



## **Why God Calls Some as Relief Society Presidents and Others as Cancer Survivors | An Interview with Ganel-Lyn Condie**

July 16, 2022

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In 2019, I attended my first in person leadership retreat. I wasn't excited to go at first because, frankly, I prefer staying at home in my comfortable bubble. I went nonetheless and on day two of this 2019 retreat. I had an epiphany that an in person experience disconnected from the world in a setting that stimulates revelation is the key to complete leadership development. That is what I was experiencing. Since then, our leading saints team has been researching other retreats, and we are finally ready to offer our gathering saints retreat experiences. These are in person getaways where we gather in a physical location around the world, disconnect from our busy lives and take a few days to connect with God as we learn to develop as individual leaders. These experiences are for individuals with no official leadership title and even those with a formal leadership role. These retreats typically take place in beautiful wilderness locations and we are also organizing church history trips where we create developmental experiences in historic church settings like kirtland, nauvoo, and independence. For more information about the next retreat visit [leading saints dot org slash gathering](https://www.leading-saints.org/gathering) or click the link in the show notes. That's the [leading saints dot org slash gathering](https://www.leading-saints.org/gathering) or click the link in the show notes. Hey, if you're a Newbie to leading saints is important that you know what is this leading saints thing? Well, leading saints is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping Latter day Saints be better prepared to lead. And the way we do that is through content creation, so we have this

phenomenal podcast. We have a newsletter. We have virtual conferences. So much more. Articles on our website. I mean, I could go on and on, right? And we encourage you to jump in, check out leading saints, go to the search bar at leading saints dot org and type in some topics and see what pops up. We're just glad you're here to join us. Glenn Condi welcome to the leading saints podcast again. Yay. Here you are, back. And you're gonna come back again. I don't know when. I don't know. I've lost count at this point. You can't even remember how many books you've written at a lot. 9, but if you have a riot for having in the streets for having me back on, I don't want to hear about it. All right. Thanks for having me back on. I always love talking with you. Well, I always get excited when a new book is coming out, 'cause I know how much time and your perspective and how you frame things is always helpful to our broader community discussion. As Latter day Saints, do you feel that way or I do feel like the lord is been willing to work with an imperfect instrument and train to create content in book form and I have the opportunity to do speaking events and host my own shows, but I do value that a book lives long. And it takes a lot to create them, to write them, to edit them, get them out on bookshelves. But I do value that you can pass on a book. And I still value a paper book versus a digital download. Not to take away from those people that like to read or listen to their books. But I like that tactile experience. And I value as an author that the spirit can take whatever imperfectly I put on a page and twist it in a way that it applies to the reader in their life and where they're at. And through my books, I feel like I've been able to be a friend to people that are going through private stuff and maybe they're not ready to share it with the people in their lives, but they've picked up one of my books and felt like someone sees them and understands. Yeah, that's awesome. And do you feel like well, maybe put yourself in the context of people aren't as familiar with you new listeners or whatnot. I mean, because you're a writer speaker, real talk host, come follow me resource. Would you have the strangest name on the planet? Usually people are like, you're that person with their trying to fumble through gay Lynn. Yeah, I feel like the stewardships that I've been given include writing books, hosting shows, I have had the chance to speak all over the world and I feel really grateful for that experience as well. And I do local live TV, so some people only know me from that, which is funny when you think people know you from something and they're like, they only know you from that place. And so you've done nothing else. Yeah, yeah, yeah, they're like, you're the good things you taught person. I'm like, I am, right? I'm a wife. I've been married 31 years. I am the mom of two kids, and my baby just graduated high school.

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So we will soon be empty nesters. We have a Google Doc started empty nesting things that were trying to think about and plan for. So yeah. So tell me about the stewardship principle that reframing your life. Like when a concept of a book comes to mind, like when was the moment where you thought, all right, that is a book, or because I assume this is like a principle that

you've been living a long time. Right. So specifically, this is my 9th book, I would say for other books that I have published, they have a germination process where I either see something happening in the world, I've experienced it myself, and hopefully there's a gap that a book I write can fill or conversation that hasn't been had in that way before. I hope that I'm not writing things that are white noise, you know? Because it is a long process. But for this book, the stewardship principle, it was a little bit of a different experience, ten years ago, a friend of mine, Andrea, who I dedicate the book to, shared some outdated old curriculum where, in my mind, a good chunk of that curriculum was this principle. When I knew a few years ago that the lord was kind of prompting me to write about it, I went back and pulled that curriculum out and it's like three sentences. In chapters in chapters and that was an interesting insight to have that in my mind it had made such a huge impact in how I saw my life, everything in my life, my relationships, everything that I encounter for good and for bad. That it changed and reframed how I saw things. And because of that, it's been germinating in a different way. And I've been practicing it as a principle in my own life. It wasn't until a couple of years ago where I really started to fill the nudge. I had already done a number of books. I had hosted weekly shows. I had spoke all over the world. I had had a lot of conversations around different stewardships. But it overwhelmed me to think that I was going to have to take a principle that in my mind is so expansive and try to put it in book form so that it wasn't overwhelming, but also take a principle that maybe if a reader had already pondered on it, studied about it, thought about it themselves, that it wouldn't feel like they were getting fluff. So how was it going to take a really hard thing or a big expansive principle that I think completely shifted how I approach most things in my life and make it approachable, but also not water it down so much that anyone that was familiar with it wouldn't feel like they didn't also receive a gift and expanding the kind of application that I hope the book shows. And so I resisted as we do as humans. I just thought, no, maybe Andrea needs to do this. And maybe it's already been done in some other form. And so I slowly started to do some Google searches and Amazon searches and realized that there were versions of it. And then I started talking about it on real talk. I did a faith matters interview about it. And people were like, can we go to lunch? Like constantly every day I was getting a message from some viewer. We have a book club. Can we just have you come to lunch and talk to us about stewardships? And then I knew it was time to put it in book form because I didn't have enough hours to go to lunch with everyone and have those one on one conversations where people really wanted to understand more the application in their own lives. And so I said, how about I don't go to lunch with everybody and I sit home and I write it. And I'll tell you Kurt to not be overly dramatic. I hope I still have a long life. But when this book finally hit catalogs and bookshelves, it feels like one of the things I came to earth to do. That's cool. It felt that important. It's 68 pages. It's not an overwhelming read. Yeah. And the cover I'm really proud of the cover. Emma, Taylor, Donaldson. I don't know if I got her made a name in Mary named next step. But I've known her for years and then she did this painting that's on the cover, but I knew her before she was known. And so I went to covenant my publisher and just said, this is the cover. And if people are familiar with the cover, it's kind of a where's Waldo. You can't find Jesus, but if you look, you will find Jesus in it, but it's every demographic, every race, every age group. And that's who the reader is. The reader for me is everyone. I would say 8 and older, if you're 8 to ten, you probably want someone to read it to you. But I tried to write it in a way that fills approachable and creates

a good foundation, but I also have heard from a lot of people that are familiar with this principle, and they felt like it expanded.

