

Jacob Graul_Audio_V1

📅 Fri, Feb 17, 2023 10:06AM ⌚ 30:34

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

dad, people, steve, life, father, gave, remember, child, thankful, opportunity, head, midterm, week, young, left, grew, day, upstairs, hammered, felt

SPEAKERS

Scott Hilton (Host)

 **Scott Hilton (Host)** 00:15

Welcome to another episode of that's my dad. I'm Scott Hilton got Jacob grow with us.

 00:20

It's good to be here, man, I appreciate it.

 **Scott Hilton (Host)** 00:22

It's probably one of the youngest guys we've had in here. You're 2929 years old. Yeah, most of our guys been old guys. But I was telling you when we, you know, for went live, I really wasn't sure about having a young guy until I got to talk to you on the phone and kind of understood your heart and your what motivates you and where you are. And you really have quite an incredible story. So I told you, I did some reference checks on you. Make sure we were good first time we met. But if you've got quite an inquiry, credible story I think a lot of kids are going to be relate to. So if you would just, let's just kind of roll into that start way back.

 00:59

Yeah, man, I can say, as a child going through school, and by the way, I really appreciate what you do and what your message is. And that's really why I reached out to you because I'm so passionate about letting a child know, look, this isn't the end of the road. And my whole childhood, it was really derived of just conflict and getting in trouble all the time. Every school teacher remembers me, I guarantee you they haven't forgotten my name or the way I behaved in their classroom the wrong way. Not in a good way. Yeah. And, but But you know, just the way that it's all shaped out and where where I am now. And it's a reflection of, you know, God in my heart, and I gave him all the glory for it. But I'm just so enthusiastic about any opportunity I get speak to maybe some of those children or, or whatever that are going through some of the same things that that I did.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 01:58

So your dad has an interesting story himself. Yeah. Tell us about that. Yeah, so



02:04

So my real father I've never met ever. So growing up, his name is Tim, my dad, stepfather, whatever. I took his last name, but he was the only dad I ever knew. And he grew up and he took me in before I can even remember, you know, not having a dad, so probably two or three years old. And so he's been with me the whole time. But he never really had a father either, you know. So his dad was, I think, struggled with some alcohol problems. And I know dad did a stint in adoption, or the HR and things like that, and went to foster care even for a while. So dad had a really, really tough upbringing. So Dad, I don't think really got a one on one on how to be a dad either. But he came into my life early on, and I thank God every day that he did, there was a lot of my life that my dad had to be the father and he had to be the housekeeper. He had to be the cook. He had to be the counselor. He had to be the person that did the laundry. I mean, my dad had to wear all the hats. You know, mom had a lot of health issues and, and a lot of issues in general. And my dad just kind of he took the role of all that stuff, you know, and he did, especially in my case, he didn't have to do that. So yeah, his story is incredible.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 03:28

And so you lost your mom last year, too.



03:31

Yeah, yeah. Mom passed away. She, she got cancer. Brain cancer, we found out on I think it was December the 12th. And middle of January, she passed away.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 03:42

Well, yeah. So what was it like? What Why were you getting in trouble? What was going on inside your head to?



03:48

I don't, I've really tried to sit down and just understand it. But I had a lot of anger. And I don't know why. And I was very, very out to seek attention. And I don't know why that was either. I don't know really, I can't explain it. But that's I was angry. I felt ever like everyone was against me. And I felt like unloved in a lot of cases, even though I was loved and I had great parents and grandparents and very stable for that matter, you know, in regards to what some kids go through, I just was angry. And then every chance that I could get to get someone's attention or

just do something, you know, it was absolutely ridiculous, but it would gather some people's attention and it would make people laugh or gasp or whatever. But that's what I was doing and I haven't really understood why because I don't understand it even to this day. Why that was

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 04:45

do you think it had anything to do with with your birth dad leaving you lucky? Did you ever wonder about that?



