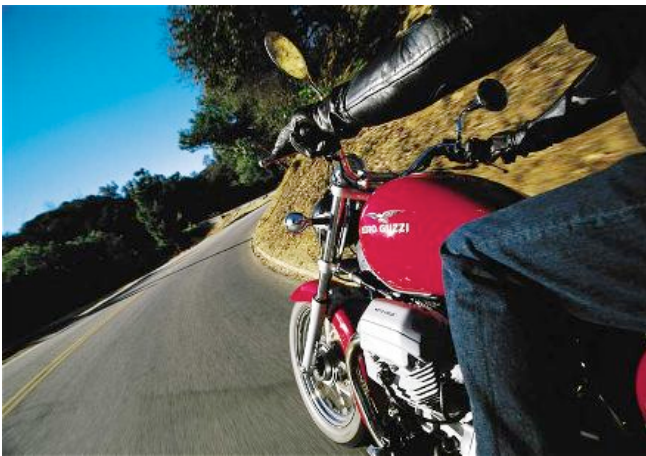




Passengers



A few days after we setup at our campsite in Osooyos this July, some friends arrived to join our family for the weekend. They came in 2 vehicles – their family van and a motorbike. Their kids had alternated between being passengers in the van and on the motorbike throughout the trip.

As we were helping them setup, our friend shared what its like for

him to drive with different passengers.

One of his sons, he mentioned, reminds him of “Scrat” from the Ice Age Movies: constantly darting and shifting around to see things from different angles and perspectives. When this son is on board, he needs to continually adjust his own weight and balance to keep the motorbike moving forward properly.

When his wife rides with him the strain is even more pronounced. She's nervous of corners, and of the lean and tilt of the motorbike and finds herself pulling against the natural momentum that the bike creates. It's a lot of work for him to compensate for her resistance.

When his daughter comes along, however, the ride is easy and relaxing. She trusts the bike and him as the driver. She leans as he leans and shifts her weight naturally to match his movements.

Listening to his story made me wonder what kind of passenger I am as I journey through life with God.

At times I can visualize myself frustrating God by darting around between plans and ideas, or vacillating between trust and unbelief, straining to see what is ahead. In the midst of my activity, does He have to make lots of mini-corrections to keep me on track?

I know there are situations that make me want to strain against God and resist his movements because the uncertainty of the journey is putting me off balance. How much more efficiently would we travel together if I stopped trying to make things work on my own terms?

I would love to be able to ride along like my friend's daughter: fully trusting God to direct my paths, and moving seamlessly in conjunction with Him. How can this become my reality? Only by more and more intimately knowing the God I am traveling with.

As JI Packer states, in Knowing God:

*“There is no peace like the peace of those whose minds are possessed with **full assurance** that they have **known God**, and **God has known them**, and that this relationship guarantees God's favor to them in life, through death and on forever”.*
(p.31)

*But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to **the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord**, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may **gain Christ and be found in him**... (Philippians 3:7-9)*

Happy Travelling,

Kristal Toews
Director of Women's Ministries

P.S. If you feel “stuck” in your quest to get to know God better, our staff highly recommends the book, Knowing God by JI Packer. As Packer describes the character of God, he speaks directly to a person's heart and explains how intimate “knowledge” of who God is completely affects the way we view our own lives.