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Shelby: [00:00:00] [00:01:00] Hey everyone. And welcome back to the daily grace podcast. This is a Shelby and I am here as always with my friend and cohost Krystal. Hey, Krystal. Hey Shelby. And today we have two new friends with us and we're incredibly excited to introduce you to them.

We have Michelle Myers and summer Phoebus, the co founders of she works his way here. Hi, Michelle and summer.

Michelle: Hi. I

Shelby: This interview is so fun because I feel like we're kindred spirits with Michelle and Summer. Uh, y'all in prep [00:02:00] for this episode sent me your bio and I want to read just a little bit of it because I feel like so much of it.

I was like, I feel like this could be said about us. Uh, it says Michelle Myers and Summer Phoebus are best friends, ministry partners, and really huge fans of the local church. Together as the co founders of She Works His Way, they aim to resource women who love Jesus with tools to help them initiate and cultivate gospel conversations both inside and outside of the church.

She works his way, is not into fluff, but is also uninterested in only engaging a woman's intellect since God looks at her heart. And I read that and I was like, friends, on mission together, willing to engage in the deeper conversations, but with the ultimate aim of transforming the heart. Like, I don't know.

I just feel like we're all kindred spirits in this conversation

Krystal: today. It's going to be fun.

Michelle: love that so much.

Krystal: Okay, so Shelby mentioned She Works His Way. So can you just both briefly share your own personal story and just how She Works His Way came to be?

Michelle: Yeah. Summer. You wanna start

Somer: sure. So my [00:03:00] goodness, over a decade ago, Michelle and I were friends. We were connected through business and we also met while she

and James, her husband and my husband were in seminary in, um, Texas. So we met there briefly left from there, reconnected online and in business, started talking to each other and.

That eventually turned into a 5 a. m. 530 a. m. discipleship meeting time. I was not okay with this. By the way, that time was. insane to me. That was Michelle's happy hour. I need you to know that Michelle wakes up excited about life at five a. m. It's so good. It's only Jesus can do that, right? Um, so we had this with two other women that were friends of ours, also connected to us through the online business world.

And in this meeting, we were having conversations. Just like the conversations that if you go in and read anything, listen to anything on she works [00:04:00] his way, just like those conversations. And even 10 years ago, in that time of talking to each other, there was such attention that we all felt. And I think that's where we bonded.

I think that's where we really connected. We just got each other. We understood each other. We loved Jesus with our whole hearts, but we felt fully called as working women to do the work that he had us in. And it was, it was affecting people. It was impacting the kingdom. We just were trying to figure out how to not live in two lanes.

Like I love Jesus over here and I love work over here. It was most natural to bring it together. So in these conversations, all of these things were happening, Michelle. Being the person that she is was like, let's, let's take this somewhere. We need more women need to talk about this. We were having them in our personal lives, having them together.

And then Michelle, I'll let you take it from here. But she, she launched on an Instagram.

Michelle: They, we lovingly say that they bullied me into starting an Instagram [00:05:00] account. Um,

Somer: I left that part out, but true, true. Wow.

Michelle: it was the most loving bullying that I've ever experienced. Uh, but it was, women were hungry for that conversation being in the business world, I'd had several social media accounts, but nothing captured attention.

Like this one, like people were like, we need to have this conversation. We need to go deeper. And that's really been the beauty of the progression of what we've seen as she works his way over this decade is it was never like a 10 year plan of, okay, we're going to launch this. Then we're going to have a book.

Then we're going to have a live event. Like it was always the women that were gathered and were part of the conversation started asking for. Can we have this, can we do this? And it was, it's just been insanely beautiful. And even going back to like why that Google hangout was happening at 5 AM. For me, it was because I'm like a born achiever.

Like I just was always ambitious and in [00:06:00] the business world. I started to recognize in myself that recognition and even how the world defines success. Like I was like, Oh,

this feels good. I need to bring in some accountability for myself of some girls that I know that when I'm headed in the wrong direction are going to yank me back and they're going to point me back toward Jesus.

And that was really where these conversations started is it was like, okay, what is the balance between me wanting to. Be like, do a good job, like to work with excellence, but also understanding this isn't my main mission. And so how do we, how do we live like Somerset in that tension? I think that tension keeps us dependent on the Lord and not on ourselves.

Shelby: absolutely. And that's so much of what we want to talk about today. You know, this episode is another in our Women and series. We're just talking about spaces that are traditionally hard or maybe nuanced for women to navigate and one of those is definitely work. And [00:07:00] I have to say, you know, it was more than 10 years ago.

