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WELCOME – Bobby Schuller & Hannah Schuller

BS: This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Good morning. Well we're so grateful that you're here. It's so nice to see people gathering in the church, and gathering online and on television. We're so, so glad that you're with us, and we believe God has a good word for you.

HS: Yes. Amen. And hello visitors and church family. I want to say Jehovah Shammah, the Lord is present. God is present with us here now. God is with you and you are loved.

BS: Amen. Let's begin with a word of prayer. Father, we thank you so much that you've gathered us here. We thank you that you've invited us as your friends and family to celebrate with you and be in your presence. We ask for an outpouring of your spirit, and we love you, it's in Jesus' name we pray, amen.

HS: Amen.

HAVEN: Turn to the person next to you and say God loves you and so do I.

SCRIPTURE – Isaiah 6:1-8 - Hannah Schuller

In preparation for the message, Isaiah 6:1-8.

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." At the sound of their voices the doorpost and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty." Then the one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin is atoned for." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here I am. Send me!"

I love that. Amen.

INTERVIEW – MARK BATTERSON & SUMMER BATTERSON DAILEY

Mark Batterson is an author and the lead pastor of National Community Church in Washington DC. His daughter, Summer Batterson Dailey, also lives in Washington DC as a social worker. Together, they authored their new children's book, The Blessing of You, which helps children seek and find God's goodness

BS: Mark and Summer, hi! Welcome.

MB: Hey, thank you so much, Bobby. Good to see you.

BS: Mark, you've got a lot of fans in the house, a lot of people loved many of your works, but especially I'm sure Circle Maker. That touched so many hearts and lives. And we're so excited to hear that you and your daughter have come together to put together this children's book, and we want to talk about that.

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First of all, I think it's so great. I have a daughter, we're really close, and it must be so fun to put a book together with your daughter. How was that for you guys?

MB: Well the only thing maybe more fun than reading books to Summer when she was a little girl was actually writing one together.

BS: Yes, that's awesome. So for those who don't know a lot about you, tell us about your journey's, and your faith, and sort of how you got here.

MB: Well, I've had the joy of pastoring National Community Church here in Washington D.C. for a quarter century now right here on Capitol Hill, and a couple of campuses around the D.C. area. And so, Bobby, like you, have the joy of pastoring a church, but also enjoy writing books, a wonderful way to touch people's lives. And to be able to write one together with Summer was pure joy.

BS: That's awesome. Summer, what was it like pairing up with your dad, being an adult now. I heard you were recently married, you're a social worker, but you get to like connect with your dad and write this book for children. How was that?

SBD: Lots of fun. We had lots of laughs coming up with words and using things like Katmandu, finding rhymes, it was a lot of fun.

BS: Great. So really, what's at the heart of this book? What's the story about, and what are you hoping happens for children and even some adults who read it?

MB: Well I think it's important for people to know that before original sin, there was original blessing. The very first thing that God does is He blesses Adam and Eve. And so this is God's most ancient instinct, and I think parents can identify with that. There's nothing that I want to do more than to pass on a generational blessing. And Bobby, I feel like you've been the recipient of that, and there's just something special about a blessing that goes from generation to generation.

BS: Yes. Awesome. Do you feel like you've received the blessing from your dad, Summer, in writing this book, or in life that you think is helping you with this book?

SBD: Yes, of course, and I think a lot of kids, some of their earliest memories are books, and so the content of those books and what parents are communicating to their kids through that is really important. Obviously, that stays with you for a long time.

BS: So what's the actual story about? Like give us like a book trailer.

SBD: I mean, it's in the title, Blessing Everywhere – how kids are the blessing, how they can find blessing everywhere. I think a lot of times as adults, we're telling kids what to be, how to act, be polite, be kind, and communicating what is special about each kid is really important, and not just telling them what to be.

I think for me, even, my parents always told me, "Whenever you walk into a room, you light it up." And maybe they prophesied that cause my middle name is Joy, but that's something that I carried with me that I knew was special about me that my parents told me is a blessing that I could have. So using this book is a way for parents to communicate that to their kids, I think is the heart behind it.

