

WEBVTT

1

00:00:00.000 --> 00:00:10.650

Carrington Moore: Clarence how you with us shortly give me a second fam i've been having trouble my screen on my camera all day so give me one second as situate that.

2

00:00:11.250 --> 00:00:21.510

Carrington Moore: But it's so good to see everybody i'm so grateful that you're doing well and we're gonna open up with prayer let's pray real quick family then we'll jump into our Bible study today and let's go ahead and pray.

3

00:00:21.930 --> 00:00:28.290

Carrington Moore: You know what pleases summer posture for father, mother God, we thank you for this day, we thank you for your goodness, and for your.

4

00:00:31.440 --> 00:00:31.860

Carrington Moore: God.

5

00:00:34.020 --> 00:00:44.460

Carrington Moore: He blessed so that should be with us if you strip enough for God help us or guys we've traveled to your scripture as we talk about the purpose living on purpose means living.

6

00:00:44.790 --> 00:00:50.670

Carrington Moore: intentionally and Community be with us, and all that we do and say this, we pray in Jesus name that everyone say amen.

7

00:00:51.180 --> 00:00:51.600

Carole Copeland Thomas: amen.

8

00:00:52.380 --> 00:00:56.850

Carrington Moore: All right, family i'm so excited to be with you alright have a good time today.

9

00:00:56.880 --> 00:00:57.900

Carrington Moore: What to turn up in.

10

00:00:58.260 --> 00:01:09.240

Carrington Moore: Jesus name should be a lot of fun, we have some great folks who are on the line, so my closest friends, since I was a little boy with me today all men of God.

11

00:01:09.930 --> 00:01:16.590

Carrington Moore: All love their families, they love their communities they love the Lord before we get started, I want to jump into review.

12

00:01:17.070 --> 00:01:29.910

Carrington Moore: For from last week we've been in the series entitled living on purpose and last week we have Minister Li le Duka tell who was with us, who really kind of walked us through a fusions Chapter four verse one which says.

13

00:01:30.570 --> 00:01:36.900

Carrington Moore: I beseech you therefore brethren by the mercies of God that you live a life worthy of the calling.

14

00:01:37.410 --> 00:01:46.260

Carrington Moore: That you received in Christ Jesus and I administer la he kind of walked us through a couple things i'm gonna change my cameras you because it's really, really bothering me.

15

00:01:46.770 --> 00:01:53.760

Carrington Moore: Miss ellie he kind of walked us through a couple things which is really, really important you walked us through three things family, which is really important for us.

16

00:01:54.000 --> 00:02:03.750

Carrington Moore: One as we were talking and letting us know about the importance of living on purpose and the fusions Chapter three or features Chapter four verse one you want to write this down if you can catch this last week.

17

00:02:04.440 --> 00:02:10.590

Carrington Moore: pause Paul was talking to us in the features is talking to the Church of Ephesus he says one.

18

00:02:11.130 --> 00:02:17.880

Carrington Moore: mission analyst know the shore called here, it is, it is to love yourself as we're trying to think about living on

purpose.

19

00:02:18.150 --> 00:02:23.970

Carrington Moore: or living a life worthy of the calling, you are called to love yourself, Mr Allen he, let us know here this family.

20

00:02:24.390 --> 00:02:35.400

Carrington Moore: Here it is he, let us know that we cannot do anything to become worthy of god's love, we can work our way and to god's love, but it lets us know that we inherently.

21

00:02:35.940 --> 00:02:46.980

Carrington Moore: Are loved by God, Paul says it this way, what can separate us here it is from the love of Christ not height nor depth not persecution or destruction Paul concludes that nothing.

22

00:02:47.550 --> 00:02:55.380

Carrington Moore: Can separate us from the love of Christ into Mr Ellis know there's we're trying to live a life on purpose here's the big one, you are called.

23

00:02:56.220 --> 00:03:05.190

Carrington Moore: to share the Gospel wow that's a tough one, you know I don't know if we'd like to do that too much we are called to share the Gospel, let us know that, now that we do.

24

00:03:05.970 --> 00:03:16.800

Carrington Moore: As we're called to make disciples That means that we're called to share the Gospel Jesus Christ, we will share a little bit about more about that, today, as we talk about what that means that Community the last element us know that you're called.

25

00:03:17.520 --> 00:03:27.840

Carrington Moore: To community, and this leads us to today's conversation or the panel discussion before we jump into them, I want to just talk with us for about three or four minutes before we turn it over to our panelists today.

26

00:03:28.140 --> 00:03:41.910

Carrington Moore: If we can do it fails go to john chapter 13 verse in john chapter 13 john chapter 15 john chapter 17 because I want to prove this point to you on today's lesson is entitled living on

purpose needs living in Community I want to drive this.

27

00:03:42.390 --> 00:03:53.160

Carrington Moore: This point home because you all were instructed to read psalm chapter 133, which is a really short verse of scripture let's go to john chapter 13 you have let's go to john chapter 13.

28

00:03:54.690 --> 00:04:06.660

Carrington Moore: Now as sister Joyce if you can read for us versus 3034 and 35 so john chapter 13 verse 3435 and then we're gonna go to john chapter 15.

29

00:04:07.440 --> 00:04:29.490

Carrington Moore: Real quick family real quick john chapter 15 and i'm going to ask i'm gonna ask sister Ashley porter to ask if you can read for us you're going to read for us verse nine to 15 and john chapter 5915 and then lastly would be in john chapter 17 john chapter 17.

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00:04:30.510 --> 00:04:40.500

Carrington Moore: And i'm going to ask we're going to have let's have George Murray reverses 21 and verse 23 let's jump to that real quick.

31

00:04:41.310 --> 00:04:52.320

Carrington Moore: was just that real quick and then we're going to jump into our panel discussion today, I will start with the joys of you have it as a Jewish going to mute yourself i'm going to read this together, real quick.

32

00:04:54.240 --> 00:05:14.130

Joyce Marshall: Okay, so john chapter 13 verses 3435 in the nav reads a new command I give you love one another, as I have loved you so you must love one another by this all men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.

33

00:05:15.960 --> 00:05:20.100

Carrington Moore: amen with that one more time I sister George one more time let's read, one more time.

34

00:05:21.690 --> 00:05:33.630

Joyce Marshall: A new command I give you love one another, as I have loved you so you must love one another by this all men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.

35

00:05:34.020 --> 00:05:39.240

Carrington Moore: that's good let's go to stash real quick to ask them to read for us real quick john chapter 15.

36

00:05:40.200 --> 00:05:53.100

Ashley Sharpe-Porter: And nine verses nine through 15 as the father has loved me so have I love you now remain in my love, if you keep my commands you will remain in my love just.

37

00:05:54.060 --> 00:06:04.350

Ashley Sharpe-Porter: At my commands and remain in his love I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

38

00:06:05.010 --> 00:06:16.170

Ashley Sharpe-Porter: My command is this love each other, as I have loved you greater love has no one than this, to lay down my life for one's friends.

39

00:06:16.680 --> 00:06:35.460

Ashley Sharpe-Porter: You are my friends, if you do what I command I no longer call you servants, because a servant there's not masters business instead I have called you friends for everything that I learned from my father, I have made no I have made known to you.

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00:06:37.350 --> 00:06:42.480

Carrington Moore: Man let's go to George read this Georgia marine we're going to our last verse of scripture.

41

00:06:43.560 --> 00:06:54.330

George-Marie Jasmin: The word of God in john 17 and it says that all of them may be one father, just as you are in me and I am in you.

42

00:06:55.020 --> 00:07:15.870

George-Marie Jasmin: May they also be an us so that the world may believe that you have sent me and now to verse 23 I in them, and you and me, so that they may be brought to complete unity, then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even, as you have loved me.

43

00:07:16.350 --> 00:07:23.070

Carrington Moore: Oh that's good that's good so George reeves we're going to highlight this particular scripture real quick and john chapter 17 verse 23.

44

00:07:23.580 --> 00:07:28.320

Carrington Moore: Here, this family you all want to write this down the evidence of who God is.

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00:07:28.980 --> 00:07:39.630

Carrington Moore: is found in the way that we love one another, I didn't make that up the section of the scripture George very good you read that one more time john chapter 17 verse 23 that's not what I said what the scripture says read that one more time for us.

46

00:07:40.980 --> 00:07:54.330

George-Marie Jasmin: All right, and then, and you and me, so that they may be brought to complete unity, then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even, as you have loved to me.

47

00:07:55.050 --> 00:07:58.230

Carrington Moore: hey man I swear to God for the people of God thanks.

48

00:07:59.070 --> 00:08:02.040

Carrington Moore: To God family a family, I must say, the title of.

49

00:08:02.040 --> 00:08:04.470

Carrington Moore: today's conversation, one more time.

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00:08:04.860 --> 00:08:12.690

Carrington Moore: living on purpose means living in Community and john chapter john chapter 13 through john chapter 17.

51

00:08:13.500 --> 00:08:20.910

Carrington Moore: This becomes some people call these the love chapters of Jesus, because some 21 times and these.

52

00:08:21.390 --> 00:08:31.290

Carrington Moore: Particular chapters Jesus is talking about love love that is rooted and unity love that is rooted and one is love that is rooted in god's love for the sun.

53

00:08:31.620 --> 00:08:36.660

Carrington Moore: And then the sun's love for us as disciples and then that's reflected between law for one another.

54

00:08:37.020 --> 00:08:53.190

Carrington Moore: That detects lets us know, particularly in john chapter 17 john chapter 17 this is lily god's final public prayer but literally Jesus is engaging in a public prayer for all of john chapter 17 and Jesus concludes essentially by saying, Lord.

55

00:08:54.330 --> 00:09:09.750

Carrington Moore: That your Gospel is made manifest your love is made manifest contingent upon the way that are disciples are able to love one another to this family, the evidence of god's love is not necessarily rooted just in the biblical texts.

56

00:09:10.260 --> 00:09:19.260

Carrington Moore: The evidence of god's law does not rooted and how we sing beautiful poetic and angelic songs that we sing on Sunday morning, but here it is here, it is.

57

00:09:19.680 --> 00:09:26.010

Carrington Moore: god's love is rooted god's love is shown to the world based upon how we love one another.

58

00:09:26.340 --> 00:09:33.360

Carrington Moore: i'm going to ask our distinguished panelists if they can do me a favor of you often come on the screen real quick, so you can see a wonderful faces.

59

00:09:33.660 --> 00:09:41.970

Carrington Moore: That are calling the screen real quick go ahead, go ahead it's good to go all right all right good good and spear real quick these handsome young brothers good to see you brothers.

60

00:09:42.750 --> 00:09:51.240

Carrington Moore: brother how be joining us a little bit later on family today today's conversation with set when we're talking to write this down living on purpose.

61

00:09:51.930 --> 00:10:01.860

Carrington Moore: means living and community living on purpose means living in Community here it is family.

62

00:10:02.490 --> 00:10:12.060

Carrington Moore: Miss ellie last week, let us know that we're called to share the Gospel they concluded that we're called to live in Community as we move out of covert in some ways, and as we.

63

00:10:12.900 --> 00:10:22.440

Carrington Moore: build our discipleship groups here at Bethel we're making a claim we're making a claim as a church, as a community that our ability to share the gospel.

64

00:10:22.860 --> 00:10:29.040

Carrington Moore: Our ability to live out the Gospel is contingent upon how we live in unity with one another, I want to introduce you all first.

65

00:10:29.460 --> 00:10:40.050

Carrington Moore: To my dear brother, Dr Wilson tell he's not a stranger to your doctor wasn't a car, do I have to put him on staff soon he's very he's a freak for us about for about three or four times for Bible study so.

66

00:10:40.680 --> 00:10:48.660

Carrington Moore: Instead we're so grateful for him, Dr Wilson okello he's a friend of mine, he graduated from Cheney in 2005 along with Thomas.

67

00:10:49.200 --> 00:10:59.580

Carrington Moore: Long with brother Lamont along brother Clarence along with myself and i'm sharing the story because we've been in beautiful Community since we were little i've known Wilson, since I was in kindergarten and we used to.

68

00:11:00.750 --> 00:11:07.410

Carrington Moore: restore compete and sugar runs at a very high level but Dr Wilson hello, he is on staff.