04:50

You know, I remember being an extremely energetic child to the point where it would be hard to gather my attention if you ever seen that. child that just just all over the place, I remember being that child. And I never found out that, you know, my dad had left me until third grade. And, and I knew. I remember by that point, I'd already been in some mischief and stuff like that. But I don't think it was based on any sort of anger. I think it was just being that kid that couldn't sit down. And then after maybe finding that out, I remember just being confused and not really understanding. And maybe that's when I sat back. And I was like, everybody's against me and just created this mindset of, nope, nobodies for me or anything like that. So I don't really know if it was just like a flip of a switch or anything like that. But I do remember, I was, I think at first the mission was just being so energetic, and then it shifted to anger or whatever. But I still I can't, I can't explain it. I can't raise out. So

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 05:57

I've always been curious about kids who grew up without their birth parents, if that's a, if that's something that gets in their head that they feel rejected, maybe they can't articulate it or don't realize it. But if that's a sense of rejection, wanted my my birth father leave me he's three hours away. Why did he want anything to do with me? I'm just curious to know, does that bother kids? Or is that something you you know,



06:23

I think it did for for a minute, but my dad, so my dad coached me through all the ball team. So if I thought it I didn't have very much time for I was getting a butcher and on the third base line, and my dad would come home from work. And I had a friend of mine that live right next door, and we'd be waiting on him. And he'd come out of his way, he got home at 530 Every single day. And if we weren't outside, he would make his rounds around the house, he would go to each bet each one of our bedrooms, check on what we were doing. And then he would go do his own thing. But there for a while I can remember he would come home every day. And he'd be the quarterback. So dad was the quarterback, you know, and he never had to be that, you know, he was a free agent. He didn't have to, you know, he didn't have to take us in. But I don't think that it's something that I carried with me a long time because dad, you know, even though he didn't know how to be, he wasn't raised with that father, Dad was always there. And he was always there. He was persistent. He was at every game that me and my brother was ever a part of, he was at every event that we were ever a part of. And I can remember, Dad

would, you know, go to a game and his work would call him at 11 o'clock at night and dad would leave a knock and work all night, work all day, and then be back the next night. So I never really felt like that I was missing out. But I was confused on what was going on. Exactly.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 07:48

Yeah. So you were actually it got to the point that you actually had to go to some treatment programs.

U

07:52

Yeah, I can remember missing school. I can't remember what grade it was. But I can remember like a week's time I was at like these juvenile hospitals and I will stay in there for at a week's time and mom and dad would come up and they would do this like overview where they would review your behavior for the week and, and there was one time that we made it to the parking lot and I just lashed out. And I went back in and I spent another week there that recycled recycled and there was a you know, some time I had to do some count I had to go to like counseling and, and I lashed out inside the lobby and the cops came and it was just a whole ordeal. So yeah, these, like there was a time where I really, my trajectory was really in a way that would land me like in jail or juvenile detention center for a really long time for a long

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 08:40

time. And it came to reach the point when you were a senior in high school. Tell us about what hap okay.

U

08:46

So, you know, I snuck around and was partying and drinking and things like that and just really getting into anything I could. And there was a day six weeks before my graduation, I thought it would be a good idea to pretty much just get hammered before school and I did that's what I did I we had vodka. It was a made a friend of mine. I won't disclose his name, but we drank some vodka and we went to school. And I made it through first period because I could sneak a nap in and they didn't notice but when I got in the the English class, it became obvious to her that something was wrong because we had a midterm six weeks before you know what a midterm and I wrote idk on all the answers to the midterm. Yeah, that sounds ridiculous, right? But that's what happened. And so she knows something was wrong. And I went in the nurse's office. And the school nurse told me I was lying. I was trying to sneak out of it. And she told me she said Jacob just be honest. She said for once in your life. Just be honest. It's not like you're gonna amount to anything. It's not like it's gonna make be a big deal. Just be honest. And at the time when she said that Yep, you know, I sat on that for for a really long time and use that as fuel. And it drove me but I'm really grateful that she said that I'm really thankful that she said that. And because that gave me more passion and more drive to prove her, which was probably, uh, she was probably speaking for the masses. But I was really I mean, not only to prove her wrong, but just prove everybody wrong that there was a little bit left inside you know of me than what everybody was thinking.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 10:30

So even though you got hammered went to school, you've been in trouble all your life, you could turn it around, you were just gonna be honest. But this this this one thing you're gonna do, you're gonna be honest. That's



10:40

right, Jacob, you might not pass a blood alcohol test if and you might not can stand up and do the thing. But just be honest.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 10:47

Just wanted to prove that you could have just a little bit of integrity. Yeah, that's right. Yeah. And I'm so thankful that she said that was a nurse. Do you remember?



10:56

I do. Her name was nurse Klein.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 10:59

So So you, you were honest about it, but then didn't turn out. So great, did it?



