

Dr. Michael Brown: The Event That Changed the World

Have you ever stopped to think what it would be like if Jesus hadn't died on the cross and risen from the dead? Author and apologist Michael Brown has, and it isn't a pleasant thought for mankind.

Naysayers and nonbelievers continue to refute the Resurrection and its validity, but Brown says it's a story that man could not have concocted in his wildest imagination.

"You don't create stories like this. It happens based on reality," Brown told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of *Greenelines* on the Charisma Podcast Network. "None of [Jesus' disciples] say they actually saw him physically rise. And it's only when they see him that they know it's true. Then from there, they are willing to lay their lives down.

"This changes Easter for a lot of people even though they think they really understand it. There are still differences in our theology on the Resurrection. You and I believe that He rose from the dead. Witnesses say they saw it. So, 2,000 years-plus down the road, why do we still have these debates?

"People ask, 'Why should I believe it?' Well, this book is going to tell you why you should believe it. I've said it for many years: You don't die for a lie. If the disciples made up the idea that He rose and concocted it, then why did they die for it later on?

"Jesus demonstrates that He's alive today by working in our lives. The one that set me free instantly from two years of heavy drug use is the risen Jesus, the one who's working around the world as we speak. If Jesus didn't rise, then nobody would know His name today. He would have just been some obscure, ancient, alleged miracle-worker who died. But the

fact is, hundreds of millions of people have come to worship God through Him. Islam doesn't talk about Muhammad rising because he didn't. Buddhism doesn't talk about Buddha rising because he didn't. Only one rose—Jesus, Yeshua, Messiah of Israel, Savior of the world.”

For more of Dr. Brown's thoughts on the Resurrection, [listen to the entire podcast](#).

When God Commands Us to Do the Impossible

In Matthew 14:28-29, we find one of the most exciting miracles in the Bible. This is where we read about Peter walking on the water. There is something much deeper happening here than most readers see.

One of the reasons most people miss what I am going to share today is because most believers in Yeshua (Jesus) read the book of Matthew as the beginning of a new book, the “New Testament,” instead of reading Matthew in the full context of the Bible, beginning with Genesis. As you read this today, I am hoping that you will see something powerful and life-changing, something that will enhance and build your faith and allow you to enter into the supernatural in a new and exciting way.

Let's take a closer look at these verses:

“Answering, Peter said to Him, ‘Master, if it's You, command

me to come to You on the water.’ And He said, ‘Come!’ And Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water to go to Yeshua” (Matt. 14:28, TLV).

As we come to the text above, Yeshua has done something unusual. He told the disciples to get in a boat and head across the sea without Him. Then, when the boat was far away, Yeshua walked across the water to catch up to where His disciples were.

The first reaction of the disciples was to be afraid. But, after Yeshua spoke comforting words to them, Peter speaks in faith saying something very powerful that most readers unfamiliar with the Old Testament writings totally miss.

Peter doesn't ask permission to walk on water by saying something like, "Hey, Yeshua, can I walk on water with You?" No. Peter, who knew the Hebrew Scriptures and the promises and power of them, asks Yeshua to command him to come to Him on the water.

Peter knew something that G-D wants us to know today. Almost every supernatural event that took place in the Bible was the result of a person of faith being commanded to do something that was impossible, and when they obeyed the command, the impossible became possible.

The Bible is filled with G-D commanding His people to do the impossible. Here are just a few examples: In Exodus 7, G-D commanded Moses to command Aaron to throw down his staff and it would turn into a serpent. Rods don't become serpents; that is impossible. But, when Aaron did what he was commanded by G-D, the impossible happened.

In Exodus 14, Moses was commanded to lift up his staff and divide the sea so Israel could walk across on dry ground. When Moses obeyed a command to do the impossible, it became a reality. Even when commanding the children of Israel to make the furniture for the Tabernacle and the garments for the High

Priest, G-D commanded them to do the impossible.

It is impossible to make a menorah out of pure gold. Gold is too soft of a material to beat into a menorah. They were commanded to engrave the stones of the breastplate, which included a diamond, yet they do not have the technological ability to engrave stones like diamonds. Yet a menorah was made and the stones were engraved.