69

00:11:07.920 --> 00:11:14.880

Carrington Moore: He is a tenure track professor at the University of

North Carolina wilmington and the colleges of education African American studies.

70

00:11:15.240 --> 00:11:23.790

Carrington Moore: and Dr Carlos is a great brother, but it's not friend he's a friend of methyl he's no stranger to us of capital for Dr Wilson color real quick on introduce you all to.

71

00:11:24.690 --> 00:11:29.580

Carrington Moore: My dear brother brother lamar sykes brother MARS and near and dear friend of mine.

72

00:11:30.360 --> 00:11:45.150

Carrington Moore: brother lamar I had the first person ever married was him this wonderful wife Korea when they asked me, I thought it was a joke, but lamar said hey man can you can you this is back in the day was 2017 round was the 20th 2016.

73

00:11:46.380 --> 00:11:47.400

Carrington Moore: You gotta unmute yourself bro.

74

00:11:47.760 --> 00:11:59.010

Carrington Moore: 2015 for our man see Thomas moving quickly 2015 that was like yeah man, I guess, I could do some so I brother trusted me with marrying him, but more importantly.

75

00:11:59.490 --> 00:12:05.010

Carrington Moore: This brother is a man of God and loves his children loves his oldest daughter loves his youngest daughter.

76

00:12:05.490 --> 00:12:12.300

Carrington Moore: He works as an accountant and a director at dfs that he does public accounting for the US military.

77

00:12:12.840 --> 00:12:16.740

Carrington Moore: he's not only a captain, but he owns something started something called sky ministries is really.

78

00:12:17.310 --> 00:12:26.550

Carrington Moore: This does a great job of speaking to the needs of young people, by doing training facilitation for them very do a favor

clap it up for brother lamar sites real quick and then finally.

79

00:12:27.360 --> 00:12:40.980

Carrington Moore: we're gonna go to my dear brother brother Thomas Tony he is the man to know his his director at the University of Chicago laughs schools where he directs the service learning of so many beautiful and beloved young people.

80

00:12:41.700 --> 00:12:46.140

Carrington Moore: University Chicago lab schools and went to the College of wooster and he's just a great brother.

81

00:12:46.710 --> 00:12:53.970

Carrington Moore: Very down to earth, but very steep, not just in the Gospel really steeped in social justice, and so this brother.

82

00:12:54.570 --> 00:13:03.300

Carrington Moore: about a radical brother who loves black folks this is Thomas all the way it's very green for my brother Thomas stab at it real quick for for the Thomas family today.

83

00:13:03.810 --> 00:13:07.860

Carrington Moore: we're talking about what it means to live in Community and so brothers do me a favor.

84

00:13:08.580 --> 00:13:15.000

Carrington Moore: Whatever you share do not share anything that's embarrassing to me this one we've already talked about this, and the number to be as.

85

00:13:15.270 --> 00:13:24.090

Carrington Moore: Be as honest, as you can as honest as possible we're gonna jump right into today's scripture i'm gonna ask real quick to trace do me a favor if you grab psalm 143.

86

00:13:24.330 --> 00:13:35.610

Carrington Moore: And one and i'm putting on the spot was grab psalm 133 one this was today's scripture literally it's just one verse of scripture with a read that real quick and whatever it's up today's conversation sister Tracy you can read whenever you're ready.

87

00:13:36.780 --> 00:13:38.460

Tracie Ellison: Thank sorry I had it and then it went away.

88

00:13:39.690 --> 00:13:47.640

Tracie Ellison: So this is from the no penalty version how wonderful it is, it is it when brothers live together in harmony.

89

00:13:48.450 --> 00:13:51.900

Carrington Moore: And a memory reasons I suddenly the force, one more time.

90

00:13:53.010 --> 00:13:58.650

Tracie Ellison: How wonderful and pleasant, is it when brothers live together in harmony.

91

00:13:59.220 --> 00:13:59.760

Carrington Moore: A man.

92

00:14:00.030 --> 00:14:01.230

Carrington Moore: A different reading of that.

93

00:14:01.260 --> 00:14:07.890

Carrington Moore: Particular new revised standard version would be how beautiful, it is for kindred spirits to live together.

94

00:14:08.250 --> 00:14:16.920

Carrington Moore: and unity unity, or how beautiful, it is for brothers and sisters to live together, and you know we're going to jump into our first question as we're talking about.

95

00:14:17.640 --> 00:14:24.120

Carrington Moore: living on purpose means living in Community I will go first to better lamar lamar we're freestyle real quick.

96

00:14:24.600 --> 00:14:34.440

Carrington Moore: Making a question as a gun, I saw some questions, but we will make up some questions to is the first made up question for you brother Omar how has living in community.

97

00:14:34.920 --> 00:14:42.510

Carrington Moore: Particularly within our friend group how has that been helpful for you and why do you think that has helped you even as in your Christian walk.

98

00:14:45.210 --> 00:14:57.900

Lamar Sykes: Alright, well, good evening everyone, thank you for having me looking forward to the conversations and my being able to share space with my best best friends.

99

00:14:59.010 --> 00:15:03.120

Lamar Sykes: with you all Karen semester great question how has.

100

00:15:04.650 --> 00:15:12.720

Lamar Sykes: living in community with you all bless me as Carrington i'm sorry if I call him Carrington.

101

00:15:14.160 --> 00:15:15.120

Lamar Sykes: or or Z.

102

00:15:16.230 --> 00:15:16.890

Lamar Sykes: But.

103

00:15:18.030 --> 00:15:30.540

Lamar Sykes: As he stated we've been friends, since we were kids like for me specifically i've known Carrington since the fourth grade so nine, so this is about 26 years of friendship.

104

00:15:32.250 --> 00:15:42.780

Lamar Sykes: To me, is you know outside of my wife and children, and one of the greatest blessings of my entire life, just to be able to have.

105

00:15:44.130 --> 00:15:51.960

Lamar Sykes: A group of friends that are like minded that hold you accountable that love on you.

106

00:15:53.070 --> 00:15:59.460

Lamar Sykes: tough times and enjoy the good times but also you know Carrington as he stated.

107

00:16:00.480 --> 00:16:05.280

Lamar Sykes: He actually you know married my wife and I and so it's pretty cool to have a.

108

00:16:06.120 --> 00:16:15.300

Lamar Sykes: pastor and your in your in your friend group so when I was younger and I, you know this specific specific to Carrington when I was younger and I had a lot of questions about.

109

00:16:16.260 --> 00:16:26.160

Lamar Sykes: Faith Christianity spirituality you know i'm talking 15 1617 years old, I was able to you know talk to my friend Carrington.

110

00:16:26.790 --> 00:16:33.450

Lamar Sykes: feel safe and be able to be vulnerable with a peer but also be able to get wisdom from somebody young.

111

00:16:34.230 --> 00:16:51.720

Lamar Sykes: That may you know and and, to this day, he still does that, for me, and the rest of my friends, you know in so many different ways just helping me grow as a person as a man and just being able to just enjoy each other and now i'm.

112

00:16:53.430 --> 00:17:11.940

Lamar Sykes: Building families, and so our brotherhood six is now expanding as we, as we marry and get children so it's just beautiful so without you know, taking up too much time because you're not be long winded you know that's kind of you know, a quick summary of house blessed me.

113

00:17:16.800 --> 00:17:17.100

Lamar Sykes: Thank you.

114

00:17:17.250 --> 00:17:24.990

Carrington Moore: We definitely appreciate you brother Omar, for all that you shared that's really good, and I want to highlight this question in the chat for us.

115

00:17:25.560 --> 00:17:32.730

Carrington Moore: How does Community help you live out your colon right that's really important because pastor we actually alluded to this beautiful way on Sunday.

116

00:17:33.210 --> 00:17:44.640

Carrington Moore: He actually lifted up the idea that sometimes we think about this idea of being self made person's self made women are self made men, we know that in the in the culture of capitalism that's actually really alive.

117

00:17:45.330 --> 00:17:50.520

Carrington Moore: That we all come from something we all have been loved well, and so, who we become.

118

00:17:50.820 --> 00:18:00.810

Carrington Moore: Often, is contingent upon here it is who's around us and even we think about this culture of capitalism and individualism that's often how we live our faith our faith is often between.

119

00:18:01.380 --> 00:18:12.090

Carrington Moore: Between us, and God and nobody else it's just me myself and I and Jesus but that's actually not how Jesus lived out his faith, but the disciples that's actually not true to our own biblical texts was actually.

120

00:18:12.540 --> 00:18:23.040

Carrington Moore: darker color answer the same question Dr Keller how has your community can be our friend group or your community in general, helps you live out your faith and then, after that, we would go to brother Thomas.

121

00:18:25.830 --> 00:18:27.600

Wilson Okello: yeah I appreciate it can you hear me okay.

122

00:18:28.260 --> 00:18:28.710

Carrington Moore: Yes, sir.

123

00:18:29.430 --> 00:18:29.760

Okay.

124

00:18:31.230 --> 00:18:34.620

Wilson Okello: Greetings Bethel family is just good to be in community with you all.

125

00:18:35.760 --> 00:18:40.230

Wilson Okello: My brothers always good to just spend time with you all and to learn.

126

00:18:41.370 --> 00:18:50.640

Wilson Okello: with you all 25 plus years I feel like i'm still learning from y'all every time we get together so so I appreciate that, in terms of like what it means to.

127

00:18:51.990 --> 00:18:55.350

Wilson Okello: When I think about my community and how they've advanced my call.

128

00:18:56.490 --> 00:19:00.750

Wilson Okello: I think about this idea of emotional availability and folks who.

129

00:19:01.830 --> 00:19:10.740

Wilson Okello: are willing to be available to me and responsive to whatever questions I might have at various points across my.

130

00:19:11.700 --> 00:19:18.060

Wilson Okello: Like young adult sort of adolescent life but into into adulthood right I think i'm seeing you know.

131

00:19:18.750 --> 00:19:25.350

Wilson Okello: emmett bell sites and the chat put having friends with whom we can be vulnerable so important and.

132

00:19:26.160 --> 00:19:36.600

Wilson Okello: I really want to underscore that particular point right this notion of having individuals, you can be in relationship with who will see where your best honor you at your worst.

133

00:19:37.350 --> 00:19:44.070

Wilson Okello: and refuse to give up on you right so it's one thing to be a community but i'm grateful that these brothers do desire.

134

00:19:44.850 --> 00:19:56.670

Wilson Okello: me after all this time right which is the same desire

all of me and my flaws, whatever advantages they feel like a couple of being a relationship with me, which probably aren't been but.

135

00:19:57.780 --> 00:20:07.920

Wilson Okello: But they desire to be in community with me and i'm so grateful for that and so so that one this this notion of emotional availability, I think, is has been crucial.

136

00:20:08.400 --> 00:20:17.940

Wilson Okello: For me, having individuals who will serve as partners right every single one of these individuals has counseled me provided wise counsel for me as I.

137

00:20:18.330 --> 00:20:26.430

Wilson Okello: thought about my colleagues thought about and the work I feel like i've been sort of set here to do, whether that's as a husband.

138

00:20:27.300 --> 00:20:37.530

Wilson Okello: or as a as a teacher right i've been able to to hear from them right they've been positive feedback loops for me in terms of affirming.

139

00:20:38.100 --> 00:20:54.810

Wilson Okello: critiquing but ultimately advancing who I, who I can be, I would also say they've been sponsors right these individuals have put me in positions to advance my call right lamar I can literally it's probably responsible for that.

140

00:20:56.610 --> 00:20:59.250

Wilson Okello: I mean the dozens of talks i've given.

141

00:21:00.930 --> 00:21:03.060

Wilson Okello: across this country because he.

142

00:21:04.620 --> 00:21:17.640

Wilson Okello: said, my gifts are set, he believed in me right, in the same way, I think that he believes in his own sort of goals right which is a invested in them, he poured his resources into them he.

143

00:21:19.620 --> 00:21:27.750

Wilson Okello: I mean us, I mean just everything he could do to the best, and I think we all probably have a similar testimony with Lamar but also with each other.

