

Matt 9:9

As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him.

I just read an article that I thought I would share with you. I have omitted the name and city so not to embarrass anyone.

A _____ County church is dangling a couple of motorized carrots to increase its congregation. _____ Christian Center in _____ will give away a new Chrysler PT Cruiser to a woman and a Harley Davidson Sportster to a man at its New Year's Eve service. Parishioners and visitors have been eligible to enter for the free drawings each time they attended a service in recent weeks, and members who brought visitors could enter twice. The church purchased the vehicles. The winners must be at Wednesday's service to drive them away. "This is an opportunity to give something to someone that will encourage people to come to the house of the Lord," Pastor _____ told the _____ County Daily News in Sunday's editions. "We want to do something to have a positive effect on people's lives."

Did you catch that last line? *"We want to do something to have a positive effect on people's lives."* I thought Jesus had a positive effect on people's lives, not brand new cars or motorcycles.

Now I don't know about you, but I have not read anywhere in the bible where Jesus says to follow Him and you will be entered in a drawing for a free camel or chariot. But we seem to come up with all sorts of ideas to try to get people to church. Jesus offered nothing more than eternal life and that's what drew hundreds of thousands to Him during His ministry here on the earth.

It has also drawn millions, if not billions to Jesus in the last 2000 years.

We need to offer people the same thing Jesus did and stop trying to entice them with worldly things to come to church.

After all, you do not get to heaven by driving a PT Cruiser or a Harley Davidson. The only way to heaven is through Jesus Christ!

✠ **John 14:6** *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."*