

Todd Carnes_Audio_V1

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SPEAKERS

Scott Hilton (Host)

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Scott Hilton (Host) 00:15

All right, welcome to another episode of The that's my dad podcast. I'm Scott Hilton the man. You know, I don't know how I get to associate with so many incredible people, but I do and Todd Karns as it turns out, quite an incredible person. But is he just a little tired to me? We were neighbors growing up. And welcome, welcome. Thank you. Thank you very long drive.

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00:39

Yeah,

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Scott Hilton (Host) 00:40

appreciate you doing that. You're up in South Carolina, we're recording in Alabama. But Todd is the author of burying home. It's a book he wrote. And that's interesting to me, Todd, this is a thick book, and I'm a poor reader. But I read this in almost one setting, this is the fastest I've ever read a book. So just to give a little context to, you know, to a couple of guys doing a podcast here, we grew up in the in between the cotton mill and the steel plant, literally, between the cotton mills steel plant on top of the railroad tracks, yeah, you could, you could, we were neighbors, and you could walk from my house, half a block, and you could be in the holy cow of the Mill Village. And then you could walk from our house either of our houses a half a block, and you build the railroad tracks where the steel plant was, right. So so there was sit everywhere, all the years were growing up there was sit all over our houses, and they caught us lint heads, right? Because the cotton mill there, but you had quite an incredible story. And I really didn't know it, even though we grew up together, and I was in and out of your house a lot. You were in my house a lot. There are some things going on in your home that that none of us knew about. Right. And you've written a lot about that in bearing home. So tell us about that. And before you do, let me just say you've you've had quite an interesting life, you were a missionary in Russia, you founded a very successful large church, you're now you've been in politics and real estate and the event an interesting life, let's put it that way, we'll get to that. But kind of take us back to when we were kids.



02:21

Yeah, so our, our neighborhood was great, we did have a lot of boys, we had a lot of fun. And, and I have a lot of great memories there. But but at the same time when I named my book bearing home because it was when my father passed away, I have this saying that, that when you lose your first parent, it's painful, you lose your second parent, you you not only bear your second parent, you have to bury home, because you now have nowhere to go home to. And so out of that, but it was it was time to tell my story that I had been ruminating on for decades, and not in a sense of, of any kind of oversharing but I just wanted to I just had this story that I wanted to tell because after I was in ministry 20 some odd years and you just don't know what goes on behind the doors. And there's just all kinds of things that go on behind closed doors and, and in our little neighborhood and right there where we were at. You know, my dad, I love my dad and he did a lot of great things, he was just a man given to addiction and, and when you get kind of caught by addiction, which I did as well, but just not nearly as long as it can just take you to really dark places. And, and so we just in our early years, we just got taken to some really dark places a lot of a lot of violence, a lot of you know literally staying up till one two o'clock in the morning and, and yelling and screaming and, and violence and you're and you're young and I've had a lot of time to think about it now. And what I realized is that when you're young man and there's violence in your home, it it emasculates you a little bit because you you know that you should be a protector or somehow take that home but you're at nine or 10 year old kid and you know you can't take that on and so it's a an emotional thing that happens that I think took me decades to kind of work through and and try to figure out which ultimately I did and you've read the book I mean it's actually has a good ending but it but it started tough and and it was just a reminder of just being a young man and laying in bed and see and see an addiction and and violence and thinking like I'll never do that. That's the worst thing in the world. And then you wake up one day and you're 17 years old, and you're in addiction and violence. And that cycle has got you. And it got me at 16 or 17 and rolled me through the mud until I till I came to faith at 21. So it's, it's so seductive and so generational.