11:04

No. And, you know, I got expelled from school, and they sent me to another school. And at the time, I'd already been talking with a recruiter in the military. And he I remember, his name is Todd Jarrell. And I know he won't care if I say this. But I remember he was looking at my past behavior. And then me and whole and he wasn't, he didn't have a lot of faith in me either. And he would probably tell each and every one that talked about me that. But I called him to tell him that I'd got expelled from school, and he just kind of shook his head very disappointed me. And he said, Well, you know, I told him that they got this high school alternative school program that I'm going to go to, and I'm going to graduate and get a high school diploma. He said, Whenever you do that, you know, then we can move forward what you want to do. So I had a conversation with my dad about probably about two weeks after that. And I was I was sobbing in my room at night, and I came down the stairs. And I'll never forget this conversation that I had with him. But I was very upset at the way that my life was going. And I had a moment of self reflection upstairs in my room, and I came down and and I'd let a lot of people down in my life. Just people that absolutely loved me. My grandmother loved me more. I was the favorite. I'll tell anybody that I was the favorite. She, she I was at her house every day as a young child. So she loved me. She just poured her heart into me. And I let her down. And she was upset. And that hurt. And I was just upstairs and I come down. And I was like Dad, I don't

want to do this anymore. I don't want to live like this. And my dad has a brother that's been in prison pretty much my whole life, and especially all my adult life. And my dad told me, he said, Son, He said you're going down a path. He said the same exact path that I saw your uncle Jeff go now. He said, You're headed down this this path, and it's self destruction. And you're breaking everyone's heart around you. He said, but it's not too late to turn around.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 13:12

Your senior almost fixing the grads graduate. Yeah.



13:15

And my dad and I had never had talks like this ever. We'd never sat down and got level with one another before this time. And I don't know that we have since. But those words that he said to me, I'll never ever forget, I could tell you the square inch that we were sitting in the living room. And that's that reassured me his love for me in that moment. And there again, the the dad that he didn't have to be right, the person that he didn't have to be was the one that God put in front of me in that moment. That helped me the words that he gave me that encouragement changed my entire life. Because I can tell you what, when I got upstairs, I went to bed and I had the most I slept with the most amount of peace that I had in my entire life. And I made my mind up it was it was without a doubt that I was fixing to turn it around. And just if I can summarize for just a second. I I did. I left about four weeks later, and I went to basic training. I was one of the ones in the top of my class. And then I've had an extremely successful military career. You know, God be the glory and real estate I got into real estate. I worked at state prison for three years I did a state state prison time then I worked at a poultry company for a while. And then I got into real estate and man it's really been it's been a blessing. It's been a blessing to my family and me and what I love about it the most as I know it's going to create an opportunity for me to give back and to give to the you know, and be passionate about things that like this that I'm passionate about. And it's that it's created that opportunity for me.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 15:03

You've turned things around. But that all started that day when your dad said, What path are you gonna take? So? Absolutely, absolutely. You had somebody else in your life though, Steve, to tell. Tell us about that.



15:16

Yeah. So you know, dad wasn't really raised, like I said, around the Father. So dad wasn't wanting to teach me how to change the or hammer and nail in or build anything or manage a checkbook or any of that stuff. And I was 16 years old, and I was still in this troubled path, you know, and I went fishing with a friend of mine, and they're at a chicken farm. And we was walking around and I said, I wonder if I could get a job here. So I went upstairs and he wasn't there. And his wife was there. And he said, she told me, she said, you know, Steve, slow down a little bit. He had heart surgery last winter, and this was the summer and I think you'd have a good opportunity to get in the job. Let me talk to him. And I said, Okay, well about I think it was

probably about the next day, I got a call from Steve. He said, Yeah, come on, eight o'clock, get started. We'll fast forward, about probably like 1314 years from now, or whatever it is the math. I still talk to him on a daily basis. Steve never gave up on me, Steve fired me 20 times and hired me back 21. I would I learned work ethic. I learned, you know, financial management, I learned I saw how he fathered his boys and how they turned out. And I saw you know how he kept his home. And I really saw someone that I wanted to emulate. Now, I still would leave from there and go off and do you know, reckless things. But I would always go back there and it was consistent. And it was that consistency of the tough love get out there. And let's pick up dead chickens and work on barns and phrases whether combined with less, I'm going to go home and my dad is going to show me this love. Even though um, I have the whole world's against me, it was just that consistency from those individuals that just really helped me and shaped me.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 17:14

So a lot of the guys that we interviewed on the podcast have had somebody in their life like Steve was for you. And it's supplemented, you know, you had a dad and all the guys we've had didn't have that. But I think the point I want to make and the message I want to get out from that is for those of us who have opportunities, we never know the impact we may have just by being a consistent role model and being kind to people to the young man. I mean, he didn't have to be kind to you. He didn't have to hire you. He didn't have to hire you back. That's right. I can't tell you how many guys I had to fire at the ranch and hire them back. But but it was there was a lesson involved in the whole thing. Absolutely. But for us for those of us who have opportunities to reach out to young guys, and show him some grace, show him some some role models. Look, you know, it works. You you look up to him, and absolutely through this work. 14 years later. He's still one of your heroes.