One last impossible command that we were all given is that we are commanded to love G-D with all of our heart, all of our soul and all of our strength. Like all of the above impossibilities and a long list of others, it is fundamentally impossible to love G-D with all of our heart, all of our soul and all of our strength without the involvement of the supernatural power of G-D.

Just as with each of the examples above, once the person G-D commanded to do the impossible stepped out in faith and did everything that they could to obey, G-D intervened and made the impossible possible.

Peter understood this truth. When Peter saw Yeshua walking on water, he knew walking on water was impossible. But Peter also knew he could do the impossible. He simply needed G-D to command him to do it. So, he does, and the result was Peter walking on water.

Once we understand the miracle power contained within the commandments G-D has given us, we will begin to obey His commandments and see those things in our lives that are impossible become possible. {eoa}

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These Spirit-Inspired Apps Can Help You Fulfill the Great Commission

As a longtime kingdom worker for Cru (Campus Crusade for Christ), Matt Watts has done his part in helping spread the gospel of Christ to the world. But, Watts says, more must be done to reach the lost, and he and Cru's Jeff Kreiser have discovered a way to do it through the power of the Holy Spirit—and technology.

Watts and Kreiser have taken advantage of culture's fascination with the smartphone by developing two apps—MissionHub and GodTools—that can help believers build relationships and share the Good News of Jesus Christ with those who might not attend church but are open to receiving the gospel on their cell phone.

Both Mission Hub and God Tools are free and can be accessed through venues like the App Store and Google Play. They help believers be intentional with their everyday relationships and help others experience God through technology. They also help believers start conversations with others about their faith.

“Your phone can be a tool for distraction, or it can be a tool for blessing,” Watts told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of *Greenelines* on the Charisma Podcast Network. “Technology pervades our lives now, and it can be an amplifier for good. It can also amplify the broken parts of our life and the broken parts of our world. Cru thought about this. How do we continue to both engage the world around us, but also help followers of Jesus be intentional and present in their world?”

We can't ignore digital with that."

The apps are designed to help others grow closer to God. Whether it's praying for someone, inviting them to coffee or telling them about your journey with God, MissionHub makes the connection with both the Lord and others.

"These apps can help Christians be ready when they have the opportunity to share the gospel—to have something at their fingertips to do that," Kreiser said. "It's about developing disciples and being engaged in obedience-based discipleship. You can go to the highways and byways and bring the gospel to people through these apps."

For more about [MissionHub](#) and [GodTools](#), [listen to the entire podcast](#).

Want to Break Out of Your Limitations? First, Embrace This Truth

"Self-esteem" is comprised of two potentially lethal words: "self" and "esteem." When these two words are placed innocently together with the olive branch of the hyphen between them, the battle begins in the soul of a woman—really in the soul of anyone!

As we begin to tackle multiple self-esteem issues, one thing is vital—you need to answer this question for yourself: "Who do *you* think you are?"

You must have a healthy and whole view of yourself. If you believe that you are a woman of value, significance and destiny, then that is how you will approach life. And you will treat others with value, importance and worth regardless of how they have treated you.

You will never be able to live beyond who you think you are. You will not break out of your own limitations unless you first break into who God says you are. In order to discover who we are as women and who we were created to become, we must go back to the beginning.

We must inspect the intentions and the creative genius of our Maker. We must discover what His assessment was of us at the exact moment in history that He created the very first woman.

“God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them” (Gen. 1:27).

It's true: You are like God. You were created to “look” like, act like and talk like the God of the universe. You are His exact representation on planet Earth in these early days of the 21st century. He made you to be His consummate masterpiece.

Now, of course, you are not God Himself. However, He made you to be just like Him in every way imaginable! God created both male and female in His very own image. You have the DNA of God inside of you!

You weren't created to be a reflection of past rejection, childhood abuse, marital mistreatment or emotional panic—you were created to reflect the character and nature of the God who is love incarnate. You have been given the remarkable opportunity to be the hands, feet and heart of Jesus to a world in pain.

“As he thinks in his heart, so is he” (Prov. 23:7).