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Scott Hilton (Host) 05:18

Yeah. So you are all those years that we were growing up together, and we thought everything was fine in the current home. There was there was chaos. Yeah, yeah. Ugly. Your your mom had some mental health issues? Is it okay to Yes, to say that, yeah, you were dealing with those. I remember go into your house, and I would see your mom, but I didn't know that there was some, there were problems there. You know, we're just kids, we're just growing up playing, playing basketball and football. And then your your dad had substance abuse issues. And it was a quite a chaotic life for you. Tell us some of the things that that you encountered, that you talked about in the book, some of the things you encountered as a child growing up in that



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you just, you just learned how to hide it. Like there's all this research on adult children of alcoholics, and you have to learn how to hide things. And so, you know, my dad, he he, he was somewhat just up and down emotionally. And so he would, he would start drinking bourbon on day one. And he would be fiery, mad and ornery, and somewhat dangerous for about 48 hours.

And that's when they would yield through the night and he would grab my mom and there's all kinds of bad stuff went down, you just lay in there at night, just begging, the Kherson and the yelling and the screaming to stop. And so it was like all of his anger from all the pressure of life would come out in about 48 hours and then and then he would sit in his recliner and drink literally another seven or 10 days. not eat anything. Just stay totally, totally waxed in the nest when you go into kind of the sad drunks and it's just and then everybody's hiding for him. Because guys are coming to the house wanting work. He ran a business people want to get paid. Everybody's nervous telling, you know, you're gonna do this for a week is he gonna do it for a month? And then he would, he would make me come sit in his lap, you know, and he's just totally blitzed and you know, when people are just totally drunk, they just say all kinds of crazy stuff. But he would, he would make me come sit in his lap and talk all kinds of crazy stuff. And you know, you just want to get away and then and then it would take him literally a day or two of, of trying to sober up. And it was just kind of violent throwing up just just the bodies just wrecked. But but he would, he would come out he would, he would finally come out of that and quit drinking and come up. And then he was two weeks behind. And then he had to go hustle, make it all happen again. And he would go do that maybe maybe he'd make it a couple of months, and then the cycle would repeat. And that went on your whole childhood, the vast majority of probably till I was 1314 years old.

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Scott Hilton (Host) 08:09

So what happened you said that from till you were 13 and 14 that something happened that changed.



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He he just backed off of that heart of drinking, I think he just got older and he couldn't drink that hard. And so the long one or two weeks bales of total drunkenness kind of went away. And but about that time my mom's mental state was she was just clinically depressed and she was never out of the house and, and so there was just a lot of focus on her. She she was just all types of sickness and, and my mom and dad, they just they grew up together in the middle village. I mean, they went on dates when they were 12 and 13 years old. But it was just they just lived a hard, hard life. They never they never enjoyed the goodness I think of marriage and a lot of ways. And so during that time, I my dad left a few times and he he had some affairs and moved out and it was but but the violent drunkenness wasn't there. I mean, we'll see Trey night tomorrow night. I mean, I distinctly remember police coming to the house and Mother throwing something through the window and grabbing me and running me over there and big Todd holding me back and you know, just just chaotic times, but But you know, it leveled out. But I will say this I always tell people this like, I have a crazy memory. I can't remember names, but I remember things distinctly. And I remember my father laying me on Hunter's bed. He had red and black all through his room. He laid me down and laid Hunter down. He kind of put his hands on the bed and put one knee on the bed and told us he was leaving. Uh, you never forget that He came back, he was gone a matter of months or something, but just for all you dads out there, I'm 53 years old, that's when I was seven. He never forget that. There's still

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Scott Hilton (Host) 10:12

you still have some pain from those. There's still some scars.



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Potentially, I mean, they're certainly they're certainly, certainly scars, you know, like I and I want to talk about I mean, we got reconciled, but, but the fact that, you know, there's indelible things that get etched in your mind that you just never forget.



Scott Hilton (Host) 10:36

So you had this chaotic life and the and I went off to college because I was three years older than you. But something very tragic happened in your life. As a senior I believe in high school. Was it a right after?



