

## **A glimpse into our story:**

Let me explain. This year, Toby and I will celebrate twenty-three years of wedded bliss. Well... mostly blissful, anyway. For ten of those years, we traveled around the country singing gospel music together. Yes, we were chasing our dream.... a dream to do what we loved with the person God had given us to love. In 2002, one sunny Sunday morning in September, our family doubled in size when we said "hello" to boy/ girl twins, who we named Jarrod and Jewel and were destined to grow up "on the road". We continued to travel for several years following their arrival until God spoke to us that it was time for me to come off the road. Ok, mostly He spoke to Toby....or, perhaps, I was simply too busy with my own agenda to hear Him. At any rate, Toby took a job singing lead for a male quartet, while I retired my microphone. I was devastated. Honestly, those first few months were difficult for both of us. As Toby was getting accustomed to traveling without us, I was left behind with two young children, grieving the loss of what I firmly believed to be a calling on my life.

So, I made the best of it. I kept busy with homeschooling, teaching Zumba, and got involved in the worship ministry at church, which had previously not been possible with our tour schedule. When asked whether or not we would ever sing together again, Toby and I would respond that we hoped and prayed that God would allow us to travel again as a family. Someday. You know...when the kids were older.

And there it is. We blinked. We began to notice their God-given talent. They started asking when the four of us would be going back on the road to minister together. Remember that calling I spoke of? Well, they have it, too. And so begins our adventure. Road life isn't easy, but God promises to sustain where He leads and we're ready for the challenge.

The Lord has been so good to us throughout the years! We've had the privilege of ministering together all across the US, across the ocean in the Philippines, and even ON the ocean during Gospel cruises. We've ministered to many people and we've been ministered to. God has used many of YOU to encourage, challenge, and grow us over the years.

This year, in 2020, God has given us a verse: "Do not remember the former things, Nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, Now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:18-19

We look with anticipation to what God has in store for our family and thank Him for the privilege of serving Him together, as a family. May God use us for His glory as long as He sees fit!