144

00:21:28.620 --> 00:21:37.830

Wilson Okello: Carrington has invited me to be in spaces I've invited others and to come and teach for me right, Thomas as well, and the more so, I think we've all sort of.

145

00:21:38.580 --> 00:21:42.600

Wilson Okello: benefited from being around each other and thought about ways in which we can.

146

00:21:43.230 --> 00:21:59.250

Wilson Okello: support each other by literally putting each other forward and so I'll pause there, but to sort of wrap by saying this notion of emotional availability individuals who will provide wise counsel, but then also individually with sponsor and he has been tremendously beneficial.

147

00:22:00.690 --> 00:22:08.880

Carrington Moore: amen Thank you very much, brother will kill me to come back to you some questions from a let's go to my dear brother brother Thomas else you got for us, Thomas.

148

00:22:10.530 --> 00:22:17.400

Thomas Toney: Very honored to be here and excited to be reunited with my brothers.

149

00:22:20.340 --> 00:22:20.670

Thomas Toney: Who.

150

00:22:23.490 --> 00:22:29.580

Thomas Toney: I am sort of coming back and think about Karen can you mentioned, and you and Wilson racing.

151

00:22:31.110 --> 00:22:35.190

Thomas Toney: And I said you're familiar with us we've been in each other's lives for almost 30 years now.

152

00:22:36.420 --> 00:22:37.560

Thomas Toney: And I think.

153

00:22:39.180 --> 00:22:44.190

Thomas Toney: To be young black boys coming from an environment where we come from.

154

00:22:45.210 --> 00:22:56.400

Thomas Toney: To be that young and not only have a parent group that says that you are nothing but a peer group that it was, like you, are loved and you're constantly challenged to be better.

155

00:22:59.400 --> 00:23:06.480

Thomas Toney: And I think that's sort of your you destroy you talking about your Wilson recent triggered that because I think that was like.

156

00:23:07.530 --> 00:23:12.480

Thomas Toney: emblematic of like our relationship in our lives that we've always shown up for each other.

157

00:23:12.840 --> 00:23:28.500

Thomas Toney: And we not only filled the void and allowed us to be like transparent and vulnerable with one another, but was always asked a ratio that always was grounded in prayer and love and pushing and challenging us to rise to the occasion.

158

00:23:30.600 --> 00:23:37.440

Thomas Toney: And now i'm also thinking back to who I was at some of the most difficult times in my life.

159

00:23:38.610 --> 00:23:48.900

Thomas Toney: Being sort of a new College Grad in Chicago alone, with no family or friends and we were having weekly prayer calls with one another.

160

00:23:50.520 --> 00:23:58.440

Thomas Toney: And like what that meant to be a young black man and having a Community of brothers to lean on weekly.

161

00:23:59.820 --> 00:24:09.990

Thomas Toney: That were like taking time out and we were having conversations with six seven hours just pray for one another and so

they're like with that does to someone in that space.

162

00:24:11.940 --> 00:24:19.590

Thomas Toney: And I one of the things I always remember from that is Wilson share with us that our gifts will make room for us.

163

00:24:21.600 --> 00:24:24.870

Thomas Toney: And to hear that encouragement and my early 20s.

164

00:24:26.370 --> 00:24:30.120

Thomas Toney: i've ruminating and come back to that for a decade now.

165

00:24:32.520 --> 00:24:36.600

Thomas Toney: So I think this Community has been invaluable in those ways.

166

00:24:37.980 --> 00:24:38.130

Thomas Toney: um.

167

00:24:40.500 --> 00:24:40.890

Thomas Toney: yeah.

168

00:24:41.760 --> 00:24:49.920

Carrington Moore: that's good Thomas that's good that's a good word that I would just say, and the life is on the line, and I want to say this, for all of our lives.

169

00:24:50.280 --> 00:24:58.410

Carrington Moore: And i'll have to have the French we're not here at clerics and Mike that they inherited these conference calls that last really long and during coven they've gotten worse.

170

00:24:58.800 --> 00:25:05.310

Carrington Moore: i'm gonna be honest with the family and so now you gotta unmute yourself, you don't you don't have to, but you can have you went to but.

171

00:25:05.970 --> 00:25:11.340

Carrington Moore: yeah I think the worst the worst the longest conference call and we were on the call together for 16.

172

00:25:11.700 --> 00:25:20.190

Carrington Moore: Hours straight, I believe that was last November, but it was necessary and our wives they love this anyhow so so family.

173

00:25:20.640 --> 00:25:27.270

Carrington Moore: This is not a this we're sharing this in part because Thomas was talking about the arc or the length of time.

174

00:25:27.600 --> 00:25:33.270

Carrington Moore: of being a Community with one another, and what that does to you i'm going to turn it back into the honest, we would go back to you audience.

175

00:25:34.260 --> 00:25:41.610

Carrington Moore: And I want to ask this question for us together is how are you living in community with others around you I know code is kind of kind of.

176

00:25:42.150 --> 00:25:51.600

Carrington Moore: made that very difficult, but I want to ask the question to us as a Bethel Community we're going to go back to the panelists after this, but how are you living in community with others around you.

177

00:25:52.080 --> 00:26:00.120

Carrington Moore: what's what are some things that have been significant for you and being able to do that if you want to answer go ahead and put that in chat go ahead and mute yourself, we want to hear from you real quick.

178

00:26:00.810 --> 00:26:06.870

Carrington Moore: You go ahead and answer that real quick so we'd love to hear from you all about 10 seconds to unmute yourself and go ahead and answer.

179

00:26:08.310 --> 00:26:13.260

Albert Coombs: hi um, this is a brother outcomes with me.

180

00:26:14.430 --> 00:26:22.140

Albert Coombs: A couple of men's groups like there was a group I used

to meet with at my church here in in in Richmond.

181

00:26:22.770 --> 00:26:28.680

Albert Coombs: Every Monday we had like a Bible study was about maybe 15 brothers and you know we'll get together.

182

00:26:29.220 --> 00:26:36.360

Albert Coombs: You know, review the Bible, you know, have the conversations and then we get together socially do a few things, but then we're covered it.

183

00:26:36.780 --> 00:26:46.590

Albert Coombs: All that had to stop because we couldn't get together physically, however, we continue to be in Community because we have a zoom meeting.

184

00:26:47.160 --> 00:26:54.990

Albert Coombs: Every Monday at 630 and has been such a blessing, and you know you know we will get some subjects together.

185

00:26:55.560 --> 00:27:10.230

Albert Coombs: Some directions of what we're going to study and it's great to be connected that way so that that's the Community that I that I really love and also, I was i'm in the church i've looked to here, which is St Paul Baptist church.

186

00:27:11.760 --> 00:27:24.780

Albert Coombs: I was in the men's chorus now at the time was like something like 60 brothers and I was the bass section and it's amazing that they allowed me to be in the course cuz i'm not a singer, but when you have 60 brothers.

187

00:27:24.990 --> 00:27:26.550

Albert Coombs: and makes you sound good I don't care.

188

00:27:26.850 --> 00:27:40.290

Albert Coombs: How how bad, you said you saying you would go away sound good around with 60 brother so that's been a blessing, now the for the fact that we cannot send together um we do have a.

189

00:27:41.100 --> 00:27:44.250

Albert Coombs: Meeting every other Tuesday, when we get to give you.

190

00:27:44.850 --> 00:27:54.120

Albert Coombs: A short Bible study, but then we discuss our Community things and what we can do with the Community and things of that sort, so that keeps me connected that way as well, and then.

191

00:27:54.570 --> 00:28:03.660

Albert Coombs: Obviously this meeting here I think it's fantastic for me to allow myself to be connected with better I mean who know me I left.

192

00:28:04.950 --> 00:28:16.950

Albert Coombs: The Massachusetts area came to Richmond was Okay, I guess the Arab definitely this is this, you know, has ended, however, you know people come to see me things so that, which is always a blessing.

193

00:28:17.280 --> 00:28:30.900

Albert Coombs: But because of the fact that we have this Bible study it keeps me coming connecting the Community and i'm so appreciative of that so it's all on the back office somebody else speak for a while, but anyway, I just want to share that which.

194

00:28:31.500 --> 00:28:38.520

Carrington Moore: A man is a good word for the hour, we definitely appreciate you that you've been intentionally doing your best to stay connected, even in the midst of covert.

195

00:28:39.510 --> 00:28:43.530

Carrington Moore: So that's that's a beautiful story that's a sermon all by itself that even if you feel like you can't saying.

196

00:28:43.890 --> 00:28:47.640

Carrington Moore: being surrounded with the Community is still a part of the Community so that's a good word.

197

00:28:48.060 --> 00:28:57.120

Carrington Moore: we're going to go ahead and we're going to move to our next question I want to reach the john they'll put the chat so john so john let's go ahead and unmute yourself and go into this a lot to read good unmute yourself to God sure.

198

00:28:57.750 --> 00:29:08.310

JONELL JOHNSON: Okay i'm just saying that I have there's two things one is when I was having a replacement surgery the church really rallied around me with phone calls and cards and flowers and.

199

00:29:08.880 --> 00:29:17.730

JONELL JOHNSON: Some people sent me money in the cards, and it was really a blessing, and I really felt connected that way from my church family and on Tuesday mornings.

200

00:29:18.540 --> 00:29:27.330

JONELL JOHNSON: six to seven I come on the Bethel prayer call I started that about maybe two months ago and it's been such a blessing every Tuesday morning.

201

00:29:27.750 --> 00:29:34.950

JONELL JOHNSON: is about seven to 10 people and we share intimately about what our needs and concerns are and we pray together.

202

00:29:35.550 --> 00:29:51.090

JONELL JOHNSON: And then, this Wednesday night Wednesday night is like my corner neo group for the midweek and i'm getting to know more people on this call, and I really look forward to the time of fellowship and learning together it's been a huge blessing for me.

203

00:29:52.200 --> 00:29:53.550

Carrington Moore: that's good family that's good.

204

00:29:53.820 --> 00:29:57.180

Carrington Moore: ready to go back to a panelist is, if I can summarize what I picked up from.

205

00:29:57.390 --> 00:30:03.600

Carrington Moore: john now if it also from brother i'll that one that it's important i'm looking at the chat to.

206

00:30:03.930 --> 00:30:10.710

Carrington Moore: that one is We live in a Community there's a couple things that we are inherently are called to that we've been gravitates towards one here it is we're called to pray together.

207

00:30:11.220 --> 00:30:21.420

Carrington Moore: Right and we see Jesus matter of fact Jesus, on the day of his crucifixion he was asking some to Gil fam stay with me, will you pray with me so fan we're called.

208

00:30:21.780 --> 00:30:29.100

Carrington Moore: to pray together here's The other thing we're called to discern together, this is going to actually lead us to our next question.

209

00:30:29.820 --> 00:30:47.880

Carrington Moore: And here's a question I want to put to the panel we're going to go first with to brother lamar that the Thomas than to Wilson how has our Friendship Group how's it helps you to discern your own calling how has our Friendship Group helps you to discern your own calling.

210

00:30:56.190 --> 00:30:57.330

Lamar Sykes: You sent me for SCI.

211

00:30:57.780 --> 00:30:58.800

Carrington Moore: fi yeah yes, sir.

212

00:31:00.720 --> 00:31:05.040

Lamar Sykes: Okay, so that's that's another great question.

213

00:31:06.060 --> 00:31:19.080

Lamar Sykes: hey back to would brother Thomas talked about like early on, after like shortly after graduation from undergrad we started having our six to eight our.

214

00:31:20.130 --> 00:31:24.690

Lamar Sykes: conference last prayer calls just being able to.

215

00:31:26.700 --> 00:31:48.060

Lamar Sykes: Just bounce ideas off of each other share our visions dream with each other that's something that I think we intentionally started to do, back then, so this is around 2022 23 years old and it still happens to this day, I think you know just the other day I was dreaming alongside of.

216

00:31:49.980 --> 00:32:00.510

Lamar Sykes: forevermore and also our good friend, Michael gifts, I was not on the phone, not on the call tonight, but you know it just continues to.

217

00:32:01.680 --> 00:32:06.210

Lamar Sykes: Just continues to happen, so I think when you have.