10:50

Right after that, the year after that, and about? Well, I'm not sure which one you're talking about. But right after my senior year, my best friend Jason Brown, when he got killed. He was we were best friends and I dropped him off at his house the night before we'd been out and he was in Walnut Park and we stayed up till one or two in the morning and I went back to see him the next day when I rolled up, they were they were working on and there was an ambulance there and they were working on him because he had been electrocuted with this piece of equipment. And I remember I remember trying to follow the ambulance to the hospital and I was so disoriented, I got lost. I remember getting to the hospital and Jason's dad who's still alive diamond Dave sent me to back to Sansom to get his little brother. I remember going to Field House and trying to tell his little brother now remember, I from there back, I convinced myself that he wasn't dead that he was alive. And so anyway, there everybody has that first tragic experience with eternity that that was it. For me. It was the first time you realize you're mortal.



Scott Hilton (Host) 12:03

But you didn't react in the best, best way to that best I remember



12:07

I did. And I it's so shocking to the system that I certainly contemplated. giving my life to God and figuring out eternity, I contemplated it for for weeks. But at the end of the day, I had achieved a social status through through the sins of the world and, and I just love the things of the world more than things of God, I actually went to the edge of the cliff I looked over, I knew it was the right thing to do. And I turned around and walked back. And there is a deal where you, you know, when a pig returns to the mud, like you get muddier than you've ever been. And so that's, that's really what happened. I was 18 and for the next three years, there was just total destruction in my life,

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Scott Hilton (Host) 12:56

or you were drinking alcohol.

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I became the thing that my dad was that I hated. When I was nine. I knew I had become that and And strangely enough, I was I was the exact same thing. I start drinking and the anger would come out and and you get in fights and it's just, you know, full anger and then you go through the cycle and you come down and then you're depressed and sad and got sad drougths and just and I already knew that, that it kind of had me. Fortunately I was I had a roommate, Craig goose McGriff who was right man, right place who was ready to catch me when I might hit rock bottom.

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Scott Hilton (Host) 13:38

Greg is a guy we grew up with grew up cross street from us, actually. Yeah. So he was there for you what tell us about that.

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13:46

It's a great story. Goose was he was you know, he was always just a good guy. And when we went off to Alabama together, he found some guys that were believers and kind of got to the next level. And I found some guys that were that were partiers and got to the next level. So we were just diverging. But we we went all the way back to the Little League Baseball. So we had some deep roots that held us together but but that last year, there was guys in Campus Crusade for Christ telling Guzman, you need to get out of that you can't live with that guy any longer. It's just bad for you. It's bad for everybody. He's roommates. He's just cycling down and they were they were telling him that the best thing he could do would be leave and goes to loyal. And God bless him like I mean, it probably was the right I'd probably tell somebody to leave. But goose's he steady, strong and loyal and the next semester, I turned 21. And so turned 21 on a Friday so at 1201 on Thursday night, I started hitting the clubs, and did that from 1201 on Thursday until about 8am on Sunday. Morning started in Tuscaloosa went through Auburn came back, did the whole thing. Sunday afternoon I was sitting on my couch hung over feeling like crap. And I just had the conscious thought, it's got to be more to it than this got to be more to it than this because I was I was disgusted with who I was, but I didn't. I didn't have the confidence to live any other way. I really didn't have the knowledge that I could live any other way. And that very day, ghost came in strong army to go to this Bible study with this guy named Bart Johnston that I did not want to go to. And I did it just because of goose.

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Scott Hilton (Host) 15:44

Because he'd been a loyal friends. He'd

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been a loyal friend to him never, ever give up. That guy told me that night he said, he said, no matter how dirty you are, you can come to Jesus, just as you are and I'm sitting there thinking, bro, you have no idea how dirty I am from just the last three days in my head but he he said you know you don't clean up to get in the shower. Like you can come just like you are a student. And I I listen to what he had to say I kind of laid low he gave me a book a little booklet by Bill Bright and went home and read the whole thing and and read the prayer on the back. Got saved about 2am that morning.



Scott Hilton (Host) 16:29

Did alcohol ever call you name again? Did it come chasing after you? You know



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it? It bound me for those early years and I didn't I didn't touch it for 25 years, probably something like that. And so. So at this stage of life, sometimes I have a casual beard, it doesn't matter. But I at least two decades. I stayed away.



