

H D Press On CMA Highway Disciples Katy, Texas



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Six Words That Will Influence Others

Happy New Year. As we start 2025, I thought about the *Vision* of CMA “Changing the world, one heart at a time.” “One heart at a time” means a personal connection or relationship with someone. How do we influence others to accept Jesus as their Savior? One way we do that is through communication with others. Words can build up or tear down. All words have the potential to change a moment or an attitude. Our goal should be to leave a positive mark with what we say. You don’t have to be an incredible communicator or break out the thesaurus to leave your mark. Here are 6 subtle words that will influence others.

1. Try – Think about people who inspired you. They probably challenged you to excel in something; faith, family, work, sports, etc. They pushed you to be your best. In other words, they made you try. “Try” is a powerful word of encouragement. Being influential means trying your best and encouraging others to do the same.
2. Don’t – This word can be freeing or a hindrance. Saying “don’t give up” is hopeful, while telling someone “don’t bother” can be defeating. Both have influence. Choose your words carefully around people. Those words will steer them. Make sure it’s in a positive direction.
3. Please – This is simple but shows a lot of things about you. It demonstrates how you care about others, intend to be polite, and value kindness and humility. All of those characteristics lend to being influential in a good way, something we all should hope to be. This is one I struggle with, mostly with my family. Not because I want to be rude, but because I do not think to say it when I should. I think “please” and #6 are the two most powerful words on this list.
4. Yes – “Yes” is an open door. “No” is a closed one. While it’s good to close some doors, I think we miss out on opportunities by saying “no” too often. When we say yes, we embrace what could be. “Should we go somewhere new?” “Should we serve in that activity or rally?” Your yes is your acceptance to an

unknown adventure or, at the very least, to an invitation to have fun and enjoy life with others.

5. Listen – When talking with someone, generally listening to them is more important than what you have to say. When you listen to the other person and really try to understand them, you show you care and are interested in what they have to say. This is one I have struggled with and have been working on for many years. As a person is talking, I know what I want to say and sometimes interrupt them to say my comment. When I do that, I quietly tell them that I think what I have to say is more important than what they have to say, and they will not be interested in what I have to say. We (I) need to let others complete their comments, think, then speak.
6. You – Being influential requires a connection. HubSpot says personalization is the chief tactic used by email marketers to increase engagement rates. Personalizing makes perfect sense from a business standpoint, but it's even more important in our relationships. When you use the word "you," or the other people's names, you are demonstrating that you see them and care. It's very subtle, but it shows you're not just thinking about yourself. It builds loyalty and connectivity, and it tells people they matter to you. They will then be more willing to listen to what you have to say.

This article was inspired by content on www.allprodad.com.

In Christ,

Dirk "Rocketman" Smith
President

Hello fellow Highway Disciples,

I am so incredibly humbled and grateful that you have elected me in as your new vice president. The handbook states that “I am a servant to the chapter. As a servant I have great influence.” That is a great responsibility that I do not take lightly. In Philippians 2: 3-7 it states, “Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of man:”

The Bible and the internet are chocked full of means and examples for the word servant. However, my favorite is from a devotional I found written by Darlene Schacht, July 19, 2022. “Strong’s concordance defines the word servant (doulos) as: a slave or devoted to another to the disregard of one’s own interest. The key here is the disregard of one’s own interest.”

On August 19, 2023, I started out on an early morning Saturday ride. I had no idea how much my life was going to change that day. As I look back now my heart is so full of happiness and joy for everything and everyone that has come into my life since that day. I met Bill, JT, and Dirk at that gas station and God said follow and I did. I had no idea who these men were or where we were going but I knew God was in the lead. I followed through the fog both literally and figuratively. And I hate fog, it scares me and as it turns out, on the bike it is gross. But I followed nonetheless, and I am grateful every day to God that I did. And I continue to follow as He leads me on this new journey as a servant to this chapter.

I pray that I can give back even a fraction of what has been given to me. In the coming days, weeks, and months we have an opportunity every time we encounter someone to be a shining example of God’s love. We are not just fund raising and praying over bikes. We are bringing our fellow brothers and sisters to Christ one soul at a time. It is because of this group and each and everyone of you that I have a renewed relationship with our Father in Heaven. I love you all and everyone we will meet along the way.