18:18

Oh, yeah, absolutely. Throughout my life, I had so many people in my corner. You know, I told you a while ago, I bought my house when I was 19. Well, it didn't have any central heating and air in it. And I had a decent amount of money, but I didn't have enough to bought Air Heating. And my grandmother that that raised me, you know, kind of as a young young child, not really raised but I was you know, with her all the time. She told me. She said I'm gonna buy you an air conditioner to put in there. He said she hated her. And I said, No, Grandma, you don't have to do that. Because she didn't have much, you know, she didn't. And I remember she she said no. She said, have it installed, and bring me the bill. And I'm gonna pay it for you. And that was just another example. Someone that just loves you so much. And she saw the effort. I mean, I was had my own house young. And she saw it. And she she just loved me so much. And that was just one example of what she did for me. I think that's

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 19:20

a good point. Because when people see you make an effort that motivates them to want to help you you found that to be true in your life. So young guy like you we think, Oh boy, here we go. Yeah, I mean, I'm not like that. I'm I love it when the young guys the Gaston Ranch, call me sometime and they'll have a business idea, whatever. And I'm like I'm eating that up. Yeah,

because they think enough about me to call and ask what I think. But in general, I think when young guys reach out to older guys like myself, were a little skeptical because we kind of get in our head that this generation is lazy, you know, but when we sleep somebody's working hard. They're really busting their can. They're taking initiative. They were motivated, and they will go do anything. And I think that's probably what you've seen happen. As a 29 year old. You've seen this. There's some old guys out there who are looking for young guys to mentor and to help. But Rule number one is you got to be willing to work. I'm not helping you if you lazy. And I think that's a message that we need to get out to that. That population.



20:30

Yeah, absolutely. It's all grounded on hard work. That's I mean, that's it is. It's, it's your attitude. My wife's grandfather has been a huge influence on my life as well. And he has a saying, he's like, I wake up every day with enthusiasm. And people can sense about attitude. They really can. And they'll talk about it. You know, if you if you go to you ever been to an airport and talk to somebody that's enthusiastic, it's not often you'll remember if you do, because usually kind of get some negative negativity thrown your way. So people appreciate and love a good attitude. So hard work, a great attitude. Just someone somebody enjoys to be around. It goes. So it goes so

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 21:11

far. You have a two and a half year old baby. Yes, sir. It was about that. Tell us about the day you found out about that. First of all, it's always interesting.



21:19

Well, I was I was working on a house so rental, and one of my workers was in there with me. And he was under the sink. And my wife came in and she had opened the box up and there was like a pregnancy test. And I was so excited that I ran and tackled him on the ground. I think we like being a hinge on the gathers nothing. It was just awesome that I was I was so enthused, I was so happy. I just fit was filled with joy. But then, you know, I had that moment of self reflection. And I was I was scared. And I was scared for I don't want my child to have the same attitude that I had growing. I don't want him to, you know, yeah, I'm doing okay, now, but it was pretty tough. And it didn't have to be that way. And I want him to create an okay law for himself without doing it all the hard way, you know, the real hard way, you know? And so I was worried about how can I ensure or help you? There's no definite answer, but what can I do in my daily life, my my daily behaviors to shape this young man or young girl, I don't know yet to be, you know, the person that I would want to want him or her to be

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 22:36

into you. What do you think it is? What do you think it's gonna take?



22:40

You know, I don't think there's no long drawn answer. But I think the first thing is, for him to see a family that that eats together, that prays together. I think it's okay for him to see me fail. I think it's okay for him to see fail, he's gonna fail in life. But I want to, I want him to see how I handle failure. And I want him to see how I lean on his mother, when I fail, and how I treat his mother every single day. And I want him to be proud, you know, a family be family oriented. And I don't know what it takes to get there, Scott, I don't know. But I know every single day when I wake up with enthusiasm, I can't wait to see that boy's face. I can't wait to tell him, you know, good morning, or if I'm not there, FaceTime and tell him good morning to talk to him on the phone. On Christmas morning, when he was easing towards the doorway to see what was under the tree. He looked back and he had this smile. And it was just, it was the most surreal moment of my entire life. And it was just I can't explain the amount of love that was in my heart. And, you know, the people that go around and they they chase a fast life and fast things, is just no way that they can put the same kind of peace, joy and love in your heart as having a family right there with you.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 24:05

When he's grown, what would you like for him to say about you, as a dad?