So she works his way didn't exist at that time. But when I first started, you know, working full time and had this same tension between my faith and work. I remember Googling like Christian women work and I was just looking for any resource out there and like, it didn't exist. Like it wasn't there. Like I couldn't, I could maybe find like a one off article here or there.

But there was nobody that was like, oh, yeah, let me walk with you through this or I'm experiencing this same thing. And so I'm so thankful that She Works His Way is here and we get to talk about this topic today. Um, you know, She Works His Way emphasizes a biblical foundation for approaching work, which we think is so so important.

So what do you think are the two to three biblical principles that believers should remember as they work?

Michelle: I'll, I feel like, let's go back to the beginning. Like, if you go back to Genesis and you see creation, work was established as part of God's good plan before sin entered the world. And so in the fall, we see that thorns and [00:08:00] thistles were added to our work, but he gave the garden and the animals to Adam and Eve to cultivate and to have dominion over.

And so this whole idea that God involves us in his work in the world was his plan from the beginning. And so seeing work. As his good idea for us of how we engage with the world around us is really important so that we don't see it as part of the curse.

Somer: Yeah. That's a, that's a big one. And the She Works His Way anthem is Matthew 6, 33, seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and everything else will be added unto you. So I think order is one of the big ones. And just even when She Works His Way started, we originally with the best of intentions had it.

It was on our website homepage. God first, family second, work third, and through just our own sanctification [00:09:00] process, Michelle and I eventually, I don't know if it was a few years ago, looked at each other and we're like, oh gosh, we still have it wrong. We just need God first, and then everything else falls into the place that needs to fall.

And I think we were still trying to checklist it. Prioritize it, micromanage all of the things and keep God first, which if we just keep God first, everything else happens in the right way. So order for us and for our women, establishing that we have one job and that's God first has been this relief, this like pressure releaser that has just been so much easier for us to teach and do.

Michelle: Yeah. And with that, that kind of speaks to identity. of understanding that identity as the foundation, because women do. I think everybody talks about how many hats women wear. And it's this whole idea of switching from hat to hat. And when you're doing that, it's really easy to start compartmentalizing your life and feel like, okay, I'm here.

I'm this. But if we [00:10:00] have that umbrella identity that is like, I am. God's daughter. I am a child of the King and I walk into all the different places that God calls me and all of the different roles and relationships in my life with that one identity that simplifies things so much for us. It simplifies what we are

working toward, what we're focused on and what our mission is to where we don't get caught up in these secondary and tertiary things that get thrown our way.

Somer: So true. Yeah.

Krystal: I love to how, if you're talking about these biblical foundations that applies regardless if you're working full time or part time, or you were full time and now you're at home or you were at home, you know, and so we, we start to like. Complicated a little bit where it's like, my life is going to look totally different.

So everything has to be reordered. Like, what is that priority list where it's like God and family and kids, you know, like all of those things, but to say, no, like, ultimately our eyes are fixed on Christ. Our eyes are fixed on the Lord and everything else will work itself out. Does it mean it's always going to be easy, but our priorities [00:11:00] are in line.

So I love that we're just starting with, like, here's what the foundational truths are. And so you've already mentioned this a little bit, Michelle, but. Culture often presents these conflicting views of like work and what is success and where our deity falls. And so how does she works his way guide women in maintaining a countercultural perspective on these aspects while engaging in their careers?

Michelle: I think the main thing that we try to do is be reminders. If you think about it in the Old Testament, it talks about remember, and then we see a lot of language of reminders in the New Testament, remind yourself, remind one another. And so we believe that everything we really need to know, God has already said.

And so we're not trying to reinvent anything, say anything new, but. Culture is just loud. Those voices are loud. We live in a world where we literally have thousands of voices that get in our head just from the scroll of our thumbs. And so by being able to talk about what God has already said and be the reminder of what that [00:12:00] voice is, the beauty of it is that, you know, in Ecclesiastes, it tells us that he's already written eternity in our hearts.

And so when people hear God's word, it. Hits them differently than just when they hear another opinion. And so we want to be intentional of being that reminder. And so that's, that's one thing is we try to, while we'll speak from our

experiences, certainly we really try to stay away from our opinion because most of the time our opinion is not needed.

And our opinion only complicates things and takes away from the focus. So we really just want to highlight what God has already said. And we try to do so from a practical perspective of what it looks like from our real experience. You know, Summer and I are not talking about this, even from the past.

Like it's, it's from today we're engaging in the work world and this is what we're encountering. And so like, we're in it with you. This is, this is not us looking back or us just trying to speak hypothetically. Like we're [00:13:00] doing it too. And these are the things that we're facing. And so many times I feel like the enemy attacks us by making us feel like we're isolated and we're the only one.