BS: There are a bunch of things that make children's books unique, but one thing I've noticed as a parent with young children, is that one: the illustrations are also super important in a children's book. It's equally as important if not more important than the writing, and the illustrations of this book, by the way, are awesome. They're so good. But the other is, just how you read the same book over and over and over to your children. My kids have probably 40 books, but it's the same two or three books, and we sort of always pull from that kids stack of books. My son's favorite is Chew, and it's just a panda who when he sneezes, he's got like a superpower sneeze, and so through the whole thing, he's like almost about to sneeze, and then at the end, he sneezes in a circus and the whole tent goes, and my son just cracks up every time. He thinks it's the best thing ever. But it's interesting when you think about a children's book, you're actually by reading it to them every night for a year or two, we might think oh it's no big deal, but they're actually almost like when you memorize scripture, they're building into their minds an idea.

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And a lot of children's books are just silly, but sometimes they can be really meaningful, and I imagine that's got to be a part of what you're hoping you accomplish is sort of baking into your kids this idea of worth and value and God's love for them, right? I mean that's got to be a huge part of it.

MB: Yes, I love it, and I'm going to have to go check out Chew now but you know, Bobby..

BS: My wife is correcting me, its Choose Day. Choose Day.

MB: Okay, okay. So I think there are really two things. One is we don't want parents or even grandparents to just read this book to their kids. I think the idea is as you read it, you can pass along that blessing and you begin to speak powerful words. The power of life and death, the writer of Proverbs said, is in the tongue. And so this ability to bless our children and to lay that foundation. When Summer was a little girl, and all three of our children, we had a simple blessing that we would pronounce, Luke 2:52, "May you grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and with man." And I think as parents, to reflect the heavenly Father, it's just so important that we pronounce that blessing on our children, and we hope that this book is a way to do that.

BS: I love that. That's great. Summer, any other thoughts about the book from you?

SBD: We love it, we hope that it blesses other people and that it gives kids confidence in who they are as the image of God.

BS: Amen. Well the book is great. It's called The Blessing of You by Mark Batterson and Summer Batterson Dailey. Thank you, guys, so much. I want to encourage you, if you're at home, you got kids or grandkids, work this book into your rotation. You'll really love it. The illustrations, too, are so, so good. You're going to love this book. I want to encourage you to get it today. Mark and Summer, thank you so much, guys. We appreciate you.

MB: Hey, thank you so much. Blessings.

WELCOME – Bobby Schuller

There's a creed we say every single week and I'm going to invite you to say it with us. Would you stand with us? Maybe you feel like you're a cool guy, just leave your coolness at the door and join us in this. Hold your hands like this as a way of receiving from the Lord, let's say this together: I'm not what I do. I'm not what I have. I'm not what people say about me. I am the beloved of God. Its who I am. No one can take it from me. I don't have to worry, I don't have to hurry, I can trust my friend Jesus and share His love with the world. Thanks, you can be seated.

DECLARATION – Bobby Schuller

Would you hold your hands out like this as a sign of receiving, let's say this together: I'm not what I do. I'm not what I have. I'm not what people say about me. I am the beloved of God. It's who I am. No one can take it from me. I don't have to worry, I don't have to hurry, I can trust my friend Jesus and share His love with the world. Thanks, you can be seated.

MESSAGE – Bobby Schuller "The Van Gogh Scenario"

It's interesting because Hannah's family from Oklahoma, when we got married, I observed this shift in accents. Let me explain. Hannah's got five brothers, so she's one of six; she's the princess. She's right in the middle, third born, both of her parents have Southern kind of accents, which she's always shocked when I say that. I think you can hear it now, though, right? (HANNAH – I can hear it in my dad) She can hear it in her dad, not in her mom. Its thicker from her dad, who's originally from Louisiana and Texas.

But I noticed when we started dating that her oldest brother Samuel had a very thick Southern accent, Oklahoma accent. And the younger the kids got, the less of an Oklahoma accent they had, and the more they sounded, well, like me. And it was interesting because I started to think about that.

