



Patti and I experienced our first “Yardi Gras” in Chalmette, LA this month. Yes, “Yardi Gras” instead of the traditional New Orleans Mardi Gras. We were invited by Phil and Debbie Smith of “Wee Can Know” children ministry of Arabi, LA to help with children’s programs at Gethsemane Pre School for 44 children and then to First Baptist Chalmette for 22 children. You can find out more about “Wee Can Know” on their web site: weecanknow.com.



Now for the “Yardi Gras” part I mentioned. This year all types of parade gatherings and events have been cancelled because of Covid. It does not matter if it were an Easter or Christmas parade. All gathering of people has been postponed for right now. We were invited to take “The Gospel Parade” float (pictured here on right) for the event in Chalmette this weekend; Yardi Gras. We feared the weather would not be friendly toward that outside event, so we declined. Yardi Gras is a drive by parade vs a rolling parade. You set up on the street with for example “The Gospel Parade” float. Families ride by in their cars and trucks and you wave and hand out or throw things. We always have gospel give aways and tracts. This year it



was in a neighborhood one block off the main highway and they had fun with the folks driving by to enjoy the displays. Phil and Debbie did take their shoebox floats on wagons that tells of Jesus and His saving grace. (a reminder we are ready and available to participate in any kind of parade or static event with “The Gospel Parade” float with art and music.)



We will be back at “The Mission of Hope” on Feb 27th for the third part of our three-part fathers training series. This month will be “The Power of the Father’s Blessing” along with the “Forgiven Ceremony” for the residents there. This is a great organization, and we know God is blessing us by allowing us to train men with “On Becoming a Father.”

Some time back, I gave a message to a church for their “Faith Giving Week” pledge. It was based on the book by Dr. J.L. Williams titled “Will a Man Rob God.” In one of my daily devotions this week, I was reminded of God’s Word about that and want to share it here:

“All things come from You, and of Your own we have given You.” 1Ch 29:14”

“...That’s why Jesus, who was the most generous person in history, spoke so much about money. He understood its source, its use, and who owns it all. Sixteen of his thirty-eight parables deal with how to handle money and possessions. In the four Gospels, one out of every ten verses deals with the subject. The Bible has five hundred verses on prayer, roughly the same amount on faith, but over two thousand on money and possessions. Is God trying to tell you something? If so, what? It’s this: Everything you have came from God! So you’re not an owner, but an administrator of His estate. That means when He taps you on the shoulder and says, “Give to this person or to that cause,” you don’t argue or rationalize but say, “Yes, Lord!” After raising the money to build the temple, David prayed: **“Both riches and honor come from You, and You reign over all...”** (v12) When you give to God, you are just giving back to your supplier.”

Journey Community Church Daily Devotion

So many of you reading this already know and practice this with us and have for many years. We are so grateful for your faithfulness financially and especially for your daily prayers for us, our family, and our ministry. We love you and are here if you need us. Joe and Patti

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Joe McDonald Ministry Inc. is a 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization and is donation supported.

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