Amy Machado

Highway Disciples – Vice President

Begin the Year with Staggering Faith

Based on a sermon of Jason Wolin 10/28/2024

Mark 8:22-38

In these verses, it's here in this remote place that Jesus finally finds Solitude from the crowds and he administers his undergraduate discipleship final exam. They just finished their two and a half years of study and Jesus kind of sets them up for this final exam he says this in verse 27. And Jesus went on with his disciples to The Villages of Cesaria Philippi and on his way, he asked his disciples who do people say that I am? They told him John the Baptist, others say Elijah and others, one of the prophets. Then he asked them, "but who do you say that I am?" So there's the one question undergraduate final exam on discipleship. **Who do you say that I am?** and Peter answers you are the Christ or as Matthew has it you are the Christ the son of the Living God now that word Christ is the word it's the Greek word for messiah in other words you are the one prophesied from the Old Testament. You are not just a king, you are the king of all Kings. You're the king to end all Kings. The true king the king who's going to make everything right. That's who you are that's what they're confessing here. That's what Peter's confessing. That's the disciples and answer to the one question undergraduate final exam on discipleship. Jesus hears it, now he's going to grade it. What does Jesus think of that answer? Well we don't get it in Mark's telling but in Matthew chapter 16 we get a little bit additional information here's what Jesus answers when he hears that when he hears that response from Peter. He says blessed are you Simon bar Jonah...for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my father who is in heaven! And I tell you, you are Peter and on this rock I will build my church and the Gates of Hell shall not Prevail against it. Now notice Flesh and Blood did not reveal this to you so. So this means that just like the blind man who was unable to open his own eyes it was an act of the spirit of God. In the same way, Peter you were unable to come to this conclusion on your own. The spirit of God had to work in you so that you could properly confess. Now based on Peter's response, what grade would you give the disciples? **I mean they aced it!** Bingo, Man you could not answer better than this. This is perfect I mean wouldn't we love to have Jesus grade our words that way. I mean that would be amazing put your name in the passage. Imagine blessed are you Jason or whatever your name blessed are you, you did a great job! A plus! Well done!

The Graduate Program of Following Jesus

Jesus presents a transformative challenge to His disciples. He begins with, "**Here is your graduate work. You identified me correctly—that was the undergraduate degree. You got the right answer. Now here's your reward for doing this really hard thing.**" What's the reward? Another hard thing.

After they ace the first exam, Jesus introduces the "graduate program." This is like walking into the first day of class and hearing the syllabus overview.

Mark 8:31-32 says, *"He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said this plainly."*

This was shocking. Up to this point, Jesus hadn't even hinted at His death in a way the disciples could understand. When Peter hears this, he panics. The idea of a Messiah who suffers makes no sense to him. Messiah was supposed to conquer, to overthrow Rome, to bring justice—not suffer and die.

Peter rebukes Jesus, but Jesus turns the tables and says, *"Get behind me, Satan! You are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."* Jesus is clear: Peter's idea of skipping the cross to go straight to the crown is from the pit of hell.

The Graduate Program: Living the Cross-Centered Life

Jesus calls His disciples, and the crowd, to embrace the way of the cross: *"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it."* (Mark 8:34-35)

To follow Jesus means to live out a paradox:

- We win by losing.
- We lead by serving.
- We gain power by becoming weak.
- We eliminate hate by loving.

Jesus didn't come to reign from a throne; He came to reign from a cross. As His followers, we must do the same.

Identity and the Call to Surrender

Jesus teaches that true life is found only in surrender: *"What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? What can a man give in return for his soul?"* (Mark 8:36-37)

Every culture offers an identity based on performance—what we achieve, how we look, or what we possess. Jesus says this is futile. Instead, we must abandon our old identity and receive a new one as a child of God.

The gospel calls us to trade our gain-based identity for one rooted in Christ's work on the cross. This is the only identity that truly lasts.

The Evidence of Transformation

Jesus concludes with a test of true discipleship: *"Whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."* (Mark 8:38)

True followers of Christ worship Him boldly and live lives unashamed of their faith.

Summary of the Graduate Program

The sermon's conclusion equates recognizing Jesus as the Son of God to completing the undergraduate level. But the graduate program is about applying that knowledge by:

1. **Living the Way of the Cross:** Denying self, taking up your cross, and following Jesus in humility and surrender.
2. **Surrendering Your Identity:** Letting go of performance-based identity to receive the unshakable identity of being a redeemed child of God.
3. **Imitating the Master:** Embracing a life of service, sacrifice, and love, mirroring Christ's life and mission.

This graduate degree isn't an intellectual exercise; it's a residency program where the "curriculum" is your life. The ultimate goal is to reign with Christ—not through power or gain, but through surrender, service, and sacrificial love.

Blessings,
Jack (JT) Clark
Chaplain, Highway Disciples
January 2025



From Your Road Captain

Happy New Year! I hope all of you had a great Christmas and some valuable time to relax and enjoy family and friends. I know not everyone enjoys this season, due to loss of love, relationships or other life issues, so be sure to be sensitive to others and what they might be going through.

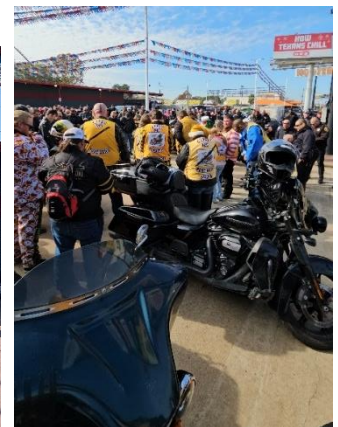
As you may be aware, we are riding to the Woodlands Harley-Davidson store for our January 4th lunch ride. We will be joining other CMA Chapters for the annual Blessing of the Bikes event, which will also include a chili cook-off. There's some great chili each year, but if you're not a chili-eater, you might want to bring a snack. The important thing is that we pray over riders and their bikes, and if you've never done it before, come and learn how easy it is, and what a blessing it can be.

