

“Honoring the Mothers Who Made Us,” by Dr. Chris Jones

I pray that all the mothers and mother figures in our lives had a joyful and peaceful Mother’s Day.

I spent the day with my beautiful wife, who is a phenomenal mother to our children. We went to church together, had lunch with our girls, and saw a movie that night—just a few hours of rest and joy in the middle of the beautiful chaos of raising a family.

Side note: We went to see Shadow Force, which is not only a great movie, but it was written by an Arkansan!! Hats off to Leon Chills for bringing such amazing creativity to the screen. I highly recommend that everyone check out this film. Let’s support our fellow Arkansas native!

I was also fortunate to spend part of my day sitting with my mom—something I never take for granted. Her voice, her love, her unwavering faith continue to shape me. In those moments with her, I thought about all the women who have helped raise and guide me—my wife, my mom, her mom, my grandmother, and even my 4th great-grandmother, whose name I may never know, but whose strength still lives in me. I also thought about the women who chose me—mothers by love, not blood—who stepped into my life and never let go.

But I also know Mother’s Day wasn’t easy for everyone.

I have more than one close friend who’s lost their mother near Mother’s Day. It’s a wound that turns sharper in May. I think of them often, especially this time of year. I know people who are mourning mothers they’ve lost, and mothers mourning children gone too soon. Others carry complicated relationships with their mothers—distance, silence, heartbreak where closeness should have been.

For some, Mother’s Day is not a celebration—it’s a reminder.

So, I prayed for them, too.

I believe we honor mothers not just by celebrating the ones we have, but by remembering the fullness of what the day holds—for those who rejoice and those who grieve.

To every mother, every mother figure, every person carrying the spirit of a mother’s love—I see you. I thank you. And I pray peace found you this Mother’s Day, wherever you are.