You will never be able to live beyond who you think you are. If you can believe in your heart that God's Word is always true and that what He has declared always embodies His well-thought-out plans, then you must, you simply must, begin to think about yourself the way He does.

When you submit your mind to the Word and the purpose of your Creator, it will impact the words you speak, the decisions you make and the company you keep. You must think about all that He says you are instead of all that you are not! {eoa}

Carol McLeod is an author and popular speaker at women's conferences and retreats, where she teaches the Word of God with great joy and enthusiasm. Carol encourages and empowers women with passionate and practical, biblical messages mixed with her own special brand of hope and humor. Carol has written 11 books, including Significant, StormProof and Guide Your Mind, Guard Your Heart, Grace Your Tongue. Her teaching DVD The Rooms of a Woman's Heart won the Telly Award, a prestigious industry award for excellence in religious programming.

It's Time for the Church to Let God Out of the Box

The church as we know it has had its day. God has been in a box for thousands of years.

The box is the church.

This new decade is ushering in new challenges. One new challenge for the church in America is how to stop the bleeding.

We have closed out two decades of the contemporary church. Not much has changed.

We shifted from paneling to drywall, pews to chairs, Scriptures to stories and well-lit sanctuaries to darker rooms. This worked for a while but ran its course.

We dressed it up and made it pretty, only to realize we were doing the same things in a change of clothes.

People Want an Experience with God

The same old, same old is not attractive any longer. People are searching for a genuine experience with God.

Barna research has reported:

“While a majority of churchgoers said that enjoying church was a motivation for them to attend (65% of churching adults and 82% of practicing Christians), around half (57% of churching adults and 45% of practicing Christians) said people they know are tired of the typical church experience.”

Notice that people said “the typical church is tiring.”

Most churches are so predictable, with three songs, three announcements and a three-point sermon. Even God is tired of that! Is this not what we have defined as insanity?

People Are Dealing With Real Problems

This is not the age where chewing gum in the classroom is our most pressing problem. This is the age where our teenagers are getting pregnant or addicted to pornography. Gender issues and suicide are normal struggles for this generation. We must have answers.

The Search for More

Church people are searching for a real God who handles real problems. The church must show their competence in handling the most difficult of life's challenges.

There are legitimate answers in God's Word to the most challenging things in life

People have problems. We go to Walmart because it solves a problem; We drive by Chick-fil-A for the excellent food and the convenience. They solve the problem.

The church must solve the problems of its members. Yes, then they will come.

Traditions Are Not the Answer

Some traditions have value. Others, not so much. When we perform religious acts from tradition, we miss the experience of the action.

To pray because it's tradition is not a great reason to pray. To pray and connect to God leads to life.

The Spirit of God is the agent who gives life to our worship and our religious activity.

"And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life because you have been made right with God" (Rom. 8:10, NLT).

The Spirit gives life. Many are seeking life. Churches that are offering lifeless traditions will become less effective and less attractive. Attendance will continue to decline, and the church will die or only survive.

Many churches are on life support.

What Can Church Leaders Do?

Stop relying on yesterday. Refusing to change is a step toward death.

Singing songs from 2,000 years ago is noble but irrelevant. Yes, they have meaning, and we should preserve them. But we can sing them with cultural relevance to this generation.

And we do not need singers or song leaders with talent alone. We need modern-day psalmists with hearts to connect to God.

These men and women do not just sing songs; they connect to God in worship. Their goal is to sing songs in the throne room and take others there with them.

Our church members need a touch from God. A touch to get them through the week—a tangible moment where God's presence is real.

No, not an emotion. But if God is near, our emotions will be unlocked. Emotions are not a sure sign of God's touch.

But when Jesus touched people in the Scriptures, they displayed emotions.

“One Sabbath day, as Jesus was teaching in a synagogue, he saw a woman who had been crippled by an evil spirit. She had been bent double for eighteen years and was unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, ‘Dear woman, you are healed of your sickness!’ Then he touched her, and instantly she could stand straight. How she praised God!” (Luke 13:10–13, NLT).

Did you see it? She praised God. If you received your healing after 18 years, are you going to praise God? I think you would.

Would churches accept this behavior today? Most wouldn't.

What Was the Bible's Response?

