

### **Serving With a Christ-First Mentality** by Shawn Ohlms



Dan, the brother of a missionary, is shown inside the Cardinals Team Store at Busch Stadium.

We recently had the privilege of connecting with Dan, the brother of a missionary who was using one of the Righteous Rides fleet vans. Dan shared with us the following story:

“In the first week of September, I left my South Carolina home at 5 a.m., and drove to St. Louis in order to return a van to Righteous Rides for my brother, a missionary to Brazil. Around 6:30 p.m., as I drove west across the Mississippi River on the I-64 bridge, the Gateway Arch began coming into view, and it brought to mind a trip I took last June. During our journey through the Midwest, we had looked down on Busch Stadium from the windows in the top of the Arch. “I ought to find out if the Cardinals are playing tonight”, was the thought that popped into my head. Though tired after the 700-mile drive, I exited into downtown St. Louis and quickly learned that the St. Louis Cardinals were playing the Pittsburgh Pirates in Busch Stadium at 7:15 p.m.

After parking on Broadway, I walked quickly towards the stadium. Ticket scalpers tried to sell me tickets, but I brushed them off. A nice couple noticed I needed tickets, and then gave me one! They attend most home games, and had more tickets than they needed for this game, so I ended up on the fourth level, row 6, behind home plate. When I took my seat in the top of the second inning, the Pirates were batting. They hit a home run that inning, but the Cardinals went on to win in an exciting game.

It was a blessing to see how God worked things out. The next day, after a good night’s rest in the van, I returned the vehicle to the Righteous Rides headquarters. Tina and Shawn were super friendly, and guided me efficiently through the vehicle return

process, and even provided me with a ride to the car rental office and a small cash gift to help offset the car rental. All in all, my trip to St. Louis was great! I was born in that city, but having never lived there as an adult, I knew little about the city. I now know, however, that it is warm and hospitable!”

Dan’s experience brought to mind how warm and hospitable we are as Christians. We are called to humble ourselves and serve. With this in mind, do we live in such a way that people would share about us, the same sentiment’s Dan shared of his time in St. Louis? Are we living in a way that exemplifies the first part of Luke 6:30 (Give to everyone who begs from you...)? Are we serving in a way that would be pleasing to the Lord? Our hope and prayer at Righteous Rides is that we serve in a way that would exalt the name of Christ. We are confident that if we, as Christians, serve with a Christ-first mentality, we will see the Spirit moving in ways we never could have imagined.

### **The Dash Board**

- 70+ vehicles are currently providing transportation for missionaries.
- 150 families are utilizing, or are on schedule to utilize a Righteous Rides vehicle– including a reservation in 2017!
- 70+ vehicles drove over 525,000 miles during the 3rd Quarter of 2014.
- Over 6 million miles driven since inception!!

# Christianity is Neither Casual Nor Comfortable

Pastor, and newly elected president of the International Mission Board, David Platt, recently spoke at First Baptist Church in Arnold, MO, an event in which I was fortunate enough to be in attendance. During his sermon, Platt spoke about the call we have to serve, and took it one step further, saying "Christ did not die a brutal, humiliating death so we could be sidelined while living casually and comfortably. The perfect relationship between Father and Son was not broken so we could accept Christ as our Lord and Savior and then retreat to our own, little Christian shelter. We are called to witness. We are called to evangelize."

Platt issued a challenge with the following sentiment: "Ordinary people, with extraordinary power preaching, praying, giving, and suffering is what causes the Gospel to spread." We may not all be called to sell everything and serve overseas. We may not all be called to attend seminary and be a pastor. We are all called, however, to serve. We are all called to use the gifts, talents, and abilities God has so graciously bestowed upon us. Our hope is that we would purposefully and intentionally seek out ways to use those gifts, talents, and abilities to glorify Him.

- Shawn Ohlms -

## Prayer Requests

- Safety for the many missionary families traveling across the country in Righteous Rides vehicles.
- Safety for those working in the shop.
- Wisdom for the team as the ministry grows.
- His strength, joy, and peace for missionary families.
- Sensitivity to the community members with whom we come into contact at the shop. That we might boldly and lovingly encourage them as we share the Good News.

## Praises

- Time spent with missionary families as they've come through the shop.
- His provision for missionaries requesting transportation at the last minute!
- Volunteers! Righteous Rides IS a volunteer ministry, and we appreciate so much the commitment from those walking alongside us in our pursuit of missionary care.
- The encouragement from churches with whom Righteous Rides has had the privilege of connecting.



The 2015 Righteous Rides Banquet will be held at Old Hickory Golf Club in St. Peters, MO the evening of February 28th from 4:30 to 7:00.

## Righteous Rides

### Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 247  
Troy, MO 63379-0247

### Street Address:

51 College Campus Drive  
Moscow Mills, MO 63362

Phone: 636-366-9500

Fax: 636-356-9501

### E-Mail:

[info@righteousrides.org](mailto:info@righteousrides.org)

### On the Web:

[www.righteousrides.org](http://www.righteousrides.org)



## Friends of Righteous Rides

### Accelerating the Gospel

**Our Mission:** To further the spread of the gospel message of Jesus Christ by assisting evangelistic organizations in meeting their personal transportation needs.

**Our Team:** Righteous Rides is a team of auto enthusiasts donating their time, money, and expertise to ease the hassles often experienced by missionaries and mission organizations in acquiring and maintaining their vehicles. We invite you to join us by praying for Righteous Rides, giving financially, or donating vehicles.

**Newsletter:** If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via e-mail instead of receiving a hard copy, please notify us at [info@righteousrides.org](mailto:info@righteousrides.org).