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And I'm grateful for the subtitle. Sometimes subtitles and books books. They're just kind of like, are they a placeholder? Do they serve any purpose? And I'm going to do a shout out to our friend John Hilton because he did an amazing endorsement for this book. And he's the first one. When I was working on this quietly, he had come on real talk, I believe, where I interviewed him on one of my other shows and he said, so what are you working on? And I said, oh, I'm working on this book about stewardship. And he's like, okay, tell me about it. So as I was talking to him, he was like, oh, like reframing how you see things, and I was, wait, that's a really good way to describe, I hope a subtitle helps people understand what the book is about. And it really is about reframing how you see everything. And that concept of reframing, I think is really important. Just using our community faith community as an example, you walk into maybe a church bookstore, you'll find doctrinal books, which are sort of about what's truth, what's not, and what a scripture say, then you could find application books of like, here's how you apply principles of the gospel. But I think there's this third category of reframing concepts of saying, maybe it's not about what's true or not, or how you're doing it, but how are we seeing it in whole. And I feel like a big thing that we miss sometimes, or we get stuck. If we can't frame it a certain way, we can't even begin to talk about the concepts of the doctrines inside of it if we don't know how to frame it. Well, that's interesting. You would give that example because I do think that last year in come follow me land. We were studying the doctor named covenant, so this word stewardship came up, just scripturally based, right? And we sometimes conceptualize it around a certain period of time where people were living the holy order or the law of consecration and everything was a stewardship. And that is one application. I think it's a helpful one for some people. But if you only stop there and you only think of stewardships as a principle when you're talking about living the law of consecration or everything in common, then you're going to miss the point. And so I do love the idea that God always, when I am about to write a book or I'm prepping for an episode of real talk or preparing a fireside talk. Most things are not my original idea. Nothing really is, right? So I always go back to where to God put it in his books before I start my books or my talks or my episodes. And that happened with this book. I sat down and I thought, okay, well, where to God talk about stewardship. And I didn't want to go to the low hanging fruit where we actually see the word. And I wanted to see where he had shown the application. Yeah. And that's where I start the book. And that is with the parable of the talents. And that felt very spirit directed. Some people, it may be like, well, duh. Of course that's what you came up with. The talent parable, and I'm like, for some reason, like the spirit could do, I saw in a different way that maybe the servant that received the one talent received a stewardship that was embarrassing or hard. And basically for those in your audience that are still wondering what a stewardship is.

It's everything. It's everything you own. It's your health. It's your dog. It's your unemployment. It's your divorce. It's your kids. It's your infertility. It's your LGBT, Q plus friend. It's your demotion or your promotion. It's everything in our lives. So as I comb through the scriptures and ask the lord to kind of show me where he had taught it, that's where I saw that maybe the servant had received a stewardship quote unquote talent, but it wasn't a fun one. Yeah. It was a hard one. Maybe it was a heroin addiction. Maybe it was loneliness, maybe it was depression, anxiety. It wasn't the stewardship that everyone likes on Instagram. It's not the one that everyone's giving an award for or cheering you on about. It's the one that feels private or personal or frustrating. And so what we know from that parable is the servant buries it, right? The master comes back and is like, hey, what if you done with your stewardships? And we know this parable because the other servants have taken it and it's been consecrated. It's expanded. And so the premise I start with in the book is even if your stewardship is that one thing that no one's excited about. That's the hard stuff. Right. What have you done with God in caring for it? Because I believe he can consecrate every stewardship for our good. Now, on leading saints, you talk a lot about leadership stewardships, right? Yeah. And I think culturally speaking, we tend to celebrate certain leadership stewardships, right? I've never noticed.

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We're like, oh, you got called to be fill in the blank, right? And everyone's excited. Or, oh, you got called to be fill in the blank stewardship, right? And I don't want to offend anyone, but I've been called to be the girls camp director, right? And my husband happened to be in the bishopric and had to be the counselor to call me to the colleague. He was so nervous. He was like, please don't shoot the messenger. We prayed about it. And it ended up being a beautiful, hard experience. Some really crazy stories if you ever want a whole episode just on girls camp leaders. I will come back and share some stories, but I will say, there was there wasn't a lot of people in the war just like high 5 in me. Look at you. Your family didn't come. Right. They're all there for the city. We didn't have a special catered event after church that day. And I would just say for me as a 51 year old woman who has served in leadership positions on various level state level word level. I don't desire them. I definitely think stewardship within the church, I will build the kingdom, and I think you and I as friends, separate from doing this podcast episode, we just had a lengthy conversation before we started taking that was quote unquote more therapy than probably anything else for me. Is that I don't necessarily believe that the way I can build the kingdom is only through certain stewardships. Very much have lived enough life to realize that it's the quiet nursery leader that is building the kingdom in powerful ways, not stick away from the stewardship of the state president and his family in their stewarding of his calling, right? And as a release society previous release society president at the ward level on state level, I would just say it's the quiet, quiet director, you know, that is changing the testimony of a choir member more so than maybe the stewardship of the bishop. At any given moment. I have

a wonderful bishop. I've had a lot of bishops in my life. And we all steward differently. And so when I went to write this, I want to acknowledge from the outset that some stewardships are hard. Some stewardships are painful. Some stewardships are invisible. No one cares, right? You're quietly doing them in only God knows that you're putting in the laundry for the tenth time that week. And then there are other stewardships that are visual that are obvious that everyone sustains. You get a lot of maybe validation recognition from. Right. And I personally, as a public figure, I think the people that know me from a public standpoint have a sense that I try to share a variety of my stewardships. I definitely try to post about both the hard things and the quote unquote fun stuff. But I think there's a sense that my life is this certain list of stewardships that we started out introducing me with, right? She's an author. This is their 9th book. She does TV. She hosts real talk. She speaks. She's a wife. She's a mom. I am those things. I also have dealt with lupus. I've lost a sister to suicide. My parents were divorced before. Some notables in the church were divorced, right? And no one understood why primary on Thursdays why my dad didn't live with our family, right? And I had a sister die when I was ten, so I have two sisters buried by each other. We've been through job loss. I was told we'd never have kids, and we went through infertility. So that's just like a sampling. Right. Every person on the planet has that same kind of bio, where we have a mix. I call it the fruit salad of the good stuff and the hard stuff, you know? And that's interesting because we do have these, we sort of frame stewardships in different lights, where I remember this and I'm about to say something very controversial, especially. Now everyone's going to listen. So buckle up here. But we often will think about the bishop. Or the sake present will think, wow, you've got so much on your plate. You've got so much to do, whatever. I'd also felt like when I was a bishop, it to have what you felt like was a stewardship. It was almost too easy at times, where you were served on a platter, like these, the person that you could serve. Like they literally walked in your office sat down and said, help me. Yes. As opposed to the other member who's just like, we're now where I don't have that stewardship to say, I go home and I'm like, okay, I'd have a lot to do, but it's sort of kind of fluff, or you know what, why don't I just sit down and binge that streaming service or whatever it is. And so it's almost at times more difficult for me to go out and find that stewardship or focus on that stewardship because it's not on a pedestal or it's not naturally these problems aren't naturally coming to you. So I'll definitely say that being a bishop is hard being a church leader is hard, but also recognize that for that season, that stewardship, those opportunities can easily come to you.