And so many times what we hear when we have these conversations is people are like, I thought I was the only one. I thought I was the only one. And so it's that beauty of community that God created us for too, of these conversations that happen to where people understand they feel less alone. And when they feel less alone and they hear other people give voices, like an actual voice to something that maybe they've only thought in their head, pray that it gives them the courage that they need to take those steps of obedience that God is calling them to.

Shelby: let's talk a little bit about, I feel like this may be the biggest question that people ask aloud when it comes to work. I know we'll do, you know, day in the life sometimes, and a big question that we often get as working women, working mothers is, How do you do it all? Like, and, and typically everybody wants to lean [00:14:00] towards, like, okay, you just have to balance, like, you just have to balance home and work and friends and church and, like, all of these different priorities.

But you guys have a little bit of a different approach to this balance conversation. So

can you explain your viewpoint that aiming for work life balance doesn't actually work?

Michelle: Mm.

Somer: sure. I love answering this question. We are very rebellious with the word balance, but it comes from a place of we tried it for so long and everyone they were preaching balance to us and it wasn't working. It just wasn't working.

And so I think we came down to finally realizing that balance implies perfection.

If you Visualize anything that is balanced. Think of a scale or anything like that with the two sides of it and equal weight on both sides. Then it is. That's the only time that it's balanced. And that equals perfection, right? We just don't live that way. And then the other side of that is that surrender [00:15:00] implies dependence.

So surrender is. Our definition of how we succeed and what it is we need to do and that if we wake up surrendered and live our day surrendered and go to bed surrendered, then everything got the amount of time focus and energy that it was supposed to get because it wasn't on us to give it. It was on our Lord to give it.

And so when we are able to surrender everything to God, then he takes care of it as it's needed. I mean, I have to speak to this when we're talking to working women. Thank you. Even if you don't have Children, there are people, humans in your life that need you and that require time from you. And you can feel very torn and very pulled.

And I mean, frankly, sucked dry by the end of the day, giving everything constantly, constantly, constantly to other people in your life. That is one of the examples of surrendering my relationships with people, employees, [00:16:00] family, my kids, my spouse, everything. Surrendering that to the Lord allows me to be able to, out of the overflow of what he gives me, love everyone to the extent that they're supposed to be loved.

And then go to sleep at night rather than feeling guilt and shame because I didn't meet a certain expectation, knowing I did everything that I was supposed to do. Because I did it through the power of Christ and not in my own power. So I think that's the bottom line of it is we understand the idea of balance and why it sounds attractive.

It feels very neat and pretty, but the life of a believer just isn't going to probably be that way. So if I'm the first one that's told you guys that I love you and I'm sending you a Big hug, but it's just not me and it's not tidy, but oh my goodness. It's joyful. Even in chaos, even in wildness, even in the beautiful adventure it is, it can be so joyful.

So I think letting go of the idea of balance and grasping onto the idea of surrender will bring you so much freedom in that work [00:17:00] life situation that we're all in.

Michelle: So good.

Krystal: I'm just imagining just like burdens falling off of women as

Somer: Yes,

Krystal: you know, or it's like, I thought I had to hold it all together. We always talk about like spinning all the plates and you're the one holding everything in the air. But it's like. Actually, God is the one that's holding the entire universe together.

The reason you have breath is because of the Lord. So if he's gonna care for the lilies and the birds, like, how much more is he gonna care for you? And that applies to our work. And so I, I just appreciate coming back to just Fixing her eyes on the Lord, like, remembering who he is and his character and, you know, we've talked a little bit about identity and ~~identity can become~~, work can become a huge identity marker for us.

And even those of us on this interview, I mean, we have Daily Grace, y'all have She Works His Way. That could become like, This is who I am. This is how people know me. So I think this question is just as much for us as it's for anyone else listening. But as Christian women, how can we maintain a strong sense of identity in [00:18:00] Christ as we pursue our passions and careers?

Michelle: Oof. Uh, I feel like it requires us to stay rooted in what Jesus has done instead of what we do. And so if we are constantly in a, State of worship of in awe of who Jesus is and what he has done. And then what we do is a response to what he did instead of feeling like we're the starters, we're the sustainers.

Like if we start to attach some of those things to us, then we're getting our role and our place in the world confused with who God is and what he does. And so it all boils down to, I think, your personal walk with the Lord and making sure that that personal relationship with him stays priority. Because if you're doing that, if you're putting him in his proper place in your life, then he puts you in yours.