Scott Hilton (Host) 16:52

So what happened after you got you got married eventually. And then God led you to to open the church is that what happened but



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actually there was a guy who was leading a church in Lexington, South Carolina. And he invited us to come there and be a global missions pastor. So we went there. And we were gassed i In our first eight years of marriage, we had 15 homes. In four countries, I'm sorry, 15 homes in four countries in eight years, first eight years of marriage. And it about killed us it was way too much. I needed somebody older to kind of slow me down. But so when we got home and got to this church and got in this steady state position, it gave us a little chance emotionally to heal from all that chaos. And this church was really great to us and I I served there for seven years. And then I had a friend who had started a church and kind of classic story was meeting in a lunch room with about 80 Folks, and I went and joined with him and that's where radius church was born. And we we started right there and and began planting that church.



Scott Hilton (Host) 18:02

Yeah, your mom passed away as as an adult. Tell us about that process. What happened there?



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Yeah. So again, like the home we grew up in was just incredibly stressful for my mom especially and and so she began she went into deep depression when I was probably seventh eighth

and and so she began she went into deep depression when I was probably seventh eighth grade. And, and my mom is just the kindest, gentlest soul so that was just that wound almost feels like the hardest for me just to watch her. deteriorate. And so she she wound up with dementia that progressed over a decade and just went downhill until she passed when I was about 30. But she had, she had really not been in a right mind for eight years at that time, something like that. So I really lost her young. And it was just just a great tragedy.

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Scott Hilton (Host) 18:56

Tell us about the story with your dad. That's that's one of the things in your book that I was so just enthralled in. Tell us about that. That

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something? Yeah. So here's the The interesting thing about that is that when I got exposed to other families where husbands and wives were, were cordial and loved each other, and when I saw basically what normality was, then then I came to faith and then as a young man in your 20s when you're when you don't really get really carried a lot of responsibility. I was mad. I was really angry with my father, because I began to see what was normal and I was blaming him for the depression and pain in my mom's life, which a lot of that's true. And I was just so all through my 20s I just made more and more runs at him and I made verbally sparring with him trying to hold him accountable for the craziness that was my childhood but It's easy to do that in your 20s, before you've carried the real weight and responsibility of being a dad of being a husband, and so I, I got a little softer in my 30s as I began to raise my family, and I didn't make a lot of headway with my father in that, obviously. And we kind of grew distant. And then I got to my 40s. And in my early 40s, I just, you know, forgiveness is a process and I, I just got there. I don't know, I don't know the magic pill, but I just got there because I remember thinking that that I won't good things for my dad. I don't want him to remember the violence that he placed on my brother, my mother, and I don't want him to remember I don't want him to, to even think about those regrets. I want him to forget those. And I want him to remember the good things. That's when you know, you've truly forgiven but it took me over a decade to get there and a lot of maturity and some of my own. Dealing with some of my own, you know, the more the more you sin, the more easy it is to show grace because the more you need it. And you know, as Jesus said, You know, you've you were without seeing throw the first stone. So the beautiful story is that as I got there, in my book, I I wrote him a letter. And when he died, I was in his house. And I wrote him a lot of letters, some of them condemning when I was in my 20s. But I wrote him this one in the 40s, where I just, it was very simple as a card and I just thanked him. Thank you for taking me fishing. Thanks for taking me golf. And thanks for single handedly pulling our family out of the poverty of the Mill Village and give him the opportunity to go to school. It was just thank you. Thank you. Thank you. You were a good father. That was the one he kept. I was the one I found when he died. And quite honestly, when I when I found it, it was like the biggest relief. because I not only forgave him, i i verbalized it, because I remember, I remember reminding him of the pain in the 20s. And so I I was just so happy that I communicated that, and I'm so happy that he held on to it. And it was it was just a beautiful thing, that it's not, I could have easily could have easily missed that. And then you know, the the crazy part of the whole story is my dad, he he studied some religion and theology like he, he actually had an experience early in life where he changed a lot about his life, kind of like me. But then when you return, you become twice the son of hell that you were when you taste what is good and return it and we both had that experience. But when he was on his deathbed,