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I don't know if there's a super effective to say that certain stewardships are intense, but like you said, they're clearly defined. Right. Not one's not better than the other, which is how it is. Right. And I think currently my husband is ward mission leader, which is technically not even a calling anymore, but this steak has decided that it's still effective. And I see how we're trying to interpret

that calling in our family and me supporting him and all of that. And so I think that's a really good point. Because I'm also living through a season of my life where my stewardships are changing. My youngest is going to move out and go to college. And we're not quote unquote grandparents yet, but we're empty nesting soon. And I've really been kind of in an identity crisis the last few months and I've talked to you as a friend about this because it's kind of bumped up against all my other stewardships. It's made me look at all my other stewardships in a different way of what do I value and how am I contributing and is it effective? And so I hear from a lot of 50 plus aged women on social media that are like, thank you for speaking for the silent. Yeah. Few of us that are like confused of, wait, parenting, what does it look like? How do I steward in this way now that my kids are adults? And I often say that if you don't understand the stewardship, the quickest way to explain it is through parenting. Because the opposite of stewardship in the book is ownership and the quickest way for me to go to ownership is in my parenting. I own you. I own you. Anything you become is a reflection of the way. Yeah, and there's a lot of content out there about raising your kids to a certain age, and then it goes to radio silence. There's nothing on. There's hardly anything my book, and I don't know how many books are even been written about parenting adult children, because the stewardship of parenting changes. I don't get to decide what you wear, where you sleep, what you eat, who your teachers are, who you hang out with and have a play date. We're not even having a family home evening lesson to fix that anymore. All right, on this date, the stewardship changes. It just naturally you wake up one day and you're like, oh wow, I can't do that. Right. I can't Stewart in that way. Right. And my poor children don't have a lot of privacy because of the work that I do. But I asked my son when this book came out because I hypothetically talk about him and then I call him out specifically to talk about ADHD in the book and that stewardship and I asked him how have we effectively stewarded this last 18 months he quit college and moved to Hawaii for a year and has recently returned and is back in college. But during that time, that was an example where if I didn't know this principle, I could have really ruined that relationship. Because whether you're talking about being a bishop or released a society president or a parent, if you go into ownership, it is the quickest way to burn a bridge in a relationship. So just give me two or three quick examples of the difference between stewardship and ownership just so that's clear. So the way I write the book is each chapter is taking comparable stewardship so time, money, talents, education, parenting, childhood relationships, marriage. And I try to show kind of a juxtapose where the voice of stewardship will sound and where the voice of ownership will sound. And at the end of each chapter, I literally give you a list of the ownership will sound like this and stewardship will sound like this. And the reason I do that is because to me, a principle is practiced, it's not perfect. And so even though I've known about this principle for ten years, I have to keep choosing into stewardship out of ownership. An example would be is the voice of ownership in parenting sounds a lot like, oh my gosh, I must have failed because look at the choices you just made. Yeah. The voice of ownership for a bishop will be look at the numbers of not ministering happening or how low our tidying is or the numbers. Simple recommend. Yes. How many people are showing up to church on any given Sunday? I always go back to when I was a stake presidency. There's this feeling of like the Saturday night state conference is like the ruler that you litmus test of all. Nobody came. Great. Well, I need a guilt trip the next time, or I'm not a good leader. Right. And the problem and I'll say this on the outside is in parenting, I love what you said, is there's not ever a moment where I'm like, oh, now I'm an empty nesting parent. And

parenting adult children looks like this. I've looked to people ahead of me on the trail, for examples of where that looks effective and that looks less effective. But ownership definitely starts to take away agency in parenting. It takes away agency in being a church leader. I think ownership for me also sounds a lot like comparisons.

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And you and I are both podcasters, right? And so we were talking before this episode about how do we stay in stewardship mindset when you're a content creator? It's very easy to go into ownership because all of a sudden it's number based. Now, when it comes to leadership, the fact is we are part of an organization. And we turn in reports and we make decisions based on data. I publish books, my publisher, if I don't sell books, it doesn't make sense on a business level to maybe publish my next book, right? So sometimes when I go into ownership, I know that I can still talk to God about the numbers. If I have a stewardship approach, though, my prayer for him will be heavenly father, if you want me to write this book or host the show, then you need to help me understand where the numbers need to go, or I need to surrender it. Do you want me to worry about them today or not? So it's not saying hands off, I don't care. Ownership is a really big buzzword right now. So I've had a few people push back from a business standpoint. Is this a good book? Yeah. From a church standpoint, from a parenting standpoint, from a health standpoint, I get why ownership is the buzzword. Like take ownership of your life and your health. Accountability. Yeah. Take ownership of the victim mentality. Create the reality you want to create. I get that. Stewardship is not hands off. It's not saying I don't care as a parent of my 24 year old. But it definitely looks different than ownership. Because if I'm stewarding in my adult child's life, then I tend to be more spirit directed. Less controlling. More faith focus, less fearful. More spirit directed and not comparing well, that's what those people are doing for their adult child. So why is my adult child not going to Harvard fill in the blank editor? So I would just say stewardship doesn't pull you out of the equation. It's more hopeful. It's less burnout. It's more spirit directed. And that's why it's a reframe of your life. And that's what answers somewhat my next question is, how can you tell when you're in ownership rather than stewardship? Because I see so many leaders, especially bishops where I look at from an outsider looking in a very in total ownership. We're an ownership. You're like sacrificing everything for this role. Your family's falling apart, but and bless their hearts. They sort of don't know how to do it. They're just like, well, I've asked to do this, so I think it's just expected that I do this and you have sacrifice happening, but maybe that's supposed to happen. And then you're just sort of trying to keep your head above water. But is there any way to determine personally if you're in an ownership mentality rather than a stewardship? Well, I think some of the things I've already mentioned, when you're in comparison, when you're going into control, when you're praying away someone's agency, those are usually good signals you're in ownership. But I would also say burnout. I mean, I think when we share scripture like, do not run

faster than able, or do not be weary and well doing. I just read that verse a couple of days ago. And if you keep reading that verse, you realize there will be a harvest in a season. So when I really saw that through a stewardship mindset, it isn't don't be weary in your well doing, which means never take a nap, never go on a date with your wife. Never say no to your kids, right? It's saying, do this as a steward would and then trust outcome based. One of the ways I know I'm an ownership as I get hyper focused on outcome. Yeah. Do we have to turn in a report for how many people attend and that's why there's a clerk walking around counting everybody, right? We're still having ministering interviews in some units. I don't know if everyone's doing it yet. I don't know how effective it's being done, but there's still this accountability and data gathering that's happening. But if I am hyper focused or if I give more weight to outcome, then that's a sign I'm usually in ownership. And how does the lord measure? I mean, one of the scriptures that I think is effective to reframe to use my subtitle is the fruits of the tree. You will be able to judge them. Well, I used to always think that meant if you have this many followers or you sell as many books or your kids make these kinds of choices, they're all married in the temple or everyone in your ward gets along. But what if the fruit of the tree is rotten and it's like worms and you're like, what is going on with this tree? Do we need to cut it down? What I've come to understand is that stewardship thinking is offering based. Ownership thinking is outcome focused. All right, so offer base. What do you mean by that? So what if the fruits of the tree are the fact that you tried to fertilize the tree? And you plant the tree and you watered the tree and you trim the tree and the fruits didn't grow the way you thought and the worms came or the birds ate them all, you know, I have a neighbor and just over the fence I get to watch every year the journey of his peach tree, right? He nets it.

