

AKA#MTBJESUS

Zach Faulkner, aka #MTBJesus, looks like a circus bear on a bicycle. His riding style has been compared to a landslide, complete with sounds of destruction and debris chasing his rear wheel down the hill. His zeal for riding is life-long, having been astride a bike since before he was forming memories. Bikes kept him in the woods and out of trouble through his teenage years, resulting in some notable race results in what was known as "Junior X" at the time. He collegiate years were ones he refers to as, "the time I rode a lot less, but ironically had my best result in the Pro ranks..." Zach moved away from racing in the Pro category in his mid-20s and spent the latter half lying in the dirt next to World Cup DH racecourses around the world holding a camera and hoping the auto-focus didn't drop on that last shot. He would also moonlight as a writer and product tester in between races and during the off-season. These days, Zach is focused on thundering through the northern Vermont woods, trying to prove that a Clydesdale rider doesn't need a 50t granny gear. He is also currently known for his tireless pursuit of volunteer trail maintenance, rediscovering the joys of photography, reigniting the zeal for writing, and doing his best to keep it fun.

A brief story about the nickname:

"Boris 'Maddog' Beyer is to thank for that! We were in Leogang in 2015 and I think it was after track walk, milling about around the finish, he asked me if I was, '...the MTB Jesus guy on Twitter?' When he learned I was not, he simply suggested that I should be, '...because you look like Jesus, with your hair and beard.' From there, he told me, that was my new nickname, '...just watch! People are going to love it!' I was super apprehensive about that, as it can be a bit polarizing to have a tongue-in-cheek nickname... but, he was more than right! People loved it, and there was a good portion of riders who didn't know my real name for a minute, just that I was 'MTB Jesus'. And now, it's definitely a thing, I've had people of note tell me, 'Oh! I've heard of this MTB Jesus guy, didn't realize it was you!' (All good things I hope...!) I think that will probably be my legacy, just the nickname and lore of #MTBJesus, which was actually what Boris had dubbed me, 'Hashtag MTB Jesus', because I couldn't be 'At MTB Jesus' on Twitter. It was a really well-rounded joke/nickname."







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