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Sam has this thick accent, Chris has a little bit, Hannah has almost none at all, except for when she says words like fire, oil, wolf, others like that. But then Nathaniel, her youngest brother, has none at all. And as I began to think about this, I came up with; this is just a Bobby theory, so if you're a linguist and I'm wrong, send me an email. Maybe I'm completely wrong about it. It's just a theory. But one of the first things you learn is that America doesn't really have an accent. Like when you say an American accent, that can, especially about 30 years ago, could mean anything. People from Boston, people from New Jersey, New Jersey, right? Boston chowder, J.F.K., right? Minnesota. Right? Texas. My point is this – that its strange because now what everybody today considers an American accent, I'm pretty sure is actually just a California accent, or maybe a west coast accent. Isn't it weird how Samuel, the oldest, had a Southern accent, but Nathan, Nathaniel, the youngest, sounds like he's from L.A. And I began to develop this theory, I have this theory over time, that I think what happened was that as Americans watched television and movies, they picked up the accent from where those movies and television shows were made. Just a theory, I don't know, take it or leave it. In other words, I think Los Angeles is one of the most important cities in the world, and it's not because of the gold rush, or the architecture, or the culture, or any of those things, and they're all great, I love Los Angeles, I think it's a great city, I think it's because for so long most of the media, movies and television shows have come from L.A. And in doing so, people around the world, now you go to places like Mississippi and they sound like they're from L.A. You go to places like Minneapolis, and they sound like they're from L.A. What is going on? I think what happens is as we've exported, as we've sent stuff around the world now, people have taken up many of the cultural ideas that are really a local thing. One of those things that I think is being propagated around the world is the desire and the need to be famous – the need for glory. That's certainly not unique to Los Angeles, that goes way back, thousands of years. Everybody wanted glory. But L.A. is unique for a lot of good things, but its unique for a lot of bad things, and one of the really bad things is that some people call it the city of broken dreams. This is where people with big dreams come to see their dreams die, these kinds of things. People want to be an actor or a famous musician or something like that, and sometimes they get it, but most of the time, people don't. And so what we've exported, I believe around the world, is a desire to be famous. I'm not sure my grandparent's generation, in general, wanted that so bad. Maybe they did. But I know most of the people in my generation and younger really have this strange desire to be well known and to be famous. And my hope today is to convince you not only that that's a waste of your time, but that really famous is vain, that even if you're one of the rare people who get it, you'll have to fight to keep it. And perhaps even for those who've lost it, my guess would be that many of them regret the cost of that glory and fame as it withers away as so many things do, and not worth what we pay for it. I want to look briefly at a life that intrigues so many of us. The title of my sermon today is called The Van Gogh Scenario. Van Gogh had a really interesting life. At the age of 17, he got his first job as an art dealer, and did that for years selling art in different places, until he finally was fired because on Christmas Day he took the day off and didn't tell his boss. He was a flaneur, he loved to travel, he had a bit of wanderlust, it was hard for him to stay in one place. For years, he began to teach other art students and did that for a while. But you may not know this, he was a very committed Christian, and actually for a season, became a missionary and a preacher, and spent a lot of time as an itinerant preacher in Belgium. My understanding is that around 27, he gave up his ministry life and decided he wanted to commit his life as a painter. Here are some of the great paintings he did. You might recognize Café Terrace at night. Probably your local café might have a copy of this on their wall. One of my favorites is Spring in Aural. There's something about it that pulls you in. Skull and Skeleton with a cigarette. It's pretty self-explanatory. Dark. Bedroom in Aural is this one where he was kind of stuck in his room, so he just painted his room, became this iconic painting. Next one is potato eaters. And of course the most famous that all of us know is this Starry Night.