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He hopes that the late frost doesn't comb, right? And sometimes the birds come and was he a bad steward because he doesn't have all the greatest peaches to make the best peach pie or was he a good steward because he showed up and he tried to put the net on the tree and he tried to water the tree effectively and he tried to protect it when there was a frost. So sometimes when I look at the outcomes in my life, I realize I'm using a very mortal measuring stick. I'm deciding how effective I was as a parent based on the choice of my kids. Well, that goes against the plan of agency and happiness that God sent out. So if he wanted us to be that way, then he probably didn't give us all the tools to effectively control the outcomes. And that sounds a lot like the adversaries plan, which was controlling outcomes. And so I like to remind myself that when I'm feeling discouraged, I'm in comparison, I'm going into ownership that usually my eye has gone hyper focused on outcome and I've made a story around the outcome. I've decided that wherever at any given point, my kid is at my health is at my book sales are at the views on my show are at is says something. Yeah. And what does it say? What if the fruit was that I did the show that I called the kid that I checked and texted the sister that I'm assigned to minister to

you? Not how close we are or did she show up to church next Sunday? But what if the fruit is my offering? Gotcha. Yeah. It's the boy with the fishes and the loaves. At any given point, if he had been outcome focused, he would have maybe never even offered his little fish in law. But when we did finally measure it, when Jesus was part of the equation, there were leftovers. So I've come to understand that if I'm in stewardship, God stays in the equation. When I go into ownership, I'm saying, how about I just take the wheel? Yeah. So what do you say to leaders who are taking a deep breath or like, ah, she's calling me out. I'm there. I'm outcome focused. Ownership. Then what can we do? Are there certain questions we ask as far as ask ourselves or what can we do to pull ourselves out of ownership and refocus on stewardship? Well, I would say first and foremost, the first step is acknowledging there's a problem. So when you all of a sudden see that like you're burning the candle at both ends all the time, it's affecting your health and your relationships outside of the stewardship of whatever your leadership calling is. I would check first and foremost what story are you telling yourself? Usually for me when I go into ownership, there's some fear that's associated with it. And there's a sense that somehow my worth is tied into that stewardship. It's not enough, right? It's not enough. And it really isn't enough. If I'm in stewardship thinking, then I realized that like honestly Kurt people congratulate me and celebrate a lot of what I put out into the world. I can go into ownership about the good stuff just as much as we've talked about some of the traps of ownership in hard things. But man, oh man, if my worth is too much titled into the books I'm writing the shows I'm hosting the next gig I've been asked to come speak at. That's just as detrimental as tying my ownership into the outcome of my husband's loss of his job, my recent battle with lupus, right? And so it's just as helpful to stay into stewardship with the good stuff as it is the hard stuff. When you start owning like, yeah, I did that. Right. I would also say faith friends become super helpful. And I've talked about it in other books and in other scenarios before. And conversations I've had with you pull me out of that ownership mindset. I go to people that I trust when I can tell I've slipped into stewardship or ownership and out of stewardship in a specific stewardship. So for the bishop or the release of society president or the mission president or the stake president, right, whatever the stewardship is that we're talking on a leadership level. I don't know if we do as super effective job of counseling with others within those stewardships. I do believe God values it and gives us presidencies for that exact reason. I mean, I think ultimately, presidency should be a council where you can say, I think I'm in ownership here and I'm discouraged because sister so and so it's not playing out the way I thought. And your counselors can call you on that. If it doesn't feel like your counsel within that presidency works, then I say you call you call us a stake member of a never their stake and say, hey, you're my equal in that, how have you, how have you navigated burnout? How have you navigated situations where you don't feel like you're making any change for good and your family or your personal life is struggling, right? I think that's where we were wired for connection, right? And I end the book talking about building Zion in this way.

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Like to me, stewardship is brilliant when we talk about building Zion. I talk about my neighbor who's super effective at making jewelry, baking cakes, doing art, so much creative energy in her life. And how she's built Zion just by sharing those gifts and talents. Those are not my gifts. And I want to put that in the context of the outgoing relief society president with now I'm coming. I am not that she had the stewardship for a time. Right. Now she doesn't. I don't have to be her. Right. I just have to be me, and now it's my stewardship. My current release study president, I've talked about her unreal talk. I gave her a heads up. It was coming out, but she was definitely she's definitely someone that is not going to just go talk to people and had a certain set of gifts. She's amazing gardener. Amazing. And she's this mom of two cute, wonderful boys. We are actually fenced neighbors. So she's heard my real life and I've heard her real life over the years. But she talked pretty openly about being overwhelmed and being called because she didn't see herself in the traditional relief society stewardship role. Whatever that personality is, this is not who she saw herself as. And she called one of her counselors is someone that is super, super empathetic and loves to kind of sit with people and their pain and create space for them to process. And so I think there's power in that. That God is asking us to be brilliant in all the boxes. That he really, I believe, is going to build Zion because my neighbor is super good at making sourdough bread and I'm super good at buying it. You know? And everyone during the pandemic that trade for a marathon, I was not that girl. Right, but I am awesome at vacuuming. I am super good at it. I hope in Zion, there's carpet because I will be an effective contributor to Zion by vacuuming, right? My mother in law is so brilliant at cooking and sewing and she made my husband suits on his mission. If that was what the definition of motherhood was, in sturdy, I'm in trouble. My kids never got homemade clothes for me. I think they got homemade bread once in a while, and it was not effective. And so I've had to really challenge, especially as a mom that has the stewardship of lupus and chronic illness, what did mothering look like? And I think in the church we're doing a little bit better expanding what we culturally define certain roles as I think podcasts have helped in that. It's pulled the curtain back to say, oh, wait. You're the release society president and you don't do whatever, whatever, activity, every September, the way my releases study president always did it, right? And I think that's why we have calling changes. Right? We passed the stewardship around. Yeah, because if not, it's the traditions of the fathers. And mothers that get passed on, like, well, we always every July 24th, we all put on our pioneer bonnets and do that, right? Yeah. There's nothing wrong with that. But if we start to believe that the doctrine of the church is based on the traditions, then we get in trouble, right? And then we're less effective and accepting callings. And I think God shows the expansion and building of the kingdom because he wants my neighbor's perspective on how to be a release society president at this time versus what was traditionally done or previously done. And so I hope that answers the question, I hope bishop's out there, especially call other bishops, or confessed to the stake president, they're burned out and stake presidents will pick up this book if they don't understand this principle. It's less than \$7 at SQL book, Amazon and desert book, right? And if you don't understand the idea of stewardship and your counseling with people that are in your stewardship and you can see ownership is burning everyone out, I think we have too many people that have already walked away from our faith. Because they were an ownership for so many years. So true. It's so easy to go, wait, I did a lot of doing. And the cake didn't come

out the way I thought in all that sacrifice tithing pain. Whatever I don't remember which general conference talk it was, you're going to help me on this one, that it's not the vending machine principle, right? That we believe a lot in the doing. But sometimes the stewardship God is asking us to do is to not have a calling. Yeah. Or not do something, or like in the words of my son, he said, the way you were an effective steward this year was you didn't say or do a lot.