I made it to his deathbed. I told him that he was a good father. I held his hand I reminded him of the good things. Martin Luther said, when you're on your deathbed, man, you remember the grace of God and the good things. And one day, I was in the back of our den, and he started calling for me. And he was in and out of lucid pneus during this time, and he started calling. And he said Todd Todd and he called me to his bedside and I was behind him. I don't even know how you knew was there. And so he called me to his bedside. And this was probably 36 hours before he died. And I grabbed his hand and I said What is it chief? That's what I called him chief and he he said, God helped me. Jesus saved me. I'm calling on Jesus to save me. I don't remember the exact words. But he said multiple times, God helped me Jesus saved me I'm, I'm calling on Jesus to save me. And I told him multiple times I go, man, the one thing God loves to do, is he loves to save great sinners. And it was just that little interaction. And if somebody else would have told me that would have happened, I never would have believed him. And my brother was going but he, he, I told my brother who had subsequently come to faith before that. And it was almost like a little bit after that. You know, it's one of those things. It's so surreal. It's almost like you don't believe it. But But it happened and I wrote it down and he you know, I remember when I first went in the ministry He begged me not to but there at the end. God had placed me to be the priest in the family and it and he basically called me up and and it gave me hope.

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Scott Hilton (Host) 24:56

You had to make a special effort. I think he came to spend his last few hours you rushed absolutely, yeah, yeah, stay there in the house and Roselawn right, or the person hurt your mom so bad and



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guns pulled police come in. I mean, it was crazy. But it came full circle. And, and honestly, you know you don't. Light overcomes darkness. And you, you just remember the light when the light comes in the darkness and I put the darkness in the book because 20 years in ministry, there's a lot of people living in darkness, there's a lot of young men who feel emasculated, because because they couldn't protect their moms when they were little. There's a lot of adult children of alcoholics who are guilt laden and, and lacking confidence and dealing with all kinds of emotional turmoil. Like I wanted to tell the story. And I and I'm just so thankful that that God gave us that ending

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Scott Hilton (Host) 26:12

scares quite a if you haven't found read the book, you've got to read bearing home by Todd Karns. That story of the last day you spent what your dad's really, really moving, what would you say to the kid that's out there listening? Who's where you used to be? In this, if you were just looking at the cameras speak to him?



26:34

Yeah, to the, to the young man that's in the home, that's got all the pain, I would say. You, you be careful because the force of gravity is going to pull you right down that same road and you

be careful, because the force of gravity is going to pull you right down that same road, and you cannot let that happen. As Scott often says, You've got to be the one to flip the script. And you will only flip the script, if you bow down to Jesus who has power to pull you out of that place. Because it's not always going to be that way. And you're gonna have the opportunity to come out of there. And you're going to be the priest of that family, and you're going to be the force of redemption, and you're going to be the one who brings grace and you're going to be the one who they call at their deathbed. And you're going to be the one who changes the trajectory of the entire family. And it's not easy. And you will have to bow down to do it. But But don't you give up hope hope sustains. And to you young men in your 20s who are just starting your race, I would just say be humble. There's a there's a lot of responsibility that comes with being a dad until you've run the whole race. You just don't understand it. And as you go through it, you will find that grace and to you guys in your 30s and 40s who have some real fatherhood wounds I would say don't run from those run towards those because because you want to try to get to that spot so that when you bury your dad and bury home that that you find the letter you find you find your peace offering to your father that that you went back and you made it happen if possible. It's not always possible but where possible finding that letter and knowing that I had done all I could do for redemption was one of the most satisfying things in my life.

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Scott Hilton (Host) 28:41

You're the father of three beautiful girls. I am a house full of women. Yes. Well and they're almost all what are the ages now?