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And you can't really say why *Starry Night* just pulls you in and why millions of people love this painting, but you just do. But the sad thing about Van Gogh, one of the most famous things about him really is that he was, in the world's view, a failure in his day. One painting he made for Dr. Felix Ray, one of the most famous paintings, I couldn't find a picture of it, but he gave it to the good doctor, it was a portrait of the doctor, and the doctor used it to repair his chicken coop, and then later gave it to a friend. In his whole life, he only sold one painting, and most people think it was probably just out of pity, a fellow art dealer who bought it for 400 francs, maybe to help him out. But today, any of those paintings I just showed you would first of all be considered priceless, but if they were to go to auction, would go for hundreds of millions of dollars. It's strange, isn't it? Van Gogh took his own life at the age of 37. He shot himself in the chest and died two days later. He was sort of tormented his whole life, but some people assert that maybe the reason his paintings are so good is that he was.. so many artists use their torment and they make dark stuff, but he was almost able to use his torment to create beautiful stuff, to create something beautiful out of his own struggle, and maybe that's what makes him unique or a little more rare than the typical artist. But it's so sad, isn't it, that he took his own life. And the most interesting thing about Van Gogh is no, not that he cut off his own ear. I'm trying to get a straight story on that, too. It sounds like he was in a fight, he had a razor, and he got so mad at the guy that instead of cutting the guy, he cut his own ear off. And actually, one of the most interesting things about Van Gogh is not even the triumph of the paintings himself. He's actually considered one of the greatest painters, if not the greatest painter of all time, alongside Michelangelo, and Rafael, and many other Ninja Turtles. No, the most interesting thing about Van Gogh is that he died, in the world's eyes, a complete failure. He had almost no success really in the world's standard in his whole life. And there are many examples of this. There are medal of honor heroes who had no idea posthumously that they got the medal of honor. There's many great artists and successful leaders who did things that only after they died you could see the impact of their lives. So it's interesting how that happens, but it's especially interesting because Van Gogh is the most popular and extreme example of this. And so today, I'm really asking a philosophical question: would you take that deal? Would you take that deal? Is that maybe something you might sign up for? There was a great Doctor Who episode. I'm not really watched Doctor Who, I heard it's a great show, but I think there's time travel and sci-fi or something, and I think there's something with a phone booth, or I'm not quite sure. But anyway, Doctor Who or somebody goes back in time and picks up Van Gogh and takes him in the future to a museum. And they walk by all these amazing paintings by famous artists, no doubt that Van Gogh would have recognized, and there's nobody looking at them, nobody taking pictures, it's a big empty, clean museum, everything polished and smooth as so often they are. Until they get to the room where Van Gogh is, and of course the room is full of people, children, people taking pictures. Nobody knows why, right? Why is Van Gogh better than so many of these other? Why is it so alluring to so many? Nobody knows. But Doctor Who sort of brings Van Gogh over and sort of hides him a little bit, and asks an art historian, 'what makes Van Gogh so special?' And the art historian goes on and on to talk about how important his work was, and how he's the greatest painter of all time, and all of this stuff. And you see Van Gogh just begin to weep. And so when I ask this question, would you take this scenario, that is would you live a whole life being true to yourself, devoted to what you're called to, what you're really supposed to do, even if you never became famous or important, or were never recognized or never got any credit, but would be famous later, after death. Would you take that deal? I think most of us if others were listening would say yes, but maybe if you were in your room and nobody was listening, what would you really think and feel? A lot of us would say no, I wouldn't take that deal, and that would be an honest and fine answer. Many would say plainly, yes I would absolutely do that. But I think the majority of us would say it depends.