But the leader in charge of the synagogue was indignant that Jesus had healed her on the Sabbath day. "There are six days of the week for working," he said to the crowd. "Come on, those days to be healed, not on the Sabbath." But the Lord replied, "You hypocrites! Each of you works on the Sabbath day! Don't you untie your ox or your donkey from its stall on the Sabbath and lead it out for water? This dear woman, a daughter of Abraham, has been held in bondage by Satan for eighteen years. Isn't it right that she be released, even on the Sabbath?" (Luke 13:14–16, NLT).

Make note that we have progressed little. Jesus would say the same words to us today.

Can you see it? Religion says God can't do that. Not today.

Religion cannot handle what cannot explain.

[John Burton](#) said, "The days of predictable, scheduled, ordered church services must come to an end. We have become so enamored with human order in the church that Holy Spirit, biblical order, is completely rejected."

God Desires to Do More

God is alive and has never been dead. Do our churches resemble that truth?

Jesus was in a tomb. A borrowed one. Jesus only needed that tomb for three days.

And on the third day, He rose. And He is alive.

Just like Jesus told others to loose Lazarus and let him go, it's time the church loose God and let Him out of the box.

Because ... "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us" (Eph. 3:20).

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Curt Landry: This ‘Key of David’ Opens Doors for You No Man Can Shut

In his decades of ministry, Curt Landry has learned one inalienable truth about God’s favor: If you honor God in every situation—good or bad—His favor in your life will accelerate.

Honoring God first and trusting Him in everything you do, Landry says, will bring you the kingdom success you long for.

“Honor is the currency of heaven,” Landry told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of *Greenelines* on the Charisma Podcast Network. “It causes things to move forward. In the spirit realm, if you’re going to move from position of authority and favor to another position, particularly a higher position, then you are going to need to honor the gate, the door and the people who are involved in the opening of that door.

“We pray that the key of David opens doors no man can shut. It shuts doors no man can open. But, if you dishonor the Lord and

dishonor the choice of the gate He has caused you go through, it may be a tough gate. Scripture says, 'Narrow is the way.' You may be going through a cursable gate.

"The Lord is trusting you, even with suffering or a grievous situation that is going to bring you into a refined maturity and a character and integrity that He wants for your future. You need to honor God's choice that He's trusted you with, even in suffering. It's about honoring God, to say He is divine, He is sovereign and that He knows best for your life. He's the author and finisher of your faith. By honoring His choice, then what that does is honor releases the grace of God for you to be accessible to transition."

For more about the heavenly currency of honor, [listen to the entire podcast](#).

Prophecy: A Season of Rain Is Breaking Your Famine

On my morning prayer broadcast, I prophesied we're in a season of rain. Rain is a sign of God's blessings—and we pressed into it. (You can listen to the replay [here](#).)

Many in the body of Christ have been living in famine—financial famine, friendship famines, health famines and so on. Some of you felt like the Lord Himself withheld the rain, withheld the blessing, but the enemy shut up the heavens over your life. But God is raining His blessings down on the

faithful in this season. Indeed, it's a season of rain.

But we must respond. Zechariah 10:1 tells us how to respond: "Ask for rain from the Lord during the season of the latter spring rains. And the Lord will make the storm winds; and He will give them showers of rain; all will have vegetation in the field."

Why would you have to ask for rain in the season of rain? If it's going to rain, in other words, why would you have to ask God for it? God knows what you need and want before you ever ask, but He wants us to ask. He wants us to get in agreement with what He wants to do in the earth—and in our lives.

The Lord is saying, "Enough is enough."

And the Lord says, "I will shower from above and the rain clouds will rain down righteousness and blessing upon you. You have waited and you have wanted and you have even wandered around in a desert place, a land of cracked, dry ground. But I called you in that season to break up the fallow ground so that I could prepare it, so that I could prepare you for the rain showers that are coming, the blessings that would come down like a deluge."

[Click here](#) to read the rest of this article. {eo}

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Why Rest Is So Crucial in Your Spiritual Warfare

As a kingdom warrior, Pastor Caleb Hyers knows all about spiritual warfare and attacks from the enemy. He encounters it constantly every day.