00:40:03 - 00:45:05

Well, he lived in Hawaii, so that created a boundary, right? But I was lost sometimes to know like, am I being a good mom? What does it look like to be an effective parent for my kids at the stages of life? And one of the things I will suggest is as bishop as a parent as a grandparent as a mission companion, ask your whatever. Your child, your mission companion, your counselors, what does support look like? One of the ways I go into ownership is I decide what it's going to look like. I already decide this is what it looks like to be a good mom. This is what it looks like to be a good release to study president or young women's president, right? This is what a good word looks like, and you walk into word counsel. I already know the direction I want to go. And I'm owning it. Right. And I think one of the reasons why the conversations you have on this show are effective is because it gives a window into a different approach. And it starts conversations, right? I hope people pick up this book and it just I've heard from readers already that they finished it and started it all over again because they couldn't unknow what they knew. Unfortunately, they all of a sudden saw everything different in their lives, which, as the author that was scared to do this, I'm grateful to hear that it's had that effect that people that didn't understand it at all of a sudden could not see their table, their wrecked car, their failed marriage is now a stewardship. It's not God saying, well, I really love so and so, sister so and so because her husband's the bishop. And I don't love sister so and so because she's going through divorce. It's stewardship. Yeah. It's stewardship. And it makes me think of a time I was serving as bishop and working with this gentleman in my ward who was going through his marriage had fallen apart. He was in an apartment by himself, just struggling to have a decent job. And I remember this moment looking at him and I knew his background and, you know, he jumped through all the same hoops. I had jumped through, but for some reason, we were on opposite sides. The vending machine hadn't kicked out the same life. I was on the bishop side. He was on the, I'm having a problem side. Yeah. And I couldn't put to words why that was. But at the end of the day, it's like, that's your stewardship. This is my stewardship. It's not because I somehow figured crack the code and figure something else to land me on this side of the desk. This is where we're at. And both opportunities can sanctify us. Right. And you know what? I would just love to say this. People have already asked is there a follow-up book? And I'm like, can this be out on the market a few months first? But I would say there are a few areas that if I was to do a follow-up, this is no promises. Okay. Please don't write me about that yet. That I would love to have a further conversation about. One area is our brothers and sisters in the

LGBTQ+ community. I talk about our mutual friends, the macintoshes, and their stewarding of a child that's gay. And I would just say, what I love about this principle is if you're in leadership and you're sitting across the desk like you were in that scenario with someone that is dealing with some stewardships that are challenging or different or difficult. There's hope in that position as a leader in helping that individual reframe how they see that. Because when we see. Friends that are of color that have lived through difficult times in our history, not just in the church, but in the history of our nation or the world. How do you frame that in a way that fills hopeful? Without negating the challenge of that experience. Stewarding or the stewardship principle allows you to sit across from someone and hold space for their experience and honor their stewardship. And not have to solve it. I don't have an answer for my black brothers and sisters that have been horribly mistreated and misunderstood and at times overlooked. I don't have all the answers for the paradoxes for my Friends of my faith that are also trained to navigate gender identity or sexual identity, right? Yeah. But when we see everything as a stewardship, all of a sudden it's not like, well, God must really love his fill in this descriptor of this person because they check these boxes and they've never had to encounter racism, bigotry, abuse, betrayal, right? If I can see whatever is happening to someone I loves life as a stewardship, I have come to understand it allows me to validate them with also not putting me in a position to think that I have to solve the problem or save them. And it's a hopeful approach. It's not easy. Friends that are going through a difficult divorce, especially those that are dealing with divorce because of betrayal.

00:45:06 - 00:50:02

There's not a fast track. You don't just all of a sudden read a book about stewardship and go, oh, it's a stewardship. Oh, good. Here we go. Yeah, my spouse totally betrayed me lied to me for years. I'm questioning everything about my family and everything that I did and all of those family vacations and family home evenings and what did it all mean and why did we go to the temple and violating a covenant? It doesn't take away that pain, but it does say as job teaches us that God isn't like punishing that sister. Right. He's not saying to her, you know, I didn't even notice that you volunteered at girls camp every year, and your husband was having an affair. It's saying, I trust you with the stewardship. It's the one talent that you still have the capacity with God to have it be consecrated for your good. It gets sister Craig who tells the beautiful story of the sister that went to church, that first Sunday as a divorced woman. Wondering, why did she do all the doing in the church? Like, what was that all for? All those lessons she taught all that volunteering, all those casseroles we signed up for going to the temple on a regular basis and now here she's sitting all by herself, right? And it makes me emotional every time to think of that one teen girl that was like saw her stewardship totally different demographic and went sat by her and saw her that Sunday. And every Sunday for weeks made sure she saw her and said hello to her. That's building the kingdom. That's like not bacon sourdough bread or solving world hunger or donating the most tithing ever donated. That's like to me that stewardship right there is a