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Could I at least know on my dying breath that although nobody alive today knew, could I at least know when I'm dying.. see Van Gogh didn't even know, right? Can I at least know when I'm dying or something that it made an impact, and somehow that would bring meaning to my death. I think that's how a lot of us would feel. And this brings me to my final point, which is to simply say that this is why faith is so important to art and to culture, to humanity, to philosophy because we, as Christians, believe that well you will get an accounting, and that although most of us will never be famous, that we'll have an idea when we stand in the throne room of God, we'll have an idea of what impact our decisions made. And for those especially of us who made great sacrifices for others, but never got credit, or, never were applauded, we never had an audience. Nobody took a picture with us or posted about us on their Instagram, that somehow there will be a more important moment after our death where we'll see the impact of our life on posterity, on generations to come. And that is why I think Christianity has been so important for civilization and culture. No doubt, there have been a lot of evil things and horrible things done under the banner of Christianity, but the Lord Jesus, and I don't think any Christian alive today would say that any of those things were okay. So I believe that if you believe that after you die you can see what impact your life had, I believe you will lead a more noble life. I believe that, really. And I furthermore believe that when God gives us an assignment, God thinks long term. He plays the long game. And that when we face our judgement, when we face life after death, we will have a clearer God-like view of the long game, and hope, not that we were famous when we were alive, but rather that our lives made a positive impact on the next generation, and on the people that came after us. I really believe that. And that brings us to the passage from today that Hannah read earlier. Thank you, Hannah. Isaiah chapter 6. The story begins like this. Isaiah, who later becomes a prophet, of course, Isaiah is in the temple, a faithful religious man, doing religious things with his religious friends in a very religious place, the temple. Who knows what he's doing: lighting candles, saying a prayer, doing this or that, and this is a Bobby version – I imagine that up until that point of Isaiah chapter 6, Isaiah feels like he's pretty good. Most of us unconsciously keep a sort of moral report card. Maybe Isaiah's like most of us, hopes to be like a B-minus or higher. Maybe not a living saint, but a fairly all around good enough guy, somebody you could have a cup of coffee with and trust with your girlfriend or wife while you're.. you know, I don't know. But a decent man. And this moment comes where he's in the temple, and God in theophany appears. And the heavens enflame in light, appear before him, full of resounding song, and angels and wind, and all of that propriety about being a good religious man goes out the door and is replaced with utter dread and terror as Isaiah looks upon the throne of the Almighty and says to himself, woe is me. I am a man of unclean lips. Of all the things to say. When I was a teenager, and I would teach our little high school Bible study or I'd give a devotion on this, I thought that meant he cussed. Tell the other kids 'so that means guys, don't cuss.' But as I've learned Jewish law in idea, it's not that. Unclean lips means I have used my words to harm people and get power for myself. I have taken the Lord's name in vain. By the way, that doesn't mean saying 'oh my god.' Taking the Lord's name in vain is saying things that you claim are from God that are not from God in order to serve yourself. Taking the Lord's name in vain is doing evil in God's name. There's an old Jewish saying that says when you take the Lord's name in vain, you kill God. And so maybe it's that. Maybe he lied about someone. Maybe he bore false witness. Maybe he went to court and said something or gossiped or revealed a secret that someone entrusted to Him, or betrayed a friend, or slandered someone. And up unto this point maybe he's thought to himself, I'm just like every other guy in here. It's no big deal. But when he's before the throne, all of this unconscious guilt and shame of hurting people with his words comes to the surface because you can't lie to yourself anymore when you stand before the throne of judgement. And it's in that place, I believe, and so many of us believe, we think God is going to destroy us, cast us down. But quite the opposite happens.

