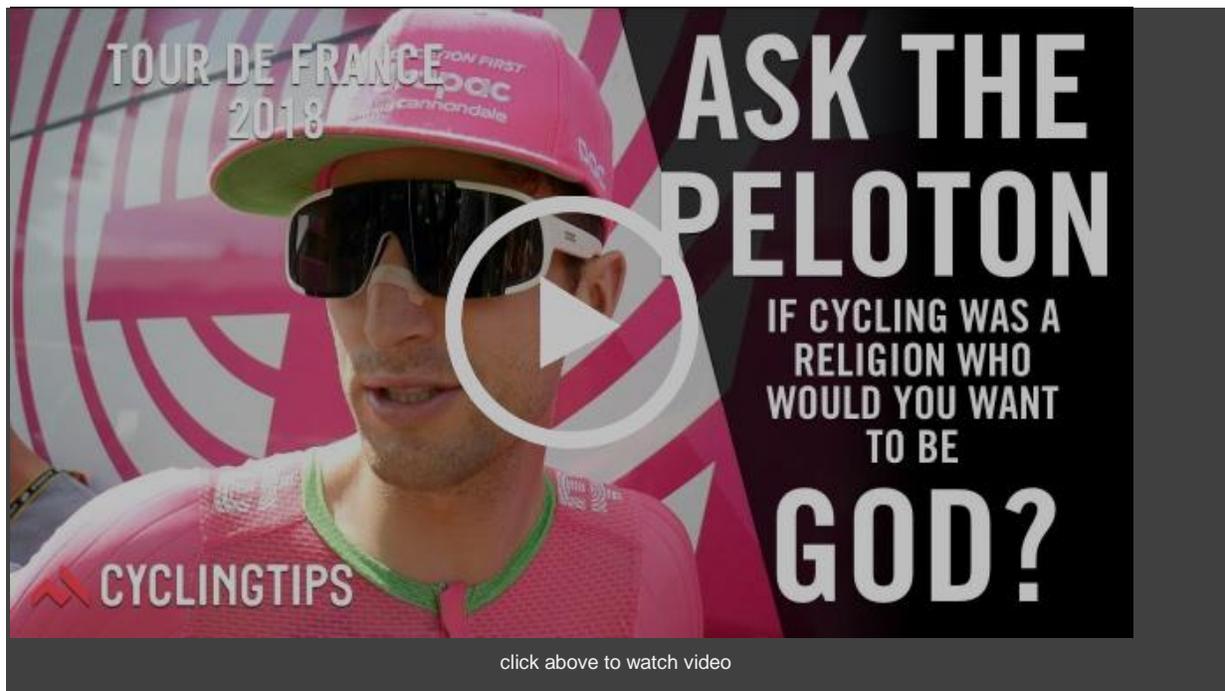


## Who is the God of Cycling?

In a recent video from the cycling news channel CyclingTips, they asked the riders at the Tour de France, "If Cycling was a religion, who would you want to be God?" I was fascinated with how many of the riders responded and I believe it showed the pluralistic views of faith that exist within professional cycling. Some responded in a jovial spirit or mentioned their favorite 'god-like' athlete and others a bit more thoughtful. Nonetheless, the ideas of who might be God were fairly broad and I thought showcased how most athletes see themselves, others, and religion in pro cycling.

I did want to draw particular attention to one rider, **Lawson Craddock**, the American that many of you who have been watching the TDF, in stage two broke his scapula and has been riding each stage hoping to finish within the timeout to raise money for the city of Houston's flood recovery and for it's velodrome where Lawson competed as a young athlete. Lawson has been in-and-out of our AIA community throughout the years but it is awesome to see his response to this question. Watch for him in the video below in the pink helmet around five minutes in.





## What's Up?

For the month of July our focus has turned to ministering here in Colorado for the most part where many of the athletes competing in the next big races in the United States have been training. The altitude around our home base of Boulder, CO is basically perfect for training and recovering at mid-level and high-level altitudes so athletes flock here during the summer to prepare. **Next week Lisa and I will be hosting a BBQ** at our house to gather as many of the riders as we can to grill and chill before the big stressful races begin after the first of August. You can be praying for our time as we prepare with athletes for these events.

The [Tour of Utah](#) and the [Colorado Classic](#) are two of the nations largest and most prestigious races and they are placed back to back in the first few weeks of August. My co-chaplain Brad Bartz and myself will be traveling out to do ministry at the Tour of Utah and then during the Colorado Classic, we will have a full on entourage of AIA folks serving and ministering throughout the race. Utah starts out in St. George, where Brad Bartz will be leading our chapel service and ministering at the team hotel and throughout the first few stages. I will more than likely come in half-way through when the race hits the Salt Lake City and Park City area of Utah, a bit closer to home. After that race, the Colorado Classic starts the following week, mid-week, in Vail, CO, where the first two stages are held. I will be leading our chapel gathering time in Vail and ministering at all 4 stages throughout. We have lots of athletes racing here, it's going to be awesome!

We also have a **USACRITS Pro Criterium race in Littleton, Colorado** the weekend before Tour of Utah starts and I will be racing and ministering at that event as well.

**Coverage** for these races is usually broadcast on NBC Sports, or NBC Sports Gold, which is an app for your smart devices. Feel free to check and watch all the stages, you may see us on camera somewhere!

**Prayer:**

As usual for this time of year, motivation for athletes and for us is sometimes waxing and waning. Please be praying for energy and motivation as we roll into the next few weeks. Also, as these are a few of the last big races for the Americas Tour, we really need to capitalize on being present and praying for being things to happen at these events. Please join us as we pray for God's continued movement, athletes to join and grow our spiritual family.

Much love and thanks,  
Brian