sister that shows up divorced and heartbroken and a teenage girl that sees her. Yeah. That's sturdy. Yeah. And I love the point you're hitting on here where as I sat across from that man in my ward, it's so easy to go to the reasons why that's your stupid shit. Not that you're saying, well, God is punishing you, but obviously there should be, there's obviously some reason you're the outcome should be different. Yeah, it should be different, right? And so when we approach it from a stewardship point of view, suddenly we're on equal levels. And you're dealing with your thing, you're dealing with my thing, yours has more stigma. Wow, that's hard. That's hard, but we're still in the same level. And there shouldn't be any stigma, but that's just the world we live in. And then we can find deeper answers and Christ's can step into that rather than like, oh, well, maybe you gotta turn up your scripture study more. Try that. 'cause that's worked for me. And again, that we sort of shifted this ownership. Like, I'm able to afford this stewardship because I paid for it. So maybe you need to pay more for it. And it just doesn't work that way. When we went through infertility, the comments were hilarious. Maybe one day I'll write a book of the rude things that we say to each other. As I read in your book, my wife and I also went through 6 years every day. I remember sitting on a plane. And this lady starts up a conversation with me. Like, oh, do you have any kids? I'm like, no, she's like, oh, good. Just wait. Wait as long as you can. And I'm like weeping inside of him. We've tried so hard. Right. Disney's comments. It's tough. Well, and I remember someone literally saying like, you need to fast and pray more and why aren't you following the profit and they had no idea what was going behind the scene. But if you read the scriptures, obviously the theme of infertility is plentiful. I just remember thinking, wait, I feel like God is pretty clear that it's not based on my righteousness or else he wouldn't include Hannah and Sarah and he was clear that he wanted to acknowledge that stewardship, right? And I would just say to those that are wondering, I just recently preparation for taping real talk with studying the book of job. And if you read through all 42 chapters, I think. I mean, it's like a crazy number of chapters. The story is plentiful of everyone's perspective on the story, right? All of job's friends had an opinion about how why he was being punished why he was losing everything financially his health. His kids were dying. Everyone was saying curse God and they all had opinions. When it comes to stewardship, there is a difference, even if we have all the same labels, how you're going to handle infertility, how you're going to handle lupus, how you're going to handle being the bishop, how you're going to handle the good stuff in the hard stuff, right? At the end of that though, we see that God was a compensatory God. Everything job had lost, returned, like tenfold. And so I guess on the moment where you're sitting there pleading in your closet and you've listened to this podcast or you've heard me talk about this in another place.

00:50:03 - 00:55:12

And you're like, I'm too tired to keep stewarding. I am in complete ownership. I must have ruined the formula because look at all of my kids have walked away from our faith or this is ended or

we've lost another job. I would just say, I don't know how God will work at all for my good, all the time. But job teaches us that he does. And I believe job is a great example of staying in stewardship, right? Yeah. I didn't put him in the book because I think he's an obvious example of kind of that story playing out. And I really wanted to maybe pull in ideas that maybe weren't as obvious, but to me he's one of the great examples of trusting God in that process for however long it takes. And I just want to say on the outset, the individuals that inspire me the most in my faith, the people I want to go see on the big screen have the movie written about their life and played. Are not the people that had the easy stewardships. Yeah. They're just not. They're the ones that have overcome that have faced adversity over lengthy periods of time where they've wrestled with questions of their soul. And it looks like everything's working out for the neighbor, but never working out for them, right? I do think we have a tendency though in the church to think everything has to be hard. And sometimes in the pioneer perspective that we celebrate every year on pioneer day, we think, oh gosh, it's got to be a fight. I believe stewardship allows you to appreciate the good stuff too. Absolutely. I mean, there's something to be said when you're holding your first grandchild or you're sitting in the temple with your kids and you've worked to be there. If we don't express gratitude for those spaces, we're also not going to appreciate the stewardship that is joy. The stewardship that comes from love, the stewardship that comes from having accomplished and gotten a degree or see your book published on the shelf. I've come to really understand this principle allows me to kind of ride the hard waves, but it also allows me to enjoy sitting on the beach, right? With the pineapple drink and my kids with me and the joy of that experience too. That's such an awesome point, especially there's this cultural feeling when it comes to leadership in the church of you're not supposed to want these colleagues. And I think about my time as bishop, best calling the church absolutely would do it again, but we have to we almost feel like it has to be hard. And that's where we shifted this place of stewardship where we're saying we're having some clear boundaries or saying no to things. But we feel like, oh, we can't say no, 'cause it's supposed to be hard. So go that way. And so just giving yourself permission to say, yeah, your stewardship is being the stake president right now. And it's okay to really like that. And to be sad when it's over, you know. And it's okay that when you're called into the bishop's office and maybe a call is extended. And the bishop isn't aware of the three other stewardships that include your cancer diagnosis that you speak up and you say I'm dealing with these other stewardships and with information revelation can happen. And so some of the greatest opportunities of my life have been when I've said no. Yeah. And in the moment it's scary because you're like, I've coveted to build the kingdom or this is a great opportunity to go have this speaking event or whatever that is. And I've learned that when you're in stewardship, God can whisper to me the nose. And sometimes the nose are much later at times I look back and go, wow, if I had not said no to that, I wouldn't have been able to say yes to this. So understanding that like you just said, yeah, I mean, girls camp was hard, but it was a great stewardship experience. I did call. This is my little teaser if you want me to come back. I called a food director. That was the greatest decision of my life. Because I'm like, I had a vision of the theme and spiritual content and the organization I'm really good with this spreadsheet, right? But cooking the food and managing the food and that stewardship felt so overwhelming. And the sister they called was brilliant at it and that's all she had to do. We had the best food ever at that girls count because her stewardship was just the food, right? And so I think that's a really great example. I mean, a little tongue in cheek that I don't have to be

everything for everyone. I mean, it's about God saying I gave you 5 talents and you won and in his economy, he's working that out. Now, I will say there are times in seasons in my life where I'm like, man, I don't have very good stewardships right now. Am I talentless is not that cool and exciting? When I see so and so's sister so and so and brother so and so on there, right? And that's a signal usually I've slipped into the ownership mindset because I do think God is like brilliant about I'm going to have teachers.

00:55:12 - 01:00:01

Let me have mechanics. I'm going to have cake decorators. I'm going to have, I jokingly say, I have two kids with naturally super curly hair. My husband and I do not have curly hair. They have started bad rumors about why they both look the way they look. And they came 6 years apart in two different states. They look exactly alike. And I always say, it's because God knew I was not great at doing hair. And so he was just like, how about you just are born with really great curly hair and then your mom? Yeah. So they've watched every YouTube video about curly hair. They get mad at me when I try to give advice because they're like, you don't understand curly hair and the products that we need. And all the things that's going on. And so, I mean, I think in that sense of, you know, in our infertility journey, I had lupus. And so when we were told we would never have children to have two kids, comparative people have in all seriousness asked where other children are in the church and I always say, they let you become really studied president with only two kids. They do. I'm evidence of that, right? Because culturally speaking, large families were the norm. And so what's wrong with us? Why do we only have two kids? Well, my stewardship experience has been this. I also know the lord is invited me to do things that if there had been more kids, it wouldn't have probably happened in the way that it did. Now, do I think my husband could have been an amazing father of 6 for sure. He's going to be a great grandpa because he's magic with babies and but he always tells me I'm fine with our stewardship, our two kids. That's what we have, right? So I think comparison is crucial, especially in the church. We so easily slip into what the norm is, because there's a handbook, right? There's a handbook describing everything we do, and there's record keeping. And we have mistakenly believed that it always looks a certain way. And I think especially if you move outside of Utah, if you move outside of the United States, there's different versions of bishops and really society presidents encamped directors and girls camp in general, right? All over the world and that expansion that diversity to me is divinity. And I hope that we make more room for your gifts and talents include also your heart experiences. Zion's going to be built by my friends that have been single moms, right? They're going to be built by my father in law that died with MS, like to watch him as a bishop with MS and hobbling up with two canes and then eventually in a wheelchair. And then watching him as a grandfather in a father when he literally couldn't get out of bed for a year before he passed. In his mind, he wasn't effective at all. And I remember sitting with him and saying, dad, you have no idea your legacy. And he's thinking, you know, he