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He says woe is me, I'm a man of unclean lips, and an angel comes down and picks up coal with tongs of fire, and presses it on Isaiah's lips and says your sins have been atoned for. In other words, the slate is clean. You can stand boldly before the throne of God, effectively because of this thing I've done for you. God just unilaterally wipes the slate clean. Isn't that just like God? Doesn't cast him down, doesn't curse him, doesn't strike him dead, but invites him. And then a call goes out, not to Isaiah, but to the thousands, yes, thousands of people who are in there worshipping. And what does it say? All he says is who will go for us? Whom shall I send? If you've gone to church for a while, you know the preachers love to preach on this verse, and they only love the first half of it. They don't get to the second half, and the second half's the most important part. We're going to get to that in just a minute. But yes, he says who will go for us, and whom shall I send? And of everybody in there; everybody's frozen. They say that when people are terrified, ten percent of people run, just run away, ten percent of people stand up into a leadership position and tell people what to do, but 80% of people just freeze. I imagine everybody's frozen except for Isaiah, who has now had this unconscious guilt and shame completely wiped away from him, and perhaps doesn't feel any fear anymore at all, sees the throne in a very different light, raises his hand in a very loud voice says, here I am! Send me! And God says to him, "Go and tell this people be ever hearing, but never understanding. Be ever seeing, but never perceiving. Make the heart of this people calloused, make their ears dull, close their eyes. Otherwise, they might see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their hearts and turn and be healed." Kind of sounds like Jesus, doesn't it, speaking in riddles. And then Isaiah, so he says just go and then just preach to them and they're not going to hear you, they're going to harden their hearts, they're going to hate you, they're not going to like you. And then I said, "How long, Lord?" And he answered, 'until the cities lie ruined and without inhabitant, until the houses are left deserted and the fields ruined and ravaged, until the Lord has sent everyone far away, and the land is utterly forsaken. And though a tenth remains in the land, it will be again be laid waste, but as the terabinth and oak leave stumps when they are cut down, so the holy seed will be the stump in this land.'" If you're going to look at this through secular worldly eyes, God is calling Isaiah to fail. He's calling him to be an annoying street preacher that nobody's going to listen to, and Isaiah I think is so full of relief for the atonement of what he's done, that he just is fine with it, and somehow trusts that God can.. like it's a natural question, isn't it? Why would you call me to preach to a bunch of people, and you're guaranteeing me no one will listen. What is the point of that? And the answer is that God's vision is much longer than the short length of a man's life. And that in redeeming and calling man to an eternal calling, He's able to give meaning to the brevity of the life of that man. That in such a short time, one man can make such a big difference, and boy did Isaiah make a difference. That passage, we're still reading it three thousand years later, whatever it is, thousands of years later. And they still encourage us today, and they show us what happens when a whole society turns its heart in a hardened way towards the poor and to the needy and to those who are cast down, and begins to sacrifice children to idols. We see what happens to that, and that can have an impact on us today. It didn't happen in Isaiah's day, and it didn't happen in Van Gogh's day, but it happened, you see what I'm saying? It happened. And that's why the simple message today is just don't be a persona. Don't pretend, but be true and just trust God. Be true and trust God. Don't give away your soul. Don't live a life trying to be famous or trying to get credit, or maybe you're in an academic setting trying to always be at the highest level in a hierarchy, or all of these things we fight for, they're okay but don't be upset if it doesn't happen. God's call for you probably won't make you famous, and that's okay because God's calling for you will bring you a joyful, good life. My point in all of this, by the way, is to say that fame, which is almost infinitely unattainable, that even when its attained, is like a cut rose. It's already wilting and dying from the inside out, that some of the most famous people in the world in their day, people who couldn't have walked outside of their doors without a mob and cameras.

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Now are forgotten by the next generation. In such a short time, it's amazing how quickly people can be forgotten. So don't be offended by this next thing, but we have a staff here of about 70 people, and we have a lot of young people. We've got about 10/12 people that are under the age of 30. I'm 40, so I'm starting to notice as I'm getting older, I'm feeling older around these young employees, and I don't know who they're talking about when they're talking about famous people, they don't know who I'm talking about. And so I made a list of a bunch of names, and asked them to rate on a scale of zero to five, how familiar they are with this name. Five meaning they know who it is, right? You don't have to know their birthday, just yes, I know who that is. And it was very interesting. But before you judge these people, remember the first guy, for example, you're going to see Preston, who's 24 years old, was a baby when 9/11 happened. Okay? All right, let's roll the film.

(VIDEO ROLL IN)

BS: What's your name?

PRESTON: Preston Parker.

BS: And how old are you?

PRESTON: I am 24.

BS: Okay, on a scale of 0 to 5, based on how familiar you are, I want you to give me just a number, I don't need a commentary of how familiar that name is to you.

PRESTON: Gotcha.

BS: Five being like you know who that is.

PRESTON: Gotcha.

BS: All right? Here we go. Alfred Hitchcock.

PRESTON: Five.

BS: Alfred Hitchcock.

GIRL: Zero.

BS: Vince Lombardi.

GIRL: Zero.

BS: Vince Lombardi.

MAN: One.

BS: Vince Lombardi.

GIRL: Like the trophy?

BS: Like the trophy!

GIRL: Okay, yeah, okay, I think, I don't know.

BS: The person, though.

GIRL: Oh, I don't know.

BS: Let's give it a three.

