



# *The Tri-State Times*

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Since I was a child, music has been an extremely important part of my life. My family is full of musicians. My parents met in the Newark High School marching band. I studied classical music in college. I met my amazing wife, Stephanie, in a rock band we were playing in to support a mutual friend. Even our baby, Alexandra, loves to hear music, especially while dancing with daddy.

As much as music has affected my life in these ways, none of them compare to how music has impacted my relationship with the Lord. As I learned to play guitar in high school, I joined my church's praise team, where I found one of the deepest passions of my heart: leading worship. Over the years that followed, I grew to love music more and more as I learned more deeply the most appropriate use for our musical gifts.

Sunday Night, our Tri-State family had the opportunity to join the rest of the ministries of Reach Church, including the other Reach Christian Schools, for a night of worship and celebration of all that God is doing. It was overwhelming to stand in a pew with our seniors, lifting our voices to the Lord. Additionally, the response from our teachers about the night was so encouraging. One teacher shared, "It was powerful to hear the Reach "Choir" of so many voices lifted to our Lord and Savior! I felt a special spirit throughout the night and thought what a privilege it is to sing praises to our Heavenly Father!" Another said, "My heart was so encouraged by the lyrics of the worship songs and the words from Pastor Chuck." We are so blessed to be in a community of ministries that strives to lift up Nothing But Jesus.

Yesterday, we had our first full-length chapel gathering with our 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students. With a band composed of mostly students, it was amazing to see the amount of energy in the room. These students were shamelessly raising their voices in worship. At the end, we even shared an extra unplanned song called "Glorious Day," which brought our energy to even higher level as we shouted a declaration that Jesus has called us out of the grave of sin, rescuing us with His grace alone. The joy could not be contained. I love worshipping with our students. A pastor friend of mine who was helping with the music stated that he has never seen such enthusiasm from students in any chapel service.

I am so excited to continue worshipping with the Tri-State family this year as we continue to pursue Jesus in all we do!

Soli Deo gloria,  
**Mr. Jones**



*"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."*

I Corinthians 10:31