218

00:32:07.650 --> 00:32:13.710

Lamar Sykes: Friends friendship like we do like we talked about vulnerability, but I also I feel like my friends are brilliant and.

219

00:32:14.640 --> 00:32:28.260

Lamar Sykes: In their and their professions and just you know just creativity and all that so it's it's great to have a group of friends that can help you define what they the iron sharpens iron, I think, is.

220

00:32:29.520 --> 00:32:39.270

Lamar Sykes: You know very much fits our group and fits my experience with my group of friends that are here tonight, so i'll just stop right stop right there, so thank you again as a great question.

221

00:32:39.930 --> 00:32:41.310

Carrington Moore: Thank you very much, I appreciate that.

222

00:32:41.460 --> 00:32:43.530

Carrington Moore: let's go to Thomas and let's go to our Wilson.

223

00:32:47.520 --> 00:32:54.810

Thomas Toney: yeah thanks similar sites have a group of folks that sort of consistently thought partner with.

224

00:32:55.890 --> 00:33:03.960

Thomas Toney: us and not only always thought partner in a way to sort of move you forward, but also in the times, where like just to hold space.

225

00:33:04.530 --> 00:33:10.350

Thomas Toney: For when you feel like maybe your career is that going the right way by there's some frustrations that the workplace.

226

00:33:10.860 --> 00:33:22.740

Thomas Toney: If I have someone be able to like hold that space with you but steals like circle back and was like let's pray about it and what's our game plan, what we do and what do you need from me, what do you need from us.

227

00:33:23.880 --> 00:33:38.940

Thomas Toney: And I think consistently have a that level of light partnership and the reassurance that none of us, none of us are in this alone I think earlier, you call about the fallacy of the bootstraps mentality.

228

00:33:39.960 --> 00:33:52.860

Thomas Toney: I think one of the things that have sustained us is that we have all been equal partners like equal equity partners invested in each other's like journey and our joy.

229

00:33:53.580 --> 00:34:03.750

Thomas Toney: And I think that has like ECHO it out through even our families, like my mother follows all of you X about how the we are without our siblings love your daily, and vice versa.

230

00:34:05.310 --> 00:34:11.910

Thomas Toney: yeah, so I think being able to invest in each other and waster like your success is my success.

231

00:34:13.980 --> 00:34:18.090

Carrington Moore: Go let's go, thank you very much, Thomas is a good word we're going to you, Dr Kelly.

232

00:34:20.970 --> 00:34:21.360

Wilson Okello: Thomas.

233

00:34:21.390 --> 00:34:22.770

Carrington Moore: No wait wait wait.

234

00:34:23.130 --> 00:34:28.560

Carrington Moore: Wait we shouldn't have a dress policy, so we all

like relaxed a cool man like photo Wilson this.

235

00:34:28.770 --> 00:34:29.250

Guy.

236

00:34:33.330 --> 00:34:33.780

Thomas Toney: morning.

237

00:34:35.640 --> 00:34:36.180

Thomas Toney: shake up.

238

00:34:37.230 --> 00:34:39.630

Carrington Moore: Our warm jacket up I know what's coming like that.

239

00:34:39.690 --> 00:34:40.320

Carrington Moore: But it's all good.

240

00:34:41.160 --> 00:34:41.550

Carrington Moore: You got.

241

00:34:41.970 --> 00:34:43.530

Wilson Okello: We have some class things to do.

242

00:34:45.270 --> 00:34:46.860

Wilson Okello: You addictiveness so.

243

00:34:47.940 --> 00:34:52.500

Wilson Okello: Thomas brother like when you talk about like our parents man, I am.

244

00:34:53.760 --> 00:35:03.000

Wilson Okello: Like it gets a point sometimes my mom won't even ask about me right she's like oh house house Thomas, do you know me like where's where's katie tisha now.

245

00:35:03.990 --> 00:35:13.170

Wilson Okello: Nowadays right like or money is getting ready to graduate like you know, a Big Brother was like and so are the ways in which our families have threaded across.

246

00:35:13.320 --> 00:35:14.400

Wilson Okello: Our relationship.

247

00:35:14.730 --> 00:35:22.230

Wilson Okello: has been one of the joys I think of our lives and it's allowed us to not only get feedback from each other, but.

248

00:35:23.190 --> 00:35:33.600

Wilson Okello: I have a mentor in Clarence his father right, I have a mentor and pastor George more Abba a mentor and Miss loretta right like these folks have been pouring into.

249

00:35:33.840 --> 00:35:47.130

Wilson Okello: All of us right now, since we were since we were kids and so there's something about the intergenerational wisdom that I think we've had access to that is that has been invaluable, as I think about our.

250

00:35:48.480 --> 00:35:49.470

Wilson Okello: Our journey together.

251

00:35:53.100 --> 00:35:59.580

Wilson Okello: there's something about having a you know cheerleaders India in your corner, but then there's folks who will.

252

00:36:00.720 --> 00:36:08.490

Wilson Okello: Who will tell you about yourself remind you of who, you said you want to be right, and I want to sort of.

253

00:36:09.240 --> 00:36:19.170

Wilson Okello: underscore the ways in which these brothers continue to remind me of who I wanted a wall with sort of wanted to be right, those are the kind of individuals, I think we want to keep in our life right, I think.

254

00:36:19.560 --> 00:36:24.090

Wilson Okello: As you move right we'll have enough individuals who are cheering you on right, particularly if you.

255

00:36:25.290 --> 00:36:33.870

Wilson Okello: Secure particular levels of success or whatever success looks like and as well, like folks so you know they'll say oh like Carrington is doing that thing right now right.

256

00:36:34.440 --> 00:36:45.210

Wilson Okello: Well, who are the individuals who are encouraged sincere and telling him that he can be better with his wife or telling him that he can be better.

257

00:36:45.810 --> 00:36:51.750

Wilson Okello: With his church family right, those are the individuals that adds that to keep with me and, as I think about discerning my call.

258

00:36:52.020 --> 00:37:09.150

Wilson Okello: My call is already wrapped up in my son, and in my wife right they are coming with me they're part of the call and they these brothers remind me that you bet not to get them as you journey right and so individuals who can see the scope of you think your call, I think, is so important.

259

00:37:11.190 --> 00:37:15.360

Carrington Moore: amen well so she brought a family and love and romance.

260

00:37:16.950 --> 00:37:19.200

Carrington Moore: was like she's jumping jumping to that.

261

00:37:20.430 --> 00:37:23.460

Carrington Moore: question, I think I put a question to us in the Group chat.

262

00:37:24.750 --> 00:37:25.500

Carrington Moore: about that.

263

00:37:26.580 --> 00:37:35.910

Carrington Moore: So, so I want to back up a couple things one, I want to reiterate the point everyone may is that here's the thing family, you can actually track your progress of living in community.

264

00:37:36.300 --> 00:37:40.650

Carrington Moore: I want you all to think to yourself, for a moment about the Community that's around you.

265

00:37:41.310 --> 00:37:48.060

Carrington Moore: And here's the thing family where sometimes living in Community means that there's a sacrifice that comes along with that.

266

00:37:48.450 --> 00:37:55.620

Carrington Moore: And there's a particular type of attention ality that comes along with that, as well that were called into but the benefits, I was.

267

00:37:55.980 --> 00:38:05.550

Carrington Moore: I think I saw someone else's she's had a friendship with someone to thick and thin for 55 years and Inshallah imagine if you can, if you have to quantify.

268

00:38:06.060 --> 00:38:15.480

Carrington Moore: That type of like the type of resources that were shared the type of wisdom that was shared the top of love was which is share you wouldn't even be able to quantify that and the same way, family.

269

00:38:16.710 --> 00:38:24.090

Carrington Moore: Imagine if you're not living in intentional Community trying to quantify all that you're losing so here's here's the thing family.

270

00:38:24.960 --> 00:38:41.460

Carrington Moore: I want to get too deep on y'all literally people know who we are, as people of Christ were able to signify that we are saved sanctified and filled with the precious Holy Ghost based upon how we live in community.

271

00:38:42.570 --> 00:38:57.210

Carrington Moore: it's a simple like in my house, if you if you can call all the scriptures in the world if you can preach fire down from heaven, if you have the most angelic voice, but you're not living Community here it is family you're not living on purpose.

272

00:38:58.230 --> 00:39:06.840

Carrington Moore: living in Community means that you're living on purpose and living on purpose means that you're living in Community let's go to the next question we don't get a don't get too deep, but we can get dig what happens.

273

00:39:07.830 --> 00:39:15.420

Carrington Moore: In his family live talk about romance and I think the model and the model is the first one to get married is that when I was 2015.

274

00:39:16.470 --> 00:39:22.200

Carrington Moore: To I was actually looking at a video of Mr Wilson wedding the other day.

275

00:39:23.400 --> 00:39:40.800

Carrington Moore: Beautiful so tomorrow, was the first one to get married I remember that journey, I think, when my when you were 2720 you're trying to make it happen, yes question.

276

00:39:41.130 --> 00:39:43.620

Carrington Moore: And this is a this is, I want to talk to Wilson.

277

00:39:43.860 --> 00:40:01.230

Carrington Moore: and modern times we had to chime in a little bit found talk about how you are navigating navigating relationships, but here's the thing I want to talk to us real quick Lamar and Wilson how has Community really helped you even discern and walk through your romantic relationships.

278

00:40:05.850 --> 00:40:06.480

Lamar Sykes: Can I give.

279

00:40:07.560 --> 00:40:14.580

Lamar Sykes: i'll give a very, very recent example as then like Oh, is it Saturday Carrington.

280

00:40:15.690 --> 00:40:16.500

Lamar Sykes: So this kind of.

281

00:40:17.580 --> 00:40:29.910

Lamar Sykes: This conversation about Community how our friends support us and they and Wilson brought in the Thomas brought in the extended community of how are our friends parents are also.

282

00:40:30.420 --> 00:40:44.700

Lamar Sykes: Part of that community as well, I was having a conversation with Carrington I was on my way to back home to youngstown to visit my mother and I got on a call with him and I was a unpacking some things about my you know.

283

00:40:45.840 --> 00:40:56.640

Lamar Sykes: Current chapter and my wife and I and our families entering as our oldest daughter is getting ready to go off to college and just some things that you know i've been happening with my wife and.

284

00:40:57.870 --> 00:41:06.780

Lamar Sykes: And just things about a blended family all of that razzle dazzle he says man, you should talk to my dad.

285

00:41:07.770 --> 00:41:18.750

Lamar Sykes: And I said, you know he's he's got experienced and with this type of situation, I was like hey man like you know just shoot me his number i'll definitely reach out to call them, and I think sometimes I, like you know i'lll.

286

00:41:20.490 --> 00:41:25.590

Lamar Sykes: Say like i'm going to do something and then you get distracted I feel like this time like it was a reason.

287

00:41:26.430 --> 00:41:33.660

Lamar Sykes: That this next thing happened that it was like don't get distracted make sure you call characters day, so we go out to eat.

288

00:41:34.530 --> 00:41:48.870

Lamar Sykes: Meat it with my mother, my grandmother some other family members and I hang up the phone with Carrington I say i'ma call you back to spend some time with the family and we go into the restaurant and two minutes later characters Father walks into the restaurant.

289

00:41:51.270 --> 00:42:00.450

Lamar Sykes: And I tell I tell Mr more I say you're not gonna believe

this but I promise you I literally just hung up with your son two minutes ago, he told me to call you.

290

00:42:00.870 --> 00:42:08.730

Lamar Sykes: Is that kind of gave me a little, I will you call me for, and I said I shared a little bit more he just gave me this little like I got to my brother i'm still.

291

00:42:10.350 --> 00:42:20.970

Lamar Sykes: Waiting for your call so to be able to you know, like I said, have Carrington there to sort of unpack with me, as I was driving right and then give me.

292

00:42:22.020 --> 00:42:32.970

Lamar Sykes: You know access essentially to his father right that's a blessing right so i'll be able to, I have no doubt that the things that I was unpacking will be able to be put together.

293

00:42:33.810 --> 00:42:43.530

Lamar Sykes: put back together will between the wisdom that i'll give from Kerry said in his father so that's that's the story throughout our friendship.