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Scott Hilton (Host) 28:54

two I thought they're all adults now. So as a as a dad looking back What do you think are some of the things you did right raising those girls



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see see like one of the problems with my background by nature I only remember things I did wrong Yeah, that's those are things I think some some of the things that that I did right is is I I always told them to have big dreams. I always tried to take the ceiling off because I grew up with such a ceiling. I wanted them to have a bigger ceiling. I tried to model marriage for them. I think I did a good job of modeling marriage. I just have a great wife. I love her to death and you know my kids I grew up with people stumbling through my house and fighting and cursing and they they've never seen me stumble they never seen me fight or curse they They've only known peace in the house. And, and I, you know, I, I gave him opportunity. And I'm super proud of him. And, you know, looking back, I could do a million things better. A young parents, I tell them all the time, you guys are sweating a lot of things that are not important, really small things that you worry about that they're, they're not that important. You need to you need to love your kids, and you need to give them a lot of freedom because they're going to make their own decisions regardless, and trust him. I didn't trust my kids enough because I had a I had this

worldview of how dangerous the world is. Where some of it my my childhood, some of it being in ministry, the world's just dangerous, and I spent a lot of time and effort, you know, trying to hem them in and protect them from the danger and I I hemmed them in too much. Because I've just tried to be protective. And you know, I'm first generation I'm trying to I'm trying to figure the deal out, but I want good thing I know is that, you know I flip the script, they'll do a lot better than me because their baseline is a lot higher than mine. So I look forward to that. Yeah,

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Scott Hilton (Host) 31:15

so one of them I think said something about you know, having dinner together a lot. Was that something that was important in

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your we did we fought for that because we I never had that as a kid and I saw people have it. And I was jealous. And so we we fought for that one. And we had we had great dinners together. We there was oftentimes we didn't have much. When we first came home we had very little but it didn't matter. We we enjoyed that

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Scott Hilton (Host) 31:42

a lot. Yeah. Tell him tell me about the girls.

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My 25 year old is married to an outstanding young man, I have a son in law, they live in Panama City. And they are just doing great my 23 year old works with me. So I'm actually in the brokerage and is doing multiple things in life now trying to find her career path. And she's my oldest is type a driven already got her CPA. My middle child is the most kind loving person in the world. And then true to birth order my my youngest daughter 20 ones in her last semester at Clemson and she's the life of the party, big personality. The brainstem brings the comedy to the table all the time. And you know, and young guys always tell them to like you got three kids you want for when you're my age, like you just want one more, because there, there are a lot of work early. But they are there everything like

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Scott Hilton (Host) 32:45

what do you hope that they think of you now, now that they're grown? What is your hope? For how they would see their dad?

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Yeah, you know, the the great thing about writing the book is half the stuff in there. My daughter's didn't know, I protected him from all that stuff. We weren't here. And so when they

read the book, they were, they were somewhat shocked to know just where I came from. And I think it even I think it was great for our family. Because I think they gain some appreciation for how far we've made it even though we're very imperfect. And so I hope for them as they look at me. I just hope that they I just hope they realize how I want them to look at me as a guy. That certainly move the needle. I didn't get as far as I wanted. But I moved the needle in our hope to goodness, I set them up to take our family in our lineage 10 times further in faith and goodness in name in making a mark in this world. And that's, that's what's most important.

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Scott Hilton (Host) 34:18

So you know, we always do this family tribute. I think you knew it was coming. Yeah, I've



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seen enough to know it was coming.

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Scott Hilton (Host) 34:25

For the first few times we did it. Surprise some guys. Yeah. You know, it really strikes me about this fame attribute and I've seen what your daughter said about us. I see you as that little kid over on roast Roselawn your dad had a special name for you coaches little won't say the word right. And there was violence who's fighting. Mom was depressed. There's alcohol. There's all this stuff going on in this kid's life and then you go through these tragedies of losing your best friend If you're a mess, then you become basically an alcoholic. And you're a mess, and yet through the grace of God, and because you made a decision to flip the script, we get to see what's become of the next generation. And that's really what this program is all about. And so that's why these family tributes mean so much to me, because it shows what flipping the script is really about. So we want to share with you what your daughter's had to say about Daddy, here we go.



