



# “ RELATIONSHIPS ”

In ministry, our job is to keep Him priority, especially the time we spend in His presence. That's prayer, meditating on the Word and listening to what He is saying. We must carry the power of God to see impact. Without the power of God moving, we become just another charity. Once we have that discipline, then we can step out as He leads to build relationships and be His hands and feet.

After six years with some of the kids, I have realized a “program” does not cut it. It takes trust, relationship and prayer. It's being intentional for each child. A child is not going to recap their day and recall the arts and crafts they made. They are going to think about that volunteer that noticed they were having a hard day and listened or that mentor who had a teachable moment and called them out in love. They remember that person who highlighted them and knew their name.

That's how you make an impact on kids...relationship! Kids need quality role models not a fancy program. They need a hug more than they need a color printed handout. Kids want to be loved more than they want to be entertained and more than they want to be taught.

As we grow that may seem like a lot for a small group of people to do, but it's Holy Spirit who pours out the grace and love for them all. That is the only way we will have it. Without Holy Spirit, we might as well stop because it will lead to exhaustion. I say this for us all. No matter what you do, we all need this discipline of making time with Him our utmost priority. We can do nothing with out Him.

***Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”***  
John 15:4-5

**There are people waiting on what the Lord has put in you!** *Andrea G. Jones*

***Our mission is to empower youth to pursue their God-given potential and step into their Kingdom calling. Our hearts burn to see youth truly know who they are in Christ and awaken them to the greatness inside of them. This is done through relationships and knowing the heart of Christ.***

#### **OUR AMAZING TEAM**

##### **Board of Advisors:**

*Bryan Jones (President)*

*Bryan Ponsell (Vice President)*

*Alexi Markou (Evangelism)*

*Mandy Brakefield (Evangelism)*

*Kassie Ponsell*

*Debbie Gaines*

*Ainsley Markou*

*Andrea Greer Jones (Founder)*

# HIGHLIGHTS

- In our February outreach we learned about abiding and having that core group to keep you accountable. We also had some new amazing volunteers!!
- Because of increase in children, we have moved our monthly outreach back to where we began at Grace Place.
- We celebrated our kids with good grades this past month. Great job Janiyah, Jonmeisha, Caiden, Jaylen, Laela, McKenzie & Dad. We are waiting on some report cards to celebrate others.
- We had 4 baptisms this month! Thank you Jesus!



## MARCH DEVO

**"Heal the sick, raise the dead, cure those with leprosy, and cast out demons. Give as freely as you have received! Matthew 10:8**

Jesus gives his apostles authority! This is not just power; it is also authority to use that power. But they must constantly realize that this authority does not rest in themselves but in the one from whom they received it. Not only that, they are not to use this authority for their own privilege but to bless others. In fact, Jesus gives them everything freely, so they must share with others as he has done with them.

Jesus taught and modeled for his disciples, fully expecting them to reach the point that they could make disciples independently. Disciples will always be dependent on God, which is why Jesus sent the Holy Spirit when he left them. But Jesus led his disciples to become spiritually mature disciples who were able to make more disciples. And we are disciples today because it worked.

### WE ARE TO DO THE SAME!

*When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food." But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish." He said, "Bring them here to Me." Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. So, they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained. Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children. (Matthew 14:1-21)*

Jesus blessed...but it was not Him who gave the food to the people. He gave the loaves to the disciples for them to distribute!

### HE WANTS TO USE US!!

### LET'S PRAY

Father, thank you that I am your son/daughter and you have given me Holy Spirit to carry on what you did! I rebuke any lies that I do not know enough or that I have no voice. I claim this authority and will rise to your call! I fight not FOR victory, but FROM victory!! Use me Father to heal the sick, raise the dead and cast out demons! All in the mighty name of Jesus!!

From No Middle Ground by FaithBW.com

HAPPY Birthday



Baby K

Davionna

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

- TARGETED PRAYER FOR THE KIDDOS - Worldly material desires, lust, anger, trauma and depression are to go in the name of Jesus!! Hide them from the evil that surrounds them. May planted seed be watered and grow that each child encounters the Lord in a mighty way that will remove blinders and awaken them to the goodness of God!
- Pizza donation for every first Saturday of the month
- Hygiene kits for our service program
- Financial donations



DONATE AT NELAYOUTH.ORG

NELA YOUTH, INC.  
PO Box 3095  
West Monroe, LA 71294

nelayouth@gmail.com  
318.267.8221



Sign up for our newsletter at nelayouth.org