294

00:42:44.370 --> 00:42:52.620

Lamar Sykes: With each other just being able to do that with the with each other and with our extended Community so i'll stop right there, but that was a very recent example.

295

00:42:53.490 --> 00:42:54.690

Lamar Sykes: literally just a few days.

296

00:42:55.440 --> 00:42:59.220

Carrington Moore: amen that's beautiful man Thank you so much for sharing that and we have our.

297

00:43:00.300 --> 00:43:01.500

Carrington Moore: Four panelists in the room.

298

00:43:02.520 --> 00:43:12.900

Carrington Moore: brother Clarence how shallow bit about him i've no classes, I was in first grade amazing Father wonderful husband he

serves as the director of.

299

00:43:13.380 --> 00:43:23.760

Carrington Moore: North American operations for a ballerina incorporated, so he works as a best engineer we're thankful that he's able to join us today but clothes are causing problems in the chat.

300

00:43:25.050 --> 00:43:25.350

Carrington Moore: So.

301

00:43:27.030 --> 00:43:36.930

Carrington Moore: Like who was asking these questions it's Clarence so let's let's let's jump right into it, it clear we're talking about so you know we're talking about clients clients were talking about.

302

00:43:37.710 --> 00:43:47.160

Carrington Moore: How we're living in Community and living on purpose and how they're wrapped up one in the same right now we're actually talking about our own romantic relationships and how.

303

00:43:47.790 --> 00:43:58.500

Carrington Moore: Community has helped to kind of discern how to engage with your wife or indeed relationships in general and so we're going to go to will send you a bit of clay that will go to Thomas.

304

00:44:03.420 --> 00:44:11.730

Wilson Okello: One of the beautiful things about our relationship is that as one person goes through it, they kind of pass along the manual.

305

00:44:12.810 --> 00:44:13.260

Wilson Okello: For.

306

00:44:14.760 --> 00:44:23.640

Wilson Okello: For how to how you might approach it, and so you know, some are was preparing for marriage, I can remember him.

307

00:44:25.590 --> 00:44:27.000

Wilson Okello: I can remember him steady.

308

00:44:28.320 --> 00:44:41.820

Wilson Okello: Reading works I love and respect reading books, like the five love languages on so forth, then he was attending conferences with corey I mean just really attempting to be intentional about.

309

00:44:42.600 --> 00:44:52.170

Wilson Okello: Going into their Union and so, when the time came, and you know, I was preparing to sort of make this step with with my wife.

310

00:44:53.310 --> 00:45:04.920

Wilson Okello: lamar was passing down the manual so I went ahead and ordered in love and respect for lamar is Alamos wedding he gave he gifted us with the five love languages right.

311

00:45:05.490 --> 00:45:14.370

Wilson Okello: And you know asked us to you know, to begin to kind of do that work so that we could be accountable, with him, as he was journey into the Union so.

312

00:45:15.270 --> 00:45:34.170

Wilson Okello: In many ways, it's been it's been circular right in that we have offered each other, the resources that we have that we've used right not always good right we oftentimes have to step outside of that circle, to find and get feedback but.

313

00:45:35.310 --> 00:45:42.930

Wilson Okello: One of the things I appreciate most is is that we will will share with each other right the the good things, but also the places where.

314

00:45:44.130 --> 00:45:45.090

Wilson Okello: You know, we deserve.

315

00:45:46.530 --> 00:45:48.810

Wilson Okello: You know, we have to be better right and so.

316

00:45:50.010 --> 00:45:53.670

Wilson Okello: Those that you know that's one sort of example that's coming to mind my mind at this moment.

317

00:45:54.450 --> 00:46:02.070

Carrington Moore: let's Thank you very much, Dr Carl I hear you and lamar really saying this is important for us buffalo is it this wisdom and community.

318

00:46:02.610 --> 00:46:10.230

Carrington Moore: right that sometimes we think we're actually on the island by ourselves that often this, and here it is Oh, I feel the Holy Ghost now.

319

00:46:10.740 --> 00:46:17.640

Carrington Moore: Can I can I want to bless you real quick family here's the thing we just say this real quick I know nobody's business.

320

00:46:18.180 --> 00:46:32.370

Carrington Moore: You know why we stay in sin here it is i'm be straight up with you, we stay in sin This is connected community we stay in sin write this down we stay in sin, we say not being delivered from what we need to be delivered from because we want to look good.

321

00:46:35.010 --> 00:46:37.590

Carrington Moore: As that many of us actually don't want to be a.

322

00:46:38.670 --> 00:46:48.540

Carrington Moore: meeting was actually what to get deliver, we want to be healed and set free we don't want to tell nobody why because it's not going to make us look good.

323

00:46:49.560 --> 00:46:59.670

Carrington Moore: The facade of our culture keeps us bound, because we don't want to talk to anybody the beauty and the wisdom of community is that allows you here, it is family to be vulnerable.

324

00:47:00.600 --> 00:47:07.830

Carrington Moore: That oftentimes like in my short year marriage to my wonderful wife McCall man, how do I do this i'm the only person we all don't know.

325

00:47:08.190 --> 00:47:19.830

Carrington Moore: Talk to the bar I talked to Clarence like i'd rather you just don't give you that you're good bro and they get they give you some game, give me some insight on how it was that easy it was that easy right, but sometimes.

326

00:47:21.180 --> 00:47:24.330

Carrington Moore: And I think it's a saying that says, was a closed mouth don't get fed that.

327

00:47:25.260 --> 00:47:35.220

Carrington Moore: That a rapper say that I don't know what the big part I don't know I don't know said that but somebody said that he was in Bible somewhere, who knows I don't know but here's the thing sometimes you don't get we need from God.

328

00:47:36.120 --> 00:47:49.710

Carrington Moore: We don't get what we need from God, simply because you want to look good and it actually keeps us from anywhere to be who God has called us to be let's go to class real quick tasks were just kind of freestyle real quick I love the.

329

00:47:52.770 --> 00:47:55.770

Carrington Moore: I love the clarity regarding.

330

00:47:56.790 --> 00:48:05.670

Carrington Moore: What does it mean how has living community living in Community first or with other brothers and sisters has helped you along the way, particularly in your relationships.

331

00:48:06.900 --> 00:48:14.430

Clarence Howell: wow that's that's a deep question but to be very simply, and just to talk to one point it's helped me to be accountable.

332

00:48:15.330 --> 00:48:26.820

Clarence Howell: So, having brothers who have a standard, who have a set of values and have a foundation helped me to lean back to that and to your point about sin.

333

00:48:27.570 --> 00:48:34.170

Clarence Howell: The thing that's beautiful about our friendship is, we are very open, transparent and honest with each other.

334

00:48:35.010 --> 00:48:39.510

Clarence Howell: And we create this environment to where none of us

have to be ashamed about what we're going through.

335

00:48:40.230 --> 00:48:48.000

Clarence Howell: We don't have to feel like we're on an island and, of course, at times, that relationship will sway right back and forth, or sometimes we will feel a little bit more.

336

00:48:48.330 --> 00:48:58.590

Clarence Howell: separated from each other and then with having a conversation or two, we come back in and then we'll talk for hours, but I think one of the biggest takeaways and the most meaningful one.

337

00:48:59.280 --> 00:49:08.280

Clarence Howell: is about accountability, and I know that i've found myself getting away from what God was calling me to be or what God was calling me to.

338

00:49:08.760 --> 00:49:19.380

Clarence Howell: And you guys helped to bring me back in as simply from just and a brother that ain't away, and you know it's not the way and instead of listening to this voice over here, listen to this voice on this side.

339

00:49:20.460 --> 00:49:30.360

Clarence Howell: And once I set my product side and I learned something very key from from a men's group something called ego right, we all have it easing God out.

340

00:49:30.870 --> 00:49:41.310

Clarence Howell: And when we eat got out that's when we have problems and so having folks I can hold me accountable helping me to keep my ego and check healthy keep me alive and there's help to.

341

00:49:42.000 --> 00:49:49.860

Clarence Howell: spread very generously and the other parts of my life and my marriage and my family life, as well as with the relationships, I try to maintain.

342

00:49:50.550 --> 00:49:51.960

Carrington Moore: yeah that's a good word clay.

343

00:49:52.680 --> 00:49:56.460

Carrington Moore: As accountability, I want to bless you real quick family, the scripture that we read.

344

00:49:56.850 --> 00:50:08.640

Carrington Moore: One of your account if even within the Trinity which actually is another example of divided community that you actually see Jesus in John chapter 17 right talking about accountability.

345

00:50:09.150 --> 00:50:21.390

Carrington Moore: Jesus saying everything God that you have shared with me everything that you have told to me when it got what does you to do is I've shared it with them so even Jesus and Jesus complete divinity.

346

00:50:22.320 --> 00:50:33.330

Carrington Moore: He also was accountable to God, the father family and bless you real quick if you're not a car you're not accountable to anybody you become ungovernable family you can't be.

347

00:50:34.380 --> 00:50:37.440

Carrington Moore: accountable to people can tell you.

348

00:50:39.090 --> 00:50:47.550

Carrington Moore: From experience when you're not accountable to people, you have all these thoughts you'll be working out some thoughts all by yourself and you'll be ready to make a decision.

349

00:50:47.970 --> 00:50:51.840

Carrington Moore: And, by the time you share with somebody and even like who gave you counsel.

350

00:50:52.500 --> 00:51:06.840

Carrington Moore: Who are you talking to his problem, nobody he was in your own lane, they can you own thoughts your own dreams and even Jesus Jesus decides, for the sake of the Kingdom of God to be in community with his disciples.

351

00:51:07.260 --> 00:51:25.500

Carrington Moore: And he urges them, he says I'm leaving but here's the thing we they will know who you are, by the way you love each other that becomes so so important to you brother, we got to go to

Thomas Thomas talk to us Thomas we go out.

352

00:51:30.210 --> 00:51:31.230

Thomas Toney: To under single one.

353

00:51:36.840 --> 00:51:38.040

Carrington Moore: Question bro.

354

00:51:40.080 --> 00:51:41.790

Thomas Toney: yeah as a single in the group.

355

00:51:43.200 --> 00:51:50.010

Thomas Toney: And I love what you said in my spirit was right, then, can talk about sort of we stay in sin, because we want to look good.

356

00:51:51.600 --> 00:52:01.980

Thomas Toney: I think, being a young black educated brother who's single there's very clear ways the world sort of tells me and expects me to move.

357

00:52:02.460 --> 00:52:21.240

Thomas Toney: When it comes to relationships and I think what's been helpful and not to succumb to send in those ways is that i'm a part of the group that I don't have to worry about looking good that i'm a part of a group that affirms me in such a way that, like you, brothers love me.

358

00:52:22.860 --> 00:52:33.720

Thomas Toney: And I don't ever have to question where I stand, if I look good so there's an aspect of the like posturing and the performance art that I don't have to live up to.

359

00:52:34.650 --> 00:52:47.070

Thomas Toney: That i'm already somewhere in a space where I am loved in db value, and I think that's fundamentally shifts and changes how I do approach in view dating and relationships.

360

00:52:47.430 --> 00:52:54.240

Carrington Moore: hmm that's a good word man, this is this is good deep man hey you know because Thomas, let me, let me back that up for a minute.

361

00:52:54.840 --> 00:53:03.030

Carrington Moore: Thomas, thank you for talking about how because of because of stereotypes that we may or may not want to live into right.

362

00:53:03.360 --> 00:53:11.640

Carrington Moore: Because of lowered expectations that can be placed upon us, particularly as black men, there could be a particular way that you might want to perform your masculinity right.

363

00:53:12.300 --> 00:53:23.520

Carrington Moore: It might it might satisfy the creature cravings the Karma creature cravings that you might have right but, at the end it doesn't leave you where you might want to be in God I think that's true for all of us in our own journey.

364

00:53:23.730 --> 00:53:25.800

Carrington Moore: I think, to marriage is that here's the thing.

365

00:53:26.100 --> 00:53:34.260

Carrington Moore: Some of us are caught up i'm not i'm not trying to talk about anybody sometimes we're caught up in performing are performing our Christianity.