35:34

Hey, Dad, when they reached out and asked us to do a quick video, or thought about a couple of things that I wanted to say, so first of all, just want to say thank you for the way that you have led and continue to lead our family, I realized now just how special it was the way that you lead and prioritize our family and our family unit. And I think we still see the fruits of that even now, whenever we get to all get together, we still spend hours around the dinner table, just talking and laughing. And I know that that is a direct reflection of the way that you organized and led our family. So thank you for that. And we also got a prompt and a question of what our favorite thing about you is. And when I think about this, and try to narrow it down to just one thing, I think just the fact that you're such a truth teller, I can trust you because I know you're going to tell me the truth, even when it's hard. And even when it's hard, I know that you are ultimately always going to be in my corner. And so knowing those things, I think gives me just a lot of confidence as I walk through life knowing that I'll always have your love and support and that you'll always be there to tell me the truth. So thanks for all you do my view.



36:52

Hi, I'm Amanda. I'm the middle daughter. And I would say the thing that I love the most about my dad is just how driven he is. He is always motivating us to be our best selves, always telling us not to be afraid to do what we want. I've watched my dad go through a couple of different jobs as I've grown up, and I just always felt that it was cool that he was never afraid to just do something new and show us that it's never too late to do what makes you happy. So yeah.



37:27

Hi, I'm Christie Carnes and the youngest of the three daughters. And I think one of my favorite stories of my dad is when we were younger, and we took a family beach trip to Myrtle Beach, I went and looked for these white high heeled shoes, but I was playing with the mannequin that had them on and my dad proceeded to block everyone from leaving the store with his arms up against the doors looking for me. And I just think that shows our protective and just how much he loves his kids.



Scott Hilton (Host) 37:56

Taught us a little little boy growing up in Alabama city, Alabama. Would you have ever thought that she would be the dad to three daughters that would pay that kind of tribute to you?



38:09

No way. No way. You just it means everything. And I always told our girls, I had loose expression I go when they would go out and do that. I say we're not common. We're cards. I was trying to lift them to that next level. And I hope they take that. That with them.



Scott Hilton (Host) 38:32

Yeah, very well, where you flip the script. And it's, it's good to see that happen. It's strange to me to see that happen. And a close friend that I grew up with that and even though it just goes to so we don't know what's going on, and the next door neighbor's house, you know, as we were we were in each other's house all the time. I never, never knew that. But it's so encouraging in math, my hope is that there's going to be a little boy who's growing up and you're, and he's in your situation now. And it's not that I hope that he's in that situation, but that he'll see this or hear this. And he'll have a vision for what his life can be. Because you've you've set the example, I guess bearing home was one of my favorite ever books. And I guess I'm a little biased. I'm a bad reader. But I sat down and I just couldn't put this thing down Todd, I had read every bit of it. And so much that we didn't tell so many interesting stories. It's such a good read, but more than it'd been a good book, your life is a good book. And that's a book for kids to see. And appreciate you tell that story. Anything else you feel like you need to say



39:44

Yeah, the last thing I want to say is there's not only some Todd Karns out there there's some Craig McGriff 's out there who have some people that they've been praying for fighting for hope and for for a decade or more. And it's easy just to want to quit Don't ever quit like Craig McGriff stance massive in this story because he never quit. Any people tell him to quit. He wouldn't quit and he, you know, the Bible says show mercy to those who doubt snatch others from the fire in James like he he snatched me from the fire. I'll never forget it. So you Craig McGrew us out there. Yell, yells hold steadfast, and you snatch a guy from the fire.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 40:29

Awesome. Awesome. Wow, great story, Todd. Thank you for coming such a long way. Big sacrifice for you to be here. But we're gonna get it into the people that need to see it. My pleasure. Please. Great to have an old friend that will conclude this episode. And that's my dad podcast where we're inspiring fathers to be great dads. And we're breaking those cycles of generational fatherlessness and those cycles of generational substance abuse or whatever those dysfunctions might be. Now it's our hope that we can set a standard set a role model, set an example and let some guys see that it can be done. Todd, you're a great example. Thanks for sharing your life.



41:09

Great to be here, man.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 41:10

See you next week.