had to retire early as a hospital administrator. He constantly had black eyes as bishop because he was falling all the time, right? But I remember saying to him what you've taught your children about what faith looks like, what surrender looks like, what it looks like to trust in God when your body doesn't work. That was a stewardship. Nobody was high fiving him. Yay, 15 years of MS, and then you die and your last year of life, you're in bed, waiting for help. But I remember him tying a laundry basket with a rope around his waist and crawling to try to just help with the laundry. As my mother in law went back to work to have health insurance, right? I don't think anyone would say that was a fun stewardship. Right. To watch that. But I watched them steward. And then years later, as we, then, were dealing with my health diagnosis, and my husband, as my spouse, I've watched him be sensitive, supportive, understanding, I can't, I can't separate that he watched his dad and his mom, right? So don't underestimate how your stewarding is influencing and inspiring others in their stewarding. That's different than comparisons. Yeah. When I look at others in their stewarding and it's very different than mine because I'm not asked to experience what they're asked to do. I still can gather the lesson. You know? It's my neighbor who's wife had early Alzheimer's onset at 43 and then was called to be bishop. And I watch him every day taking her for a walk. She's non communicative. He brushes her hair. He takes care of her, right? In ways that I'm sure he would never say that his life is filled with a meaningful marriage that meets all of his needs, but he honors in that stewardship and he's inspired me. Because I think what is marriage? Is it that every single need is mapped for me all the time? No.

01:00:02 - 01:05:30

In marriage, just like with my in laws and this neighbor of mine, it's about that covenant keeping commitment at times. That's not easy. That's an oversimplification of some stewardships that have inspired me in the last few years. But I would say that that's just as much a part of building the kingdom. As the great youth conference that was planned on someone's ranch, where everyone had the ATVs for all, you know, right? Or the guy that had the private jet so he could fly the whole young men's group to whatever Mexico to do a service project. We hear about that. But what about the husband that's taking care of his wife who has early Alzheimer's, right? Yes. So stewardship everyone. Yeah, yeah, yeah. And I don't know how God's going to work it out, but I know he's going to work it out. Yeah. And I guess the principle I appreciate most about this principle is that when you're, it gives you permission to say, I don't own it. Like, 'cause sometimes we accidentally say that we do own it. And in other words, we're saying, we are the savior, right? At the end of the day, you're not the bishop. At the end of the day, you're not really sighted president that the parent, the whatever, you just have a stewardship. He's given you this part of his vineyard, and he's saying, would you be a steward over it? I've got it. I'll figure it out, but would you help me? And because through that, you will become more like me. And thank you. And think about how quickly we all get burned out when we're in ownership. Because first of all, we don't have control of anyone's choices. When our kids are little, we think we do, 'cause we magically can put them in the crib, right? Or we can have we're having a problem with lying.

Let's have a family home evening lesson about that. And then they're 16 and that doesn't solve the problem, right? So I would say exactly what you just reiterated is that the way God keeps me in the game is when I stay in stewardship. If I go into ownership, I want to bail. I'm burnt out. I'm frustrated. I'm discouraged. I'm not saying I don't still get those feelings in my stewarding. But I'm more likely to get up off of the mat. Go back to my knees in prayer, go back to the temple, petition. What's coming to me right now as we've been talking is the bishop or the parent or the spouse of someone going to a faith crisis, right? How do you navigate that when I think most families I don't think I'm going out on a limb here are going through that at some level. Someone in the family is going to try. If we approach it as a stewardship, it changes things. Because I hear from friends and family members that are the one going through the faith crisis, quote unquote, they don't always love that term, but faith journey. And maybe even removing their names from the records, leaving the church, whatever that is. How do you preserve a relationship in that? Because ultimately stewarding to me is about love, right? And it's about loving things that are hard. It's about loving people that are hard. It's about loving myself, which is not always easy to do. And I would just say that stewardship is very common now. Ten years ago, even 8 years ago, when my very first book came out, there's a chapter in I can do hard things with God and it's all about this mother that I love her so much. She's a grandmother and out of her knowing kids 8 have left the church. And at the time, she was working for a general authority. As an assistant, right? And she'd been really studied president her husband had been bishop, right? And I remember I was sound. It's not a secret because you can buy the book and see it. And she pushed back a little like, why am I writing? This is ten years ago. She's like, why am I writing this? Nobody wants to hear this story. And I was saying, everyone needs to hear the story. Within a few years, I didn't know a family that wasn't having that experience. And why I wanted her perspective is she before I had the words for it. She was in stewardship. She was maintaining a relationship with a loved one, multiple kids in a way that is so beautiful and it continues an impact me while her kids were choosing in a different way. In a way that was different than all the family home evening lessons, all the programs in the church had taught. And to this day, her relationships have stayed and flourished because I believe she stayed in stewardship. And so whether it's the person that is coming to you saying, I've read this about history, or I've been offended by this leader, or I'm not okay with this policy anymore. Can you approach what they're experiencing as their stewardship? Instead, what do we often do? No empty chairs, it's cross stitched on the wall, right? And what's going to be eternity if my loved one who's a return missionary who's been a bishop is now out of the church, what do I do with that? Stay in stewardship. And then honor that they're in a stewardship. Is it possible that their journey is exactly the stewardship experience that God has intended for them? And do you see I can almost fill the collective deep breath versus when we're in ownership? It's like I gotta save them and they're violating their covenants and what does that say about me as a mom as a father as I stay president if I don't go in versus the bishops or stay presents that show up in just sit in stewardship with an individual and say I honor this is where you're at, I love you and wherever you are at in your decision making.