I have other lunch rides planned for 2025, covering places in Navasota, Needville, and perhaps Rosenberg and Fulshear. If you have a favorite or unique cafe or restaurant that you'd like us to visit, let me know so I can check it out. But remember, our primary job is furthering the gospel, through our actions and words, so that must be our priority in 2025. Every day we are closer to the return of Jesus, when it will be too late to tell others about His love. Let's work while it is today:

Hebrews 3:13 - "You must warn each other every day, while it is 'today', so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God."

Chris "Cowboy" Nightingale, Road Captain

Wreaths Across America & Fort Bend Toy Run



2025 HD Christmas Party







CMA Highway Disciples



Dirk Smith
Chapter President



Amy Machado
Chapter
Vice President



Chris Nightingale
Chapter
Road Captain



J.T. Clark
Chapter Chaplain



Alvin Keen
Chapter Secretary



Michelle Clark
Chapter Treasurer

Come Join Us!

HD Bike Night



**Fuzzy's Pizza
613 S. Mason**

(South of I 10, on Mason)

3rd FRIDAY NIGHT MONTHLY 6:00PM

BIKE BLESSINGS BY CMA HIGHWAY DISCIPLES



Calendar of Events

Jan 4	Chapter Meeting @ Rudy's BBQ, Katy, Texas 8:30am breakfast / 9:00am meeting – Fellowship Ride to The Woodlands Harley-Davidson for Blessing of the Bikes	ALL
Jan 11	Full Moon Ride, First National Bank (1600 E Highway 6, Alvin, TX 77511) Meet at 6:00 pm, KSU at 6:30 pm	
Jan 18	Highway Disciples Bike Night at Fuzzy's Pizza (613 S. Mason Rd., Katy, TX 77450) 6 pm	ALL
Jan 23	Spirit Night at Willie's Grill and Ice House, (19905 Katy Fwy., Houston, 77094). All day. Must tell cashier you are there for Spirit Night	
Feb 01	Chapter Meeting @ Rudy's BBQ, Katy, Texas 8:30am breakfast / 9:00am meeting – Fellowship Ride	ALL
Feb 15	Highway Disciples Bike Night at Fuzzy's Pizza (613 S. Mason Rd., Katy, TX 77450) 6 pm	ALL
Feb 21-22	Seasons of Refreshing, Parkway Church, 4802 Stockbauer, Victoria, TX 77904 Pre-registration deadline is February 14	ALL
Feb 22	Mancuso Harley-Davidson Crossroads 18th Annual Chili Cook-Off , Noon to 4 pm (12710 Crossroads Park Dr., Houston, TX)	
March 1	Chapter Meeting @ Rudy's BBQ, Katy, Texas 8:30am breakfast / 9:00am meeting – Fellowship Ride to The Woodlands Harley-Davidson for Blessing of the Bikes	ALL
March 15	Highway Disciples Bike Night at Fuzzy's Pizza (613 S. Mason Rd., Katy, TX 77450) 6 pm	ALL
April 5	Chapter Meeting @ Rudy's BBQ, Katy, Texas 8:30am breakfast / 9:00am meeting – Fellowship Ride	ALL
April 12	Full Moon Ride, First National Bank (1600 E Highway 6, Alvin, TX 77511) Meet at 6:00 pm, KSU at 6:30 pm	
April 19	Highway Disciples Bike Night at Fuzzy's Pizza (613 S. Mason Rd., Katy, TX 77450) 6 pm	ALL
May 3	Chapter Meeting @ Rudy's BBQ, Katy, Texas 8:30am breakfast / 9:00am meeting – Fellowship Ride to The Woodlands Harley-Davidson for Blessing of the Bikes	ALL
May 10	Full Moon Ride, First National Bank (1600 E Highway 6, Alvin, TX 77511) Meet at 6:00 pm, KSU at 6:30 pm	
May 15 – 17	SE State Rally, 901 North Park St., Brenham, TX 77833	
May 17	Highway Disciples Bike Night at Fuzzy's Pizza (613 S. Mason Rd., Katy, TX 77450) 6 pm	ALL

Events in “BOLD” are chapter focused events w/officer or member contact to the side

**Be sure to check your e-mail on a regular basis for new events
that may not appear on the calendar and for any changes to the events listed.**

Please go here to sign-up/register for CMA SE Texas events <https://www.cmasetx.com>

Officers’ Meetings –3rd Tuesday of Every Month 6:00 pm at Rudy’s

Any member can attend.

Please contact an officer if there is something you want added to the agenda.

Other Ministry Opportunities:

Montrose Street Reach

1110 Lovett Blvd., Houston, TX 77006

<http://www.montrostreetreach.org/> – Every Wednesday @ 6:30pm

contact: Joe Williams, Martin & Kim Dale

281.682.4379

713.252.1744

Texas Full Moon Ride – meet for a leisurely ride down the backroads of Brazoria County. A restaurant is at the end of the ride.

Please let us know if you have a ministry event or opportunity that needs to be added

CMA Highway Servants

Meets at Schobels Restaurant in Columbus--Third Saturday Monthly / 8:30am

Schobels is located at

2020 Milam St.

Columbus, TX 78934