But Hyers, the senior leader of The Resting Place in Tampa, Florida, along with his wife, Jamaris, says believers must learn to rest in the midst of the enemy's resistance. That doesn't mean to stop what you're doing, but to lean on God and continue to advance when the going gets rough.

Hyers stresses this point consistently in his new podcast, [*The Faith Rest Life*](#).

"The kingdom of God advances by force," Hyers told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of *Greenelines* on the Charisma Podcast Network. "Force only happens when there is resistance, when you're pushing against something, right? So, if we're advancing the kingdom, and we're supposed to enter into His rest, as the Bible says, then we need to learn how to stay in a posture of soul rest, of soul peace, while encountering resistance.

"We need to learn to not let those things throw off our game, so to speak. It's important that we keep our eyes on the promise and off of the problem without becoming ignorant of the devil's schemes. Awareness of the enemy is good, but focus on the enemy is very bad.

"Often our eyes are more naturally focused instead of on the spiritual realm. We need to start from the understanding that everything is spiritual, that God is Spirit. Whatever we're

doing has to start with a Spirit. So, if I'm trying to follow the call of God on my life, I can't keep letting things get in my way."

For more of how to rest in the middle of spiritual warfare with the enemy, [listen to the entire podcast.](#)

Prophetic Vision: God Is Calling You to Break Satan's Diabolical Cycles

As I was in prayer concerning what was on the heart and mind of God for His people, the Lord showed me the strategy of the enemy is to bring His people into an unhealthy, toxic, unproductive and frustrating season of recurring cycles of defeat, failure, mishap, lack, poverty and pain.

The enemy wants God's people to forfeit what is rightfully theirs and to rob them of their joy, peace and righteousness in the Holy Spirit. The ultimate goal and objective is to cause God's people to miss their purpose in life, running around in circles like a dog chasing its tail to keep them from fulfilling their God-given destiny and call.

Moreover, the Lord showed me a vision of something rather interesting in prayer. With these hidden plans of the enemy, there were people with swords in their hands cutting what it seems to be an ever-ending rope. This rope was severed into

pieces that were tied around God's people. God said there were things binding and prohibiting His people from moving forward. They were holding themselves hostage by the cares of life and unnecessary burdens placed around and on them.

The sword represented the Word of God through the power of the spoken word that cut asunder anything that was restricting them. It took some time for them to cut through, but breakthrough was the end result. God said that He is calling His people to become cycle-breakers! Every diabolical scheme and plot of the enemy to keep God's people in an endless cycle and reoccurring season of defeat is broken in Jesus' name!

Furthermore, everyone has had some level of cycles in life that were very difficult to break. Whenever someone comes to me for a prophetic word, prayer, counsel and, at times, complains of a long-term persistent negative cycle, I normally ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to me what is perpetuating or initiating this type of cycle so we can pray and break it once and for all. For example, let's say that an individual comes to you with a continual issue with those in authority, no matter how many times they switch jobs, churches, relationships, pastors or change employers.

The question will always be asked, "Why me?" They may be aware at times that the cycle can be cause by themselves and not oftentimes by others. It's easy to play the victim, but we must at times do self-examination and look at why some unhealthy cycles are there in the first place.

We have to ask ourselves, did I open a door for this cycle to occur? Who did I connect with who wasn't in the plan of God for my life? Did I make life-altering decisions that ultimately caused me to enter into an agreement that is opposing God's purpose and destiny for my life? Lastly, did I open a door out of ignorance to permit the enemy to have legal access to wreak havoc in my life?

In my process of questioning someone in regards to bad cycles that happens in their lives, almost everybody would rather me give a sympathetic response in hopes I will fully understand and side with them that they've done their part, because none of us wants to believe that we may be the "problem." It's easy to shift blame, not taking full responsibility over who we allow into our lives and to give us advice. The cycle that happens in our lives is not the cycle that God placed us into, and it must be broken by the one who allowed it—you!

The Bible says in 1 Peter 5:8, "Be sober and watchful, because your adversary the devil walks around as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him firmly in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world."