24:10

You know, I would like for him to say that I work hard. And that he saw that my intentions was to support our family in every single way possible. I would like him to say that he had a drug problem, which means that we drove him to church on Sundays. I'd like him to be able to know by my actions, how much I love and respect his mother. And I would just want him to have some sort of example in his life that he can. When he talks to someone when he's grown. He could say, you know that I'm doing it this way. And dad done it this way and just kind of a generational thing. But none of that matters if you don't have crossing his heart. If only I want to talk to if anything where he spends eternity is the most important thing. Wow.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 25:10

Your dad was your dad took you he chose you chose me because your birth father left to you. That's right. I want you to pay honor to your dad. You know, what's your dad have you like most men and their sons, they don't want to get emotional and they can't look at each other and talk, you know, we're just, we're goofy like that. Yeah. But this is an opportunity. Your dad brought you downstairs as a senior in high school. And he didn't raise his voice. He didn't get mad at you. But he spoke wisdom to you. But now that he took you in as a little boy, and he stuck with you, when you were a mess, that's right. And I think I want to give you an opportunity through this platform to just look at my camera and address your dad.



25:57

Yeah, I just want to tell you how much I love you and appreciate you for being the dad that you didn't have to be. I just appreciate your consistency on loving me each and every single day. You love me just the same as you did my brother Justin. And I just can't express to you how

thankful frame for you. And I hope that every single day, I can make you proud to be my dad. And I'm just so so incredibly thankful for all the times that you coach me and played ball with me and did the things that you didn't have to do, and, and worked hard and sacrificed so much through your work to ensure that you provided for us. And I'm so incredibly thankful. I love you, dad. And thank you so much.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 26:50

We'll give you a chance to just say something to Steve Steve's invested a lot in you. Yeah, maybe you want to thank him.

U

26:55

Yeah, I just want to tell Steve, how much I love him. And I'm so thankful that you let your light shine and in terms of how you never gave up on me, and how you fired me 20 and hired me 21. So I'm just so grateful for you to be in my life. And like a second dad to me. And I hope that I've made you proud as well.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 27:20

Steve's last name is Campbell, Steve Campbell. And I asked people to do that, because I want to remind guys like myself that we have an opportunity to make an impact. And sometimes we need to stick with kids when they don't. When they no fun to stick with that you can stick with them in your kid that wasn't a lot of fun to stick with that there's no doubt about this and people stuck with you. And the end result is 29 years old. You're a committed husband, a committed faithful Father, you're a citizen, your community, you know, contributing to the community. You're doing well in business, you're serving your country defending your country. And it can happen, it can happen. We got one more little gift we're gonna give you. You know, we always try to get a family tribute. And you've got a two and a half year old. And you have one on the way right. So

U

28:15

lately Yeah.

S

Scott Hilton (Host) 28:16

So how many months before you may? Or may yet so you're not too far away from Ben father of two. And it's kind of hard to get a video from a two and a half year old we got to just a little something we appreciate. What do you like most about your daddy? Take a what's it feel like? I know that's just brief. But is is that not priceless to you? It's priceless. Yeah. And I think about guys that are walking away from their kids. And they don't know what to do.

U

28:50

 28:50

Now. There's no feeling like walking in the door. And having someone that's two feet tall, running wide open two mile an hour to get that hook from there's no feeling and there's no feeling like being able to go into the bedroom at night time and say a prayer and read a story and watch someone drift off to sleep. There's there's no other feeling.

 S

Scott Hilton (Host) 29:23

So the message I think is hang in there. Hang in there and put your nose down and grind but to nose down and grind. Thank you, man. Thank you. Thank you for doing that. Thank you for setting that example. And you know you're a young guy, and I'm hoping that some of our viewers or listeners will say this guy's like me. You know, this is a young guy. He's right where I am. He did it. He did it. And I can do that too. So thank you for for being that role model. Thank you for putting those down and grind. Thank you for making the decision that you're going to turn things around. Thank you for being appreciative to the people you need to be appreciate Tip Two.



30:01

Thank you for having me.

 S

Scott Hilton (Host) 30:02

Yeah, thanks for coming in. It's been good. It's gonna help somebody that'll conclude this episode of this my dad where we're striving to help fathers become great dads, and we're breaking cycles of generational fatherlessness. Jacob was a good example for you guys to follow. Thanks for being with us. See you next week.