GIRL: A three.

BS: Richard Pryor.

GIRL: Zero.

BS: Jimmy Hoffa.

GIRL: Zero.

BS: Richard Pryor.

GIRL: Zero.

BS: Hank Aaron.

GIRL: Zero.

BS: Farrah Fawcett.

GIRL: Zero.

BS: Jimmy Hoffa.

GIRL: Zero. I don't know who this is.

BS: Martin Sheen.

GIRL: Zero.

BS: Donny and Marie Osmond.

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MAN: Zero.
BS: Hank Aaron.
GIRL: Zero.
BS: Mary Tyler Moore.
MAN: Zero.
BS: Hank Aaron.
MAN: Zero.
BS: Hank Aaron.
PRESTON: Zero.
BS: Hank Aaron.
GIRL: Zero. Who is that?
BS: Brooke Shields.
MAN: Zero.
BS: What do you think Steve? Was that fives for everybody for you?
STEVE: Yes.
BS: It is for me! David Bowie.
GIRL: The name sounds familiar, but I'm going to go with a one because I've heard it.
BS: Nice. Richard Pryor.
GIRL: Zero.
BS: Tina Turner.
PRESTON: Five.
BS: You said it like you like Tina Turner.
PRESTON: Oh yes, I love Tina.
BS: She's great. George Lucas.
GIRL: Zero.
BS: Margaret Thatcher.
MAN: Thatcher. Two.
BS: Margaret Thatcher.
GIRL: Zero.
BS: Margaret Thatcher.
GIRL: Zero.
BS: Margaret Thatcher.
MAN: Zero.
BS: Margaret Thatcher.
GIRL: Zero.
BS: Margaret Thatcher.
GIRL: Five.
BS: Christopher Reeve.
GIRL: Zero.
BS: Gerald Ford.
PRESTON: Zero.
BS: Jimmy Carter.
PRESTON: Zero?
BS: Jimmy Carter.
GIRL: One.
BS: Jimmy Carter.
GIRL: Like a one.
BS: One for Jimmy Carter?
GIRL: Yes.
BS: Okay. Jimmy Carter.
GIRL: Zero.
BS: Tom Selleck.

The Van Gogh Scenario

GIRL: Oh, five.

BS: Oh, nice.

GIRL: He's handsome.

BS: He is handsome. Hulk Hogan.

GIRL: Zero.

BS: All right!

GIRL: What?

(END OF VIDEO ROLL IN)

Isn't that great? That video blows my mind, and if you're under 30, you still don't get it. You're just like I don't know. I was trying to explain to them.. I was like that would literally be if like 20 years from now, you had a sheet of paper and you went around saying, Barak Obama, okay, The Rock, zero, okay? Kim Kardashian. Zero. Okay, Kanye West? Zero. Okay. LeBron James, zero. Okay. Like that's how.. am I right? Maybe some of you guys don't know who I just was talking about. Anyway. Well, it is what it is. My point in all this is to simply say, even if you become one of the most famous people, even if you become the leader of the free world, people will forget. People will forget. People will forget. They'll forget. Almost everybody is going to forget you, except your family and the Lord. Almost everybody will forget you except your family and the Lord. Do you hear me, friends? There are choices we make in life that unconsciously are about these other things that we think are so important, and they are at the time, I get it, there's something so much better to have if we can attain it. Anyway, its practical wisdom. I've seen how much ego and glory seeking has ruined lives. And remember, he said "it's amazing what you can accomplish if you don't care who gets the credit." That's another American president, by the way, Harry Truman. And he was right. It's amazing what you can accomplish if you don't care who gets the credit. If you're able to give glory away to your team members, you're able to do amazing things. I want to encourage you today that God's calling for you may not seem always exciting at the beginning, but you'll be so glad if you trust in it and you're true to yourself that you did what God called you to do. So Father, we thank you and we love you. And we pray that your Holy Spirit would fill us with fresh vision, and Lord that we wouldn't live for the applause of others, but that we could be true to ourselves, true to you, live honestly and truly in everything we do. Father, we love you, it's in Jesus' name we pray, amen.