01:05:31 - 01:10:09

I don't know, it's easy for me when it's everyone else's stewardship. So let me just be fully transparent when it's my stewardship when it's my kid when it's my health when it's my career when it's obvious I have YSA everywhere that are like they call me mama Conde mama, you're so accepting and you're willing to have the hard conversation. I'm like yeah 'cause you're not my 24 year old. The one I birthed, it's a lot harder. Yeah, it's an extension of me. It's much easier to go to ownership to the people you married or you birthed. Let's just be clear on that. It's when you can see it from a little bit of a perspective that you're like, oh look, look at their journey. Yeah. Look at what they're wrestling with. And I would say the same to church leadership. It's easy to say, oh, great job, bishop, until you're the bishop. Great job, really say prison until you're the primary president, right? I've watched our primary president all through COVID. Man, she deserves an award. I don't know if she's ever going to get an award. But to navigate a very large primary with different families approaching the pandemic and very different ways and keeping leaders that had different approaches when we kind of were coming back to normal. I mean, what a unique stewardship that we all lived through and we all approached it quite differently, you know? And was there a right or wrong? So before we go into too much prescription on this, what's the prescriptive way to be a good steward? There is no way. And you may be storing the exact scenario I'm stewarding and do it very differently. And that's okay. Yeah. All right, Gayle and I'm going to slip in here right before our last question and see if anybody notices that we actually recorded this in the future of our interview. After I left your house, we recorded that, man, gain lyn is about to do this remarkable event for north star. You're the MC for a night of a night for hope, a benefit concert under the stars that says, and we didn't even plug it. So we're going to quickly record this and plug it. So this audience knows that they should be there. I've got my tickets, and obviously you have your tickets because you're going to be on stage. That's right. So tell us about it. You're the MC. What are we going to see that night? So I just feel like there's so many things that you can do with a summer night. What a better, I think bang for your buck. I don't know. I mean, I believe we're in an economy where we need value and our purchases. That's right. I don't think there's a better lineup. So Nathan pachenko and Casey Elliott from gentry and Madeline page are going to perform. It is in this beautiful location up at river bottoms ranch, which, if you know, is like a midway heber area if you're familiar with Utah, there are still tickets available. The price point is so amazing. It's worth it. There's going to be a silent auction. It's on August 5th. I'm really honored to emcee this event. There are some surprises that I do not have permission to share. But I'm going to say you're going to get more than you expect. And I think anytime you go to a concert or an event and you walk away thinking like, okay, I got what I paid for, but I think I even got more than that. It's time well spent. And for me, in the work I do in safe communities in mental health in the schools and businesses, hope is kind of a theme of what I try to share. And the goal of this night is just in the gathering with beautiful music in a beautiful surrounding, it's not going to break the bank, but you're going to have these world class performances and also some messages of hope. North star is an organization that's dear to both you and I. Did we meet at north star? Is that how we first met? I don't know. Maybe not. Before this life came in, I don't know. Do we have our reunion at a north star event? I love north star. I love doing any work within the LGBTQ+ communities, but I also really value what north star's goal is to minister to those that are trying to wrestle in the

paradoxes of faith and gender sexual identity. And support church leadership and family members of those that are dealing with those stewardships. And so we've talked a lot today about stewardship. And I just think we would love to have anyone that feels like they need more hope that they want to gather in a positive space with people that are wanting to share hope as well.

01:10:09 - 01:15:12

And then listen to really good music in a beautiful surroundings and setting. You know, I don't know how much I'm going to add to the event because I'm just the MC, but I kind of feel like with this lineup, I probably can't ruin it. I don't know. Maybe I could. Maybe I'll say the wrong thing and fall down on the stage and then I'll go viral for things I don't want to go viral for. At least for the gay Lynn completely screws this up. Yeah. The hope is to not do that the hope is to add hope to a night of hope. So yes, I think you'll do great. And I will be there. And so those in the audience that come, we're putting the link in the show notes, so you can buy tickets and look at the content, but the doors open at 6. And so I would love, you know, Kurt knows this about me. I give free hugs, so if I'm at a book signing, you don't even need to buy one of my books, you'll get a hook, come to the event, please introduce yourself, I'm excited to be with people I love in this community, nor start always puts on great events that leave me better and it always helps me stop and look at my own stewardships in my life and see them with a different lens when I'm with community of those that are a part of the LGBTQ+ communities and so this is a night for everyone. It's for everyone that needs some hope and I think that covers everyone on the planet. So if you're happening to be in Utah on August 5th, maybe people are listening to this podcast like in 2027. This is 2022. Do not come to don't go to river bottoms around in August 5th of 2027. I don't know if we're going to be there. So, right? That's right. So where would you send people they want to check out the book or learn more about all the many projects you're working? So my name, that's my website, so it's just Google is always like, oh, her, that word. I'm on all the social platforms, so you can find me there. The book is Amazon Siegel and desert book. Sometimes it's in Costco, but I never get text beforehand. And so if they're gone, I need you by the sample lady. Signing comments. I know, right. I'm ready to do that starship. That's good. Anyone that's going to be in Utah this summer. At the time of this taping, you know, I'm going to do some book signings, which, for a few years, we weren't able to do that, so I'm excited to do that. So my calendar is on my website and I love hearing from readers. I just saw on a real talk episode on YouTube. A viewer is buying copies of the stewardship, giving it to anyone that asks her about it. I was like, I don't know who this person is. I've never met this viewer, but she's like, this book has completely changed my life. And so the minute I start to talk to anyone and they want to know, what does stewardship and they take a copy it changes how they feel and see things. And that's the greatest thing to hear as an author that it's a jumping off point, but that it's filled some gaps for some people. I just heard from a mom of a gay boy and her son came to her a few years ago and she just said my son is gay and he came to me two years ago, why didn't I know about stewardship? And I have a sense. It was not navigated

perfectly, right? Sometimes our stewardships catch us completely off guard and we mess it up for a while. I hope this book brings some healing too because if you're in a situation where maybe a relationship has been strained because you didn't steward correctly or you didn't say the quote unquote whatever we think is the right thing because we're caught off guard or we're heartbroken because stewardships feel different. They look different than we thought. The dream for our kids, the dream for our callings, the dream for our careers. We can always circle back. That's the good news of the gospel, right? So I hope it brings hope. That's what people ask, what is your, what's your thing? What do you want to be known for? What's your brand? And I'm a Jesus biased hope, motivator. And that's it. I mean, we need hope and for me, hope is not stagnant. It's choosing it again and again when it looks like things aren't working out. And for those that are dealing with some hard stewardships right now, I see you God sees you and he's working things out for your good. And for those in leadership, it's not easy. It's a stewardship. Be careful when you start correcting your church leadership because they volunteered for this. No one as of today is being paid to be the nursery leader. So if you are if you're feeling like you could do a better job in that stewardship role, sometimes I think just say thank you to the people that have said yes to doing the stewarding in our wards and in our stakes because it's often a challenge to figure out how to do it and balance all the other stewardships of our lives at the same time.

01:15:12 - 01:17:17

Like we don't put all the other things on hold just to be the bishop or the really slighty president. That concludes this episode of the leading saints podcast. We'd love to hear from you about your questions or thoughts or comments. You can either leave a comment on the post related to this episode at [leading-saints.org](http://leading-saints.org) or go to [leading-saints.org/contact](http://leading-saints.org/contact) and send us your perspective or questions. If there's other episodes or topics you'd like to hear on the leading scenes podcast, go to [leading-saints.org/contact](http://leading-saints.org/contact) and share with us the information there. And we would love for you to share this with any individual you think this would apply to, especially maybe individuals in your word counsel or other leaders that you may know who would really appreciate the perspectives that we discussed. Remember to learn more about our gathering saints retreat experiences, visit [leading-saints.org/gathering](http://leading-saints.org/gathering) or click the link in the show notes. It came as a result of a position of leadership, which was imposed upon us. By the God of heaven who brought forth a restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and when the declaration was made, concerning the own only true and living church upon the face of the earth, we were immediately put in a position of loneliness. The loneliness of leadership from which we can not shrink nor run away. And of which we must face up with boldness and courage and ability