366

00:53:34.680 --> 00:53:41.100

Carrington Moore: performing our faith and we're not caught up in living our faith, so one more time I got the Thomas that's actually deep.

367

00:53:41.850 --> 00:53:44.640

Carrington Moore: Sometimes we're caught up in performing our faith.

368

00:53:45.510 --> 00:53:52.980

Carrington Moore: Sometimes, and not living out our faith and we have vulnerable you don't have to perform for anybody, you can just live it out we're going to move into our last question than what.

369

00:53:53.250 --> 00:53:59.520

Carrington Moore: It is now eight o'clock we'll lose our last question or to leave it open for comments or questions or thoughts or anything that you all might have.

370

00:53:59.940 --> 00:54:09.150

Carrington Moore: And they were they were to close out in prayer let me go to my script I want to deviate off script too much we go to my script so our last question is this.

371

00:54:11.400 --> 00:54:29.100

Carrington Moore: Our last question is this ready to go to psalm 133 we're going to go to psalm 133 together fam i'm gonna read it from us, the new revised standard version, this is going to be our close up question for us today for our Bible study psalm 130 321 and reads on this lies, it says.

372

00:54:31.620 --> 00:54:43.020

Carrington Moore: How very good and pleasant, it is when kindred live together, and you know, Tim said over time how very good and pleasant, it is for brothers and sisters to live together.

373

00:54:43.620 --> 00:54:50.370

Carrington Moore: and unity we're going to start with clarity or go to more than Thomas to into Wilson.

374

00:54:51.090 --> 00:55:01.320

Carrington Moore: we're looking at psalm 133 how pleasant, it is for brothers and sisters lived giving you what does this particular scripture Trevor mean to you what How does it resonate with you, I will start with Clarence.

375

00:55:02.820 --> 00:55:07.950

Clarence Howell: yeah I think there are few things that are clear to me from the Bible and.

376

00:55:09.120 --> 00:55:18.690

Clarence Howell: Community is one of those it's not a must have it is a i'm sorry it's not a nice to have it's a must have and for us as Christians.

377

00:55:19.170 --> 00:55:32.280

Clarence Howell: God calls us to walk and live our Christian journeys and community, and there are so many fruits, to be delivered from Community that will enhance our lives and so to me this just says.

378

00:55:32.730 --> 00:55:42.000

Clarence Howell: hey I am promising things that are wonderful and pleasant as not like Oh, this is nice you go maybe have something as good, but I am promising.

379

00:55:42.450 --> 00:55:45.750

Clarence Howell: Things that are wonderful and pleasant and we know that song was like a love letter right.

380

00:55:46.290 --> 00:55:55.200

Clarence Howell: And so, in this love letter David is also talking from experience right so he's speaking from experience of how wonderful has been for him as he's journey through his life.

381

00:55:55.560 --> 00:56:02.910

Clarence Howell: And this is just also saying the same thing to me that if i'm expecting to grow in my Christian walk I need to do it in community.

382

00:56:04.920 --> 00:56:06.750

Carrington Moore: that's good that's good that's a powerful word.

383

00:56:07.080 --> 00:56:08.040

Clarence Howell: Thank you very much.

384

00:56:08.280 --> 00:56:13.980

Carrington Moore: Clear for that that Community is not a nice to have as the mustang let's go to lamar real quick.

385

00:56:18.480 --> 00:56:22.530

Lamar Sykes: I had to step away for a second, can you repeat the question for my character.

386

00:56:23.550 --> 00:56:30.270

Carrington Moore: Is all good we'll come back to you give you time think we're just really, really rare what psalm 133 they were just responding to what it means, as well, got a Wilson.

387

00:56:30.540 --> 00:56:32.430

Carrington Moore: they'll go to Thomas that will come back to you

tomorrow.

388

00:56:35.580 --> 00:56:45.480

Wilson Okello: yeah i'll just i'll say really quickly and I sort of read that scripture as as a practice and not a destination right, I think.

389

00:56:45.930 --> 00:56:52.890

Wilson Okello: oftentimes when we think about I think it can be easy to think about Community as sort of the one thing right we we share together.

390

00:56:53.670 --> 00:57:10.110

Wilson Okello: That becomes like the some of our relationship, or we have a particular moment, and you know i'm able to call you friend or Community Member or whatever, that is, but I think what that, as I read description, as I think about our relationship i'm learning that.

391

00:57:11.610 --> 00:57:17.280

Wilson Okello: learning how to be together requires work, so it wasn't it wasn't just sort of a.

392

00:57:17.880 --> 00:57:25.620

Wilson Okello: happening of sorts like I think we're still very much figuring out how to do life together, and I think if you asked you to us.

393

00:57:26.220 --> 00:57:38.100

Wilson Okello: At each point right in our lives or the various chapters in our lives we've had to adjust right I don't think perhaps showed up, for you know them in ways that they needed to.

394

00:57:39.330 --> 00:57:39.900

Wilson Okello: You know.

395

00:57:41.280 --> 00:57:49.320

Wilson Okello: At every point right, and you know I could probably say the same, but I think as we've gotten older we've been able to articulate where we're national and now I think.

396

00:57:49.620 --> 00:58:03.990

Wilson Okello: As we've gotten older we've been able to say, like our relationship needs to evolve in this particular way, and so I just kind of want to put forth that there's a particular practice that I think needs to happen and not thinking about Community or unity as a as a destination.

397

00:58:04.980 --> 00:58:06.090

Carrington Moore: that's good that's good.

398

00:58:06.570 --> 00:58:07.140

Carrington Moore: let's go to.

399

00:58:07.290 --> 00:58:09.210

Carrington Moore: brother Thomas little go to Mr.

400

00:58:11.100 --> 00:58:12.600

Thomas Toney: yeah to piggyback on what.

401

00:58:14.430 --> 00:58:28.980

Thomas Toney: Often, and I was making recall the conversation I had with my last year about being blessed to live in a space where I am I work in a place in alignment with my values and my caitlyn.

402

00:58:30.660 --> 00:58:38.430

Thomas Toney: able to teach and really like ruminate on this sort of question idea when I say community is very much a practice.

403

00:58:40.380 --> 00:58:48.570

Thomas Toney: And the challenge becomes in defining community is like how to week consistently and constantly.

404

00:58:49.590 --> 00:58:58.290

Thomas Toney: evolve our conception of community in ways that invite other people to be their authentic selves and being Community alongside of us.

405

00:59:00.150 --> 00:59:16.470

Thomas Toney: How do we could like constantly evolve ourselves to hold that space and invite other people to partner with us in creating those spaces and invested in one another, and I think i'm able to like be in that space because i've been in this space with you brothers for

so long.

406

00:59:17.790 --> 00:59:30.990

Thomas Toney: And so now, as I approached my work in education and social justice and Community development is really rooted in these ideas of Community and love and how do we expand and complicated, though, for one another.

407

00:59:31.770 --> 00:59:36.540

Carrington Moore: mm hmm that's good Thomas, I want to read it reiterate that point, time is that you just May.

408

00:59:37.710 --> 00:59:48.270

Carrington Moore: know, and I saw us to Tracy that's a great comment that you just made in the chat the difficult part of Community and living an intentional community and to pull the wool says point is that it takes work.

409

00:59:49.560 --> 00:59:52.140

Carrington Moore: And and here's the thing your friends gonna let you down.

410

00:59:55.140 --> 01:00:01.710

Carrington Moore: Give us with your friends right he baits falling out Sophie i'm fighting each other winner fighting for the praise God.

411

01:00:02.850 --> 01:00:03.870

Carrington Moore: But we had moments, though.

412

01:00:05.100 --> 01:00:08.460

Carrington Moore: here's the thing that's the difficult part of the Community.

413

01:00:08.970 --> 01:00:11.340

Carrington Moore: When I think about Thomas talking about alignment.

414

01:00:11.880 --> 01:00:19.680

Carrington Moore: The blessing of Community here's the thing, even when you feel like you're about to fall out of the mind that Community brings you back in recent years you.

415

01:00:21.840 --> 01:00:29.670

Carrington Moore: There is it i'm not saying it can't happen, I hope it didn't happen it's almost impossible for me to fall out of the Enlightenment, or the will of God.

416

01:00:30.150 --> 01:00:41.640

Carrington Moore: If i'm completed with these brothers it's almost impossible that literally these brothers would probably come to Boston and do the best to save me before they will let me fall out of alignment with the will of God and the will of my family.

417

01:00:42.870 --> 01:00:50.940

Carrington Moore: Sometimes we're falling out of alignment again because we're not accountable to anyone, I was some time for kind of in the performance of our faith.

418

01:00:51.600 --> 01:01:01.980

Carrington Moore: As opposed to living out the that the power and the love and the vulnerability of our faith our faith by the nature of who Jesus is requires about vulnerability.

419

01:01:02.640 --> 01:01:18.630

Carrington Moore: That literally God and god's own self made god's physical body vulnerable even unto death, so that we might have salvation so our faith is actually rooted and that's being vulnerable with one another let's go to our brother lamar for this question.

420

01:01:24.000 --> 01:01:25.290

Lamar Sykes: Thank you, brothers for.

421

01:01:30.420 --> 01:01:33.300

Carrington Moore: You just woke up again what's up what's up i'm so.

422

01:01:34.680 --> 01:01:35.220

Lamar Sykes: silly.

423

01:01:39.480 --> 01:01:44.190

Lamar Sykes: I like what what you all expressed, I think, for me, when I was looking at.

424

01:01:45.360 --> 01:01:46.410
Lamar Sykes: That particular.

425
01:01:48.780 --> 01:01:49.500
Lamar Sykes: scripture.

426
01:01:50.550 --> 01:01:51.960
Lamar Sykes: I thought about like.

427
01:01:54.600 --> 01:01:55.380
Lamar Sykes: How.

428
01:01:56.640 --> 01:02:06.960
Lamar Sykes: You you are friend group helped me like when I think about like two things that I think a lot of times black men.

429
01:02:07.980 --> 01:02:08.760
Lamar Sykes: Either like.

430
01:02:10.440 --> 01:02:16.380
Lamar Sykes: You don't normally attached to like like we don't like the most like men don't like the most right.

431
01:02:17.610 --> 01:02:28.350
Lamar Sykes: But like with my friend group I feel like y'all were the first people that I experience like constantly experience like love and joy with and so i'm.

432
01:02:29.220 --> 01:02:34.800
Lamar Sykes: Like like deep love, I felt like low, even to the point where like we can tell each other, like we love.

433
01:02:35.160 --> 01:02:44.310
Lamar Sykes: love each other and that's like that's like normal that's like expected and to experience joy alongside of you all, I mean if it makes.

434
01:02:44.970 --> 01:03:04.170
Lamar Sykes: The relationship that much more special and I think, for me it makes it more obvious that, like is like is from is of God right

like I don't think is an accident that we came into each other's lives, the way that we did, and that we still remain, the way that we do.

435

01:03:06.360 --> 01:03:25.800

Lamar Sykes: But like that's what I was thinking about when I read that like how like how wonderful it is for us to be in Community, and you know with each other, just like man like literally love and joy I get to experience like at any point whether i'm talking to you all together or one, at a time.

436

01:03:27.120 --> 01:03:32.940

Lamar Sykes: You know it's just something special that I appreciate from our our 20 plus years of friendship.

437

01:03:33.720 --> 01:03:34.470

Lamar Sykes: hey man.

438

01:03:34.860 --> 01:03:41.040

Carrington Moore: hey man family, I appreciate your final answer I will open it up family your might have some thoughts and comments and questions.

439

01:03:41.340 --> 01:03:49.350

Carrington Moore: I would open up for you all for about five minutes or any comments or questions as you're talking about many families is really important, because our churches, making a pivot.

440

01:03:50.670 --> 01:04:00.990

Carrington Moore: In particular, to the summer we moving into something that we're calling small groups of life groups are actually teaching a lot about the importance of the power of community in the season of Bethel.

441

01:04:01.800 --> 01:04:09.060

Carrington Moore: God is calling us to grow and not just talking about growing numerically but God is calling us to go deeper into Community and so when we having these.

442

01:04:09.360 --> 01:04:20.040

Carrington Moore: Deep conversations about what Community is and how we foster and cultivate community, so this is part of the beginning of

what that will be, but we can open it up for questions any thoughts on any comments.

