their events. **Pray** that I identify the message God would have me share for this chapel and throughout the year.

MIS/ ASA Midwest Tour opener May 1st. They will also be accompanied by the ASA Sportsmen and Truck Series. Again we hope to start the season with a chapel and an opportunity to pray over the season with the teams and drivers.

May 22nd is opening day at MIS with all four weekly divisions racing. Saturday we will try to pray with all those wanting to go over the upcoming season. It is a privilege to lean on Jesus for safety in this dangerous sport of racing.

July 1st is a late model special and fireworks night at MIS. This is always a huge crowd and fun night.

July 30th CRA invades Rockford. This is a great late model series coming back to the fast high banked quarter mile track.

August 26th ARCA is coming to MIS. Nationally known drivers from across the country will be running the half-mile.

End of the season events will include:

September 24th and 25th Fall Classic at MIS; October 1st and 2nd at National Short Track Championships at Rockford and October 7th – 9th at Fest in LaCrosse.

Banquet Recap

We had the privilege to be at a couple banquets this year. It is always fun to catch up with the guys and see what their plans are for the upcoming season and also to remind them of the protection the Lord provided over the past season. Lyle Nowak was the champion of MASCS. He is a 17 or so track championship from northern Wisconsin. Amazingly, he is one of the most humble and approachable guys I know in racing with that many championships. He did a great job thanking and honoring those that work with MASCS, their staff and his competitors.

At MIS's banquet two-three in a row champions were honored and two-two in a row champions plus of course Bobby Wilberg won another championship (Sportsmen) making him a 16 or so championships.

When I attend the banquets there is usually a table near-by the podium with trophies. They are big, shiny awards with inscriptions of the accomplishment. As I stood beside them, I think of the work that goes into a race season. I think of the hours and hours of time at the track and in the garage. I think that it takes a team from the owner, sponsor, crew chief, students, engine builder and so on. I think of the talent that they have. Each side is important to bring together a season that ends with a championship.

As I think about these things I think how there is a side that we can relate to our ministry work.

The Hours – There is no doubt that racing takes a lot of time and hard work. There are hours upon hours spent in the shop that many fans never see. In a Christian's life, there needs to be hours upon hours spent working for the Lord's glory. We have example in God's Word of this. 2 Thessalonians 3:13 *And as for you, brothers, never tire of doing what is right.* And again in 2 Thessalonians 3:8 *On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you.* In Colossians 4:12 we read - *He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured.* We have examples of Jesus going to work in prayer early in the morning. The Christian faith is not just showing up for an hour on Sunday morning and calling it good with the Lord. He wants us to work hard, to sacrifice, to wrestle against the enemy (Ephesians 6:10-12)

The Team Afford – Next we see it takes a team effort. In racing, there is a group from owner and sponsor to the guy polishing the windshield. Each is important. Championships are won by each person doing their job well. In the church, the same thing must

happen. God explains it in 1 Corinthians 12:14 *Now the body is not made up of one part but of many.* The passage goes on to explain the importance of each person (part of the body) doing what they are assigned so that there is success for all. In 3 John 8 we read - *We ought therefore to show hospitality to such men so that we may work together for the truth.* We are to be working together for the truth, to spread the gospel to share the hope of eternal life to minister to the poor and needy.

The Talent – Ever wonder to yourself, how did they get that much talent? I see guys that can handle a car that is right on the edge of not turning or being so lose you don't know how it is not spinning out at every corner. I see guys that can build cars and go 'wow'. It is not just in racing but may walks in life. Think about the talent of a stay at home mom or a home school parent or the doctor or farmer and so on. The answer lies in the Bible. Our work, talents, our vocation, is given to us by the Lord. In Exodus 31:1-6 it says (parts omitted) ¹*Then the LORD said to Moses,* ² *"See, I have chosen... and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts--* ⁴ *to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, 5 to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship....Also I have given skill to all the craftsmen to make everything I have commanded you:.* God blesses us with skill to be used for His glory in and on our job.

We see the hours, teamwork, and talent that go into win a championship. We want to be champions for God. How are you doing to accomplish that? How are you being used by the Lord and how are you using your talent, your work for the Lord to be blessed?

Final Note

Do you know of others who would pray for Team Jesus Racing Ministry? Do you know of any that would be interested in financial supporting TJRM? We are very grateful to those that have partnered with us. Our expenses for 2010 were about \$4,000 not including about \$1,500 travel cost. We had about \$3,300 in contributions.

We are working on a devotional book and study much like what you just read. **Pray** as we try to finish the work of the book and then see if there is someone to publish it.

Thanks again for so many who support the Team in prayer and encouragement.

Have a great day racin' in the SONshine!