It is the plan of the enemy to catch you off guard and vulnerable. 2 Corinthians 2:11 says clearly: "Lest Satan should take advantage of us. For we are not ignorant of his devices." God won't leave you outwitted and ignorant of what the enemy is up to. The enemy wants to outsmart God's people. He is a master deceiver and schemer.

However, God is a master strategist who knows what the next move of the enemy will be. God will not have you enter a cycle that will break you, but you will break the cycles of the enemy. You are a cycle-breaker!

Don't fall into agreement with what life throws at you. Don't cave in to what others may say or do. You are more than a conqueror in Christ Jesus! You were born to overcome and win! When you identify a repeated pattern that is unhealthy and toxic for your growth, development and well-being, break it by the power of your words. Life and death are in the power of your tongue (Prov. 18:21).

You can sever the demonic cycles today by standing in the authority of Christ by the Holy Spirit. Keep in mind thoses

cycle can be created and they also can be broken. Whenever I find myself in a cycle that seems to mirror my past, or something I recall that wasn't what God had for me, I instantly pray, fast and take authority, and decree to suddenly change my atmosphere and season. I begin to activate my faith in the Word of God to break everything that is not my portion in God.

If I opened a door that created any irregularities in my life, I normally ask God to send angelic assistance to go before me to make the crooked places straight while taking full ownership of my actions by confessing and repenting. Old habits, patterns and cycles must be broken, shattered and severed in order to gain control over your life. As you rise up to be a cycle-breaker today, ask yourself or someone you know who is going through a cycle of mishaps, misfortune, curses, pain, disappointment, despair and poverty these questions:

-What do you think is the method to get to the root of the cycle?

-Think about the cycle and come up with a reason why it keeps happening.

-Ask God to show you any decisions, doors or people who may cause this to happen.

-Ask God if this cycle is a result or a mirror of your own decision and behavior.

-Ask God to show you every negative thing in your life that may be prohibiting progress.

-Ask God what type of fast to go on to break any stubborn cycles.

-How do you change the cycle from negative to positive?

-Confess the positive until the negative is weakened and

broken.

–Ask God to reveal clearly His divine purpose to self-improve you until you overcome the cycle.

–Ask God if there are any areas in your life of dishonor and un-repenting sins.

Finally, we must understand that there are people today who do not understand the law of “cause and effect.” Oftentimes they believe that even long-term patterns of repeated cycles that happen in their life come out of the blue or thin air. They take on a victimized mentality. However, if you found out a long-term negative pattern in your life, the Bible suggests that we seek and ask the Lord because it is not there without a cause (Prov. 26:2).

You are a cycle-breaker! Your decision today will determine your destiny for tomorrow. Break free from any obligation, agreements, soul-ties (mutual terms) and commitments that are not God-centered and given. Don't allow repeated cycles to rob you of the promises of God. End and break bad cycles today with words of power by the Holy Spirit. {eoa}

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Cindy Trimm: It's Time to Throw a Going-Away Party for Your Baggage

Bestselling author and life strategist Cindy Trimm says too many believers have let their past dictate their future. And, she says, that principle is far from the kingdom life God wants them to live.

Trimm says to say hello to an abundant and productive future, everyone needs to say goodbye to yesterday and the things that have kept them stuck in mediocrity.

“The first thing to do is to give yourself a good going-away party,” Trimm told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of *Greenelines* on the Charisma Podcast Network. “Figure out the things that are no longer working for you. If they are no longer working, do not deceive yourself.

“Secondly, do not let your past interfere with your present. How do you do that? You get a vision for your life, and that is, ‘Hello, tomorrow.’ Then lastly, you cannot change your past, but what you can do is change the narrative of your past. Giving yourself a gift of goodbye means that you begin again from where you are. You decide where you want to be in your relationships, in your health and in your future.

“We’re all waiting for people to change, things to change, governments to change. The thing that will get you unstuck is to know and understand that you are the change you’ve been waiting for. When you change, everything around you has to adjust to accommodate that change.

“For me, I had to have the courage, the faith, to believe that God was directing me, and if He was taking care of me in my present, He would also take care of me in my future.”

For more of how you can say goodbye to your past and hello to your future, [listen to the entire podcast.](#)