443

01:04:20.520 --> 01:04:23.490

Carrington Moore: That you all might have and the will have final words from the panelists.

444

01:04:23.910 --> 01:04:31.530

Carole Copeland Thomas: This has been a wonderful panel and very necessary for us to hear, I have a question.

445

01:04:32.310 --> 01:04:47.280

Carole Copeland Thomas: Based on what I hear in the work that I do in diversity or work with a California, I worked with them today, and as they talked about black lives matter, this was an all white group pretty much that he immediately went to all lives matter.

446

01:04:48.330 --> 01:05:02.880

Carole Copeland Thomas: As the almost like an anecdote So my question is, how do you navigate through the difficulty of remaining strong when so many black men are under attack, for various reasons in society.

447

01:05:06.480 --> 01:05:06.870

Carrington Moore: i'll go.

448

01:05:07.980 --> 01:05:08.370

Carrington Moore: answer that.

449

01:05:10.770 --> 01:05:11.190

I find.

450

01:05:20.610 --> 01:05:23.550

Thomas Toney: So, to clarify you action more.

451

01:05:26.610 --> 01:05:30.330

Thomas Toney: return in that moment sustain myself through those moments.

452

01:05:30.480 --> 01:05:33.990

Carole Copeland Thomas: How do you sustain yourself through those moments yeah.

453

01:05:35.280 --> 01:05:38.490

Thomas Toney: I used to have this thing I used to call just celebrate the small victories.

454

01:05:39.600 --> 01:05:44.040

Thomas Toney: And I think taking those moments that really life is difficult.

455

01:05:45.270 --> 01:05:58.050

Thomas Toney: And I think taking a moment to like pause and recognize the small wins and then having a community that make those small wins feel like massive win.

456

01:05:59.460 --> 01:06:18.690

Thomas Toney: Like stress in this group Lamar and Claire our each of our biggest cheerleaders big hit support circles, you can imagine, like they can make this smallest like I made a bomb waffle this morning, they would make it seemed like that was a great as well.

457

01:06:21.870 --> 01:06:35.160

Thomas Toney: And I think being able to have that level of like like reinforcing joy and like just those very small ways in which, like it may not feel like you're winning but you're winning.

458

01:06:37.980 --> 01:06:41.700

Carrington Moore: Good that's good that's good anybody else want to share China.

459

01:06:42.720 --> 01:06:44.220

Clarence Howell: This is, this is a tough question.

460

01:06:45.750 --> 01:07:00.930

Clarence Howell: And it's something that that i've been working through in my world I work in the oil and gas or energy industry very, very slow to respond and to adjust to more.

461

01:07:05.010 --> 01:07:15.240

Clarence Howell: More issues on diversity around black people around

people of color around issues that are deeply ingrained in those communities and and what i've.

462

01:07:16.290 --> 01:07:26.130

Clarence Howell: found myself doing is leaning on the word leaning on prayer leaning on fasting and and really just trying to.

463

01:07:27.540 --> 01:07:36.900

Clarence Howell: Put love into practice because it ain't easy, and I am someone who was very.

464

01:07:37.680 --> 01:07:47.190

Clarence Howell: calm and easy going but being treated unfairly or lack of respect to something that like pushes me over the edge every time and so it's not has not been easy for me and also.

465

01:07:48.060 --> 01:08:07.230

Clarence Howell: Being able to vent just to be honest event with with my brothers here and just talking through about how we are dealing with and trying to dismantle white supremacy in our own spaces and so going to the word going and spending time in prayer spending time in intentional.

466

01:08:08.370 --> 01:08:15.990

Clarence Howell: or putting intentional time and fasting and then leaning on my brothers to vent has has been a an outlet for me.

467

01:08:17.250 --> 01:08:17.760

let's go.

468

01:08:18.870 --> 01:08:19.320

Thomas Toney: back a.

469

01:08:24.000 --> 01:08:34.020

Thomas Toney: Little trigger me and like decide the idea of like being able to lean on the word and having a friend like Carrington who, like the word will always be that.

470

01:08:34.440 --> 01:08:54.480

Thomas Toney: That brother will always have the spirit on speed dial ready and I, one of the most powerful thing, she said it attacks, I

think he just woke up and like fight off the text to the group, and he had Texas paragraph there is basically like we serve a God, who can do it again.

471

01:08:56.490 --> 01:09:10.500

Thomas Toney: And like that has resonated with me through some of the most difficult times that I know from my personal testimony that God has brought me and see me through with this day me and I serve a God, who can do it again.

472

01:09:13.290 --> 01:09:15.420

Clarence Howell: REACH Thomas you better preach brother.

473

01:09:18.180 --> 01:09:23.970

Carrington Moore: Thomas even man, I see by the image hand is up with me go ahead and mute yourself we'd love to hear from you brother.

474

01:09:25.680 --> 01:09:31.170

Emmett Bell-Sykes: Thank you, I just shout out to brother sykes I don't know if we're related or not we can maybe we can talk later about.

475

01:09:31.170 --> 01:09:31.440

That.

476

01:09:33.330 --> 01:09:36.630

Emmett Bell-Sykes: I don't really know my dad's people but but that's a good last name, he got their brother.

477

01:09:37.740 --> 01:09:39.540

Emmett Bell-Sykes: But thank you all, all the panelists for.

478

01:09:39.660 --> 01:09:43.980

Emmett Bell-Sykes: Everything you've shared my wife is a social justice warrior.

479

01:09:44.700 --> 01:09:52.470

Emmett Bell-Sykes: Anti police brutality front brother Thomas so I don't know which you specifically do but but I respect I respect the work you do in that area.

480

01:09:52.830 --> 01:10:03.450

Emmett Bell-Sykes: I just real quickly wanted to address sister carol's question about how to black men stay strong in the face of all the stuff that society throws at us and.

481

01:10:04.590 --> 01:10:05.340

Emmett Bell-Sykes: For me.

482

01:10:06.720 --> 01:10:16.950

Emmett Bell-Sykes: respectfully sister Carol I think that's that's, not even a question from my experience, especially, most recently with my group of friends with some of my friends, and what I mean is that.

483

01:10:17.730 --> 01:10:30.870

Emmett Bell-Sykes: I think for black men so often we default to a place of strength, whether it's physically fighting back or feeling like we have to defend ourselves or defend our honor defend whatever.

484

01:10:31.710 --> 01:10:38.910

Emmett Bell-Sykes: We kind of define and i'm not saying this is a good thing, but I think this is also kind of the way this Western cultures has has.

485

01:10:40.440 --> 01:10:49.560

Emmett Bell-Sykes: made a shift but that's our that's our default sometimes is being quote unquote strong as a quote unquote I think the real challenge.

486

01:10:50.370 --> 01:10:59.550

Emmett Bell-Sykes: To me again for for for solid brothers is to learn how to be vulnerable, and so what i've talked to some of my friend, I had some friends that.

487

01:10:59.910 --> 01:11:04.320

Emmett Bell-Sykes: i've been reaching out to recently I just reached back out to meet this week i'm so.

488

01:11:05.310 --> 01:11:17.040

Emmett Bell-Sykes: i'm so happy to have heard from them and they were both gone through stuff and felt like they couldn't reach out they didn't want to bother me because they know some stuff i've been going

through it, so they didn't want to burn me with stuff and they didn't want to call this one.

489

01:11:17.100 --> 01:11:23.880

Emmett Bell-Sykes: They felt like what i'm going with what i'm going through is not worthy compared to what other people are going through, so I don't want to complain.

490

01:11:24.420 --> 01:11:32.280

Emmett Bell-Sykes: But I feel like that's a trick of the enemy to make a stay isolated and not share and not come into Community as we've been talking tonight so.

491

01:11:32.880 --> 01:11:41.070

Emmett Bell-Sykes: Again, respectfully sister Carol, I think, for me, the biggest question for black men in America, maybe across Diana is.

492

01:11:42.030 --> 01:11:51.270

Emmett Bell-Sykes: How do we stay vulnerable with one another and again i've tried to impress to my friends and i'll shut up in a second but i've tried to impress to my friends, the importance of really selecting.

493

01:11:51.630 --> 01:12:02.820

Emmett Bell-Sykes: Who we choose to share an open up with, could you can't take your business to everybody everybody can't handle your stuff in a responsible way, but once you identify those.

494

01:12:03.300 --> 01:12:09.030

Emmett Bell-Sykes: Those trusted brothers, that you can really go to I think that's, the key is being able to be vulnerable to be.

495

01:12:09.510 --> 01:12:19.650

Emmett Bell-Sykes: What society might think of as we're going or whatever, and really just share as the panelists were saying tonight there sounds like they have that relationship with one another, where they can just be honest and transparent said look, you know I.

496

01:12:20.310 --> 01:12:27.510

Emmett Bell-Sykes: looked up and did X y&z i've been thinking this thought of that thought, and you know that the brothers that you're saying that you're not going to judge you.

497

01:12:27.900 --> 01:12:37.530

Emmett Bell-Sykes: they're going to hold you accountable, but they're not going to judge you so let me, let me stop there, place what I wanted to address that question from sister Kathy was a really good question but I had a slightly different take on, thank you.

498

01:12:38.280 --> 01:12:46.470

Carole Copeland Thomas: Thank you so much to and get i'm going to shut up in just a minute, but you remind me you're a younger version of my own brother, I have one brother.

499

01:12:47.310 --> 01:12:51.900

Carole Copeland Thomas: he's an attorney in Detroit he and my sister in law have been married over 50 years.

500

01:12:52.380 --> 01:13:03.780

Carole Copeland Thomas: And they both have childhood friends like you, and he has his guy friends, they golf together they hang out in his basement together and i'm sure that that gets him through.

501

01:13:04.080 --> 01:13:14.040

Carole Copeland Thomas: A lot of his issues that he has and then he's part of a men's prayer group that meets every morning like at 6am I get copies of his prayers now.

502

01:13:14.310 --> 01:13:30.600

Carole Copeland Thomas: So I think the sustainability of what you all, are doing, you are medicinal Lee therapeutically helping each other so stay together because it'll get more difficult, as you get older and you all of you will be able to support and sustain each other.

503

01:13:35.670 --> 01:13:37.590

Carrington Moore: Questions or comments before we wrap up.

504

01:13:41.580 --> 01:13:42.000

JONELL JOHNSON: well.

505

01:13:43.050 --> 01:13:51.210

JONELL JOHNSON: I put in a chap I want to speak it out, because it really has helped me tremendously and that's this piece about

intergenerational relationships.

506

01:13:51.810 --> 01:14:10.710

JONELL JOHNSON: I have a friend birth white she went to heaven when she was 89 years old, and she told me that you always kept friends of all different ages, because she always wanted to be relevant to what was going on, so she was a dear dear dear friend, and she was.

507

01:14:11.790 --> 01:14:21.390

JONELL JOHNSON: I mean she's been dead about 15 years but I learned so much from her, and in two weeks may 21 is going to be a memorial service at Bethel for.

508

01:14:22.200 --> 01:14:33.120

JONELL JOHNSON: Anna Eastman who died last year, she was 94 years old and Anna and I started sitting together in church on Sundays, for the last probably maybe the last year for life.

509

01:14:33.540 --> 01:14:40.860

JONELL JOHNSON: And sometimes i'd give him a ride home, and we would just sit and talk and he really became a dia precious friend and.

510

01:14:41.850 --> 01:14:51.780

JONELL JOHNSON: I learned a lot from her, and one of the things I would say about Anna they're just I love this the fact that she her mind was intact, she had a great memory.

511

01:14:52.200 --> 01:14:59.850

JONELL JOHNSON: And she could tell you what was going on today and she could say what was going on yesterday, and she was just a great person to have a fun with.

512

01:15:00.990 --> 01:15:12.510

JONELL JOHNSON: So what you guys have is very, very, very, very, very, very precious, especially for to be six guys who've been together since kindergarten fourth grade and all of that and.

513

01:15:13.320 --> 01:15:22.440

JONELL JOHNSON: I put it in the chat but thank you for your transparency, thank you for modeling it there's some other things I put in the chat to Western canon that I want you to take heed to.

514

01:15:23.610 --> 01:15:31.200

JONELL JOHNSON: Talk about it in church on Sunday i'll help you, I have some suggestions for you, which i'll give to you in church on Sunday.

515

01:15:33.180 --> 01:15:35.700

Carrington Moore: God whom all blessings flow.

516

01:15:36.210 --> 01:15:36.840

amen.

517

01:15:38.370 --> 01:15:43.890

Carrington Moore: praise the Lord Thank you so much john now, the last thing I want to say is this agenda which he says is actually biblical.

518

01:15:44.700 --> 01:15:50.850

Carrington Moore: That we actually see this in the person of Jesus that we're all here to his family, we talked about algorithm before we're all called to be disabled.

519

01:15:51.360 --> 01:15:59.550

Carrington Moore: Right even Jesus had a rabbi was Jesus rabbi john the Baptist was the one who baptized him right we're all called to have a peer group.

520

01:15:59.970 --> 01:16:10.710

Carrington Moore: meeting that God Jesus placed the disciples in a peer group together to grow together, this is my peer group and then here's the other big thing we're all called to disciple other people.

521

01:16:11.130 --> 01:16:16.530

Carrington Moore: So here's the thing you're called to have a rabbi so the term but it's intergenerational learning they're all called to have a rabbi.

522

01:16:17.040 --> 01:16:25.260

Carrington Moore: you're called to have this type of friend group, but then you're all called to disciple others right, this is how the spirit of God is able to move from generation.

523

01:16:25.530 --> 01:16:34.890

Carrington Moore: To generation to generation, so a man i'll end on this and then tell us can have your final thing you want to say I need these brothers.

524

01:16:36.660 --> 01:16:43.740

Carrington Moore: As I said before, this is not a nice to have this is a must have literally when my wife met me right, the first of all, she met.

525

01:16:44.280 --> 01:16:51.480

Carrington Moore: I think actually I think she missed some of them before she met my family well in fact I think she met Wilson he came to Boston I think she might have met lamar.

526

01:16:51.990 --> 01:17:00.600

Carrington Moore: On a way to Ohio she met some of them before she met my actual parents like I need these brothers in my life, because without them, I couldn't be who I am today.

527

01:17:01.320 --> 01:17:10.260

Carrington Moore: So i'm gonna leave it we're going to go to Wilson, Mr Clarence Thomas that will close out with the prayer requests, so when you put your prayer requests in the chat or we're going to pray out soon.

528

01:17:15.000 --> 01:17:17.220

Carrington Moore: Just we just do a final words Wilson song get matt.

529

01:17:19.530 --> 01:17:22.650

Carrington Moore: Wilson lavoie tavis declare to that order.

530

01:17:24.240 --> 01:17:33.330

Wilson Okello: I just say thank you, thank you all for your willingness to to engage us to think with us to allow us to another space to.

531

01:17:36.690 --> 01:17:47.220

Wilson Okello: to share right, as I mentioned earlier, I think our like our love is a practice right well working at intimacy we're always sort of working at.

532

01:17:48.750 --> 01:17:53.640

Wilson Okello: How we can be better for one another and, ultimately, and also we serve.

533

01:17:54.870 --> 01:18:03.360

Wilson Okello: Our families, you know and our communities so so grateful grateful for each of you grateful for you brothers I love.

534

01:18:12.630 --> 01:18:14.430

Lamar Sykes: waking back up again Carrington.

535

01:18:16.590 --> 01:18:25.170

Lamar Sykes: Is joking, but I just want to thank you all for the time Thank you Carrington for inviting us.

536

01:18:27.000 --> 01:18:35.550

Lamar Sykes: As funny we've been talking about like getting together and doing things and speaking and sharing our story.

537

01:18:37.380 --> 01:18:42.060

Lamar Sykes: What whatever that looks like for like well over a decade.

538

01:18:44.100 --> 01:18:56.250

Lamar Sykes: And I feel like this is the first time we ever actually really did it and so thank you character for pulling us all together and doing this for us so it's been a blessing, so thank you all.

539

01:18:57.750 --> 01:18:58.230

Lamar Sykes: amen.

540

01:18:58.350 --> 01:19:00.120

Carrington Moore: amen Thank you, I appreciate you brother.

541

01:19:02.550 --> 01:19:08.160

Clarence Howell: i'm grateful that you, you allowed us to come into this space.

542

01:19:09.690 --> 01:19:16.020

Clarence Howell: I feel like i'm a part of of the Bethel family and being an honorary member and.

543

01:19:18.570 --> 01:19:23.580

Clarence Howell: Just being able to spend some time and to be in community with you all.

544

01:19:25.920 --> 01:19:34.410

Clarence Howell: yeah looking forward to hopefully coming to Boston again sometime soon and meeting you all in person at one at Carrington.

545

01:19:34.950 --> 01:19:48.720

Clarence Howell: And and pastor Ray and pastor glorious programs on like an Easter or Christmas or something like that, so thank you all for having us and we look forward to sharing with you again sometime here in the future.

546

01:19:50.490 --> 01:19:51.120

Clarence Howell: amen.

547

01:19:51.150 --> 01:19:55.110

Carrington Moore: Thank you very much Clarence oh that's the natalie's would go to brother Thomas.

548

01:19:56.550 --> 01:19:59.580

Thomas Toney: yeah definitely want to say thank you all for having us and.

549

01:20:00.810 --> 01:20:02.220

Thomas Toney: invited me to this space.

550

01:20:03.510 --> 01:20:06.150

Thomas Toney: I know that my spirit needed this tonight.

551

01:20:08.040 --> 01:20:22.500

Thomas Toney: As Karen mentioned earlier, I teach these days, and this has been an incredibly try and year to teach during the pandemic, as well as being in Grad school and coaching and so there has been.

552

01:20:23.670 --> 01:20:31.650

Thomas Toney: Multiple moments this year we've just been difficult to breathe, so that has a space like this, after a long day.

553

01:20:32.700 --> 01:20:33.900

Thomas Toney: has been life, giving.

554

01:20:35.070 --> 01:20:37.650

Thomas Toney: So I very much appreciate the opportunity.

555

01:20:39.300 --> 01:20:49.860

Carrington Moore: amen Thank you family, we appreciate all of you all thanks for being with us our other friend is not really able to be here because I think I get my console is speaking, where does begin.

556

01:20:51.840 --> 01:20:53.730

Thomas Toney: yeah Atlanta metro garden.

557

01:20:54.720 --> 01:20:55.680

Carrington Moore: Okay he's a.

558

01:20:55.770 --> 01:20:58.020

Clarence Howell: Baby Atlanta botanical gardens that's what it is.

559

01:20:58.320 --> 01:21:03.480

Carrington Moore: you're speaking their event tonight, so what whether he'll be with us next time and that.

560

01:21:04.590 --> 01:21:07.500

Carrington Moore: Maybe the conversation and business COM Mike was the father.

561

01:21:09.240 --> 01:21:23.820

Carrington Moore: So uh so much love to you our brothers let's jump into prayer requests family going to put in the chat going to put in the chat if you haven't already and moving to our prayer requests are going to have as we close out in prayer as you grow close on prayer we're going to ask.

562

01:21:24.870 --> 01:21:36.720

Carrington Moore: As sister kiana sex and if she wants to for all pastor at it and see you pass rate I bet pass rates could see you make sure we give you last word classroom I bet I didn't see you, my dear brother.

563

01:21:42.270 --> 01:21:48.840

Ray Hammond: that's me yes sorry yes in sales, because we were we'd had a meeting we were trying to help out a.

564

01:21:50.850 --> 01:21:58.140

Ray Hammond: church in the past or team that we're we're wrestling was initially we thought was going to be very short one a lot longer than we thought.

565

01:21:58.590 --> 01:22:05.820

Ray Hammond: So, sadly, I missed to get into the discussion, but I know it had to be rich and i'm looking forward to looking at the.

566

01:22:06.450 --> 01:22:13.470

Ray Hammond: Live recording of it and just want to thank each and every one of you for being present is we're all, particularly in this.

567

01:22:14.310 --> 01:22:31.920

Ray Hammond: Pre kind of Pentecost period really looking at this issue of end I say both pre Pentecost and pandemic transitional period thinking through what it means to live on purpose, after what we've been through and after where Jesus called us to do.

568

01:22:32.940 --> 01:22:33.330

Ray Hammond: amen.

569

01:22:33.360 --> 01:22:43.470

Carrington Moore: Thank you very much faster every appreciate you as a pastor closes showed a patchy glow is cool I love your song said pastor glow now I appreciate worry, but she was shocked to.

570

01:22:44.460 --> 01:22:53.640

Carrington Moore: So pastor pastor glow as a father say it's too cool for school so it's good to see a pastor Gloria if you want to share any word before we close out in prayer.

571

01:22:54.540 --> 01:23:01.020

Gloria White-Hammond: I am so sorry I missed the conversation but i'm shared with rich too much like pastor Ray said so.

572

01:23:02.370 --> 01:23:13.380

Gloria White-Hammond: Thank you all for being here for those of you who are leading further Thomas and Wilson and Clarence and lumiere brothers Thank you so much, and look forward to.

573

01:23:14.430 --> 01:23:24.090

Carrington Moore: To like my husband said, seeing the recording a man, a man all right we're gonna move into our prayer we're going to design your own way, you can come forward and pray.

574

01:23:25.470 --> 01:23:30.360

Carrington Moore: I don't know if it's mark archaea on the line that if one of you wants to pray that's that's fine.

575

01:23:31.320 --> 01:23:31.920

Marc + Keeana Germain: Actually.

576

01:23:32.220 --> 01:23:45.840

Carrington Moore: All your vocal okay call this sort of figure out like what is this text of the thing mean and so whoever wants to pray are you both can prob about this, we go we're going to close in prayer with both of y'all we will do that so whatever you desire to play pray for in this moment.

577

01:23:47.100 --> 01:23:52.590

Carrington Moore: mark in Canada, you will have the final words and so please assume a posture of prayer and.

578

01:23:53.700 --> 01:23:55.740

Carrington Moore: mark and kiana will close us out in prayer.

579

01:23:56.820 --> 01:24:05.190

Marc + Keeana Germain: We are closing our eyes and holding hands, and we thank you for hearing your word on fellowship friendship discipleship and mentorship.

580

01:24:05.670 --> 01:24:16.470

Marc + Keeana Germain: The acid you help us create our small groups, we asked to do help us create a supportive group that is sustainable, that is, loving.

581

01:24:17.160 --> 01:24:23.760

Marc + Keeana Germain: And that holds us to hold our feet, to the fire holds us accountable and holds us closer to God.

582

01:24:24.450 --> 01:24:32.430

Marc + Keeana Germain: And so we thank you for this word we thank you for this timely seed and we, we ask that you just keep us in your good step in Jesus name.

583

01:24:33.090 --> 01:24:42.090

Marc + Keeana Germain: and Lord we just thank you again for tonight's conversation, it was rich and wealthy, then we thank you for the example.

584

01:24:42.720 --> 01:24:51.750

Marc + Keeana Germain: Of brothers speaking about the beauty and the power of relationships and relationships over time we pray that you continue to.

585

01:24:52.380 --> 01:24:59.520

Marc + Keeana Germain: Have us not only focus on issues related to social justice, but also accountability within the fellowship and within.

586

01:25:00.120 --> 01:25:12.600

Marc + Keeana Germain: The body of believers, we thank you for the witness We thank you for Reverend Carrington and we thank you for all that you're doing in Bethel prayer continue to keep us until we see each other again in Jesus name, we pray all these things amen.

587

01:25:13.320 --> 01:25:17.040

Carrington Moore: amen God bless you all will see you on Sunday God bless you.

588

01:25:17.580 --> 01:25:18.000

Marc + Keeana Germain: He said.

589

01:25:18.570 --> 01:25:25.530

Carole Copeland Thomas: God bless Thank you all so much i'll make a point to get this recording in place by sometime tomorrow God bless.

590

01:25:25.890 --> 01:25:26.670

Carol McMillan: God bless.

591

01:25:27.390 --> 01:25:29.310

Carole Copeland Thomas: Thank you all excellent Program.