But if you start to get in a spot where you're trying to like make your place in the world, that's where [00:19:00] you could get yourself in trouble really quick. And so I think it goes back to a response of. Worshipping and keeping Jesus in his spot in your life. And then also bringing alongside other believers who speak truth into you, who will tell you when you're out of line, who will encourage you when you need to take that next step.

Like I think community with God and community with one another is so important for our identity because you can get yourself, especially if you're like. Leading an organization. I always talk about like the hierarchies can get us in a whole lot of trouble to where if we recognize the only hierarchy that really exists is there's God, and then there's everybody else.

And once we start to like position ourselves of where we are in importance or in ranking or these just is a recipe for disaster. And so if we recognize, hey listen, God is here. And then the rest of us are chasing after him as quickly as we can. That's such a [00:20:00] better place for your heart and two like, when you work out of that spot of overflow, that is such a better place to be than this overwhelm and this pressure.

Because I think when the pressure starts to come in, then striving starts, but when it is just, Hey, this piece of who God is and what he's already done and the victory that he's already earned to where I just simply get to. Rest in the fact that I am part of that movement that he already accomplished.

Then you work from such a more peaceful place, understanding that whatever God has called you to do, he cares about it so much more than you do. And he is the one that is ultimately in control. And it just puts you in that place of dependence and boldness and courage that that settles your identity so much better than you trying to make something of yourself.

Somer: Yeah,

Shelby: ~~Yeah, I feel like when we're beginning to find our identity at work or to me It's like sneaky like I don't notice it's happening till all of a sudden Maybe something negative happens and I'm having a crisis and like why am I having a crisis right now? I'm like, oh, yes Yes, my identity. So I'm just wondering if y'all have any like How do we know when maybe we're beginning to, what are like those markers, or those things you begin to notice?~~

Like, hey, I think I'm starting to put my identity, like, maybe in my work rather than in Christ. What does that look like for you guys? Sorry, I'm going off script, but I just wanted to talk about this more.

Somer: it is such a good one. And I think you gave the best example right there. So to piggyback off of what is actually a crisis and what isn't it's really the our emotional reaction throughout our day to things that are worthy of whatever the emotional reaction is that we're having. And so, when we zoom out, and we have that eternal view.

What we should care about most, what should matter to us most, what should break our hearts, what breaks is what breaks Jesus's heart, right? The lost people around us. So when we, and this is not to say that a bad work day or a hard relationship doesn't deserve our attention or sadness, or it won't put us in a bad mood, but just in terms of how it is, how big it is in comparison to being able to see.

What it is that the Lord is doing in and through us, we have to be able to see the difference in those. So I think for me, one of the true signs is isolation. I don't know if you guys ever, when I get overwhelmed with my work list, or maybe just, um, in a place where I have gotten a lot of. either cheered for or criticism.

It can be so funny. They both equally bring the same summer. I show up and I'm more likely to work alone and to stay home and to avoid going, being friendly, being social, all those things. So Isolation for me is the sign and my best friends in my life. Michelle's like, Hey, you have been quiet. What's going on?

They pull you right out of it, but it is for sure. And you got to think about it. We isolate in all of these other places because work is so good and comfortable right there. That's where we've, we've become who we are in that place. It's the most comfortable place for us to be. So we avoid everything else and just go straight to our desk, go straight to our work project, go straight to our email inbox, go straight to our text messages, instead of that relationship side of things with people in our life that we know we're going to ground us in Christ.

Michelle: I think the only other one I would add is just, I feel like for me it's how my spirit responds to a Sabbath. If I, if Sunday rolls around, if that Sabbath time rolls around and I. I'm thinking about my to-do list and I'm like trying to almost checklist, like what I can and can't do. And I'm arguing with myself in my head instead of.

relieved that it's like my day of rest and my day of worship, excited to settle in and to have a day that looks different. That is my reminder of what eternity is going to be like, of just a life of worship. And if how I walk into that day kind of gives me a good idea of where, where my heart's really at.

And so I try to pay attention to that.

Shelby: Yeah, those are really helpful. I feel like I can see everything y'all just said in myself at times. And so toes are a little stepped on, but that's good.

Somer: We're with you. We're with you.

Shelby: Um, you know, something that's sticking out to me is you've mentioned several times community and friendships. I also think that's a.

Um, and so I don't know, how important is it really to find a community? Can we exist without it? Because I think a lot of women think that we can. Um, and then are there specific ways that you recommend building these connections in our just busy lives?

Michelle: Can we live without community? We'll, we'll start there. Again, let's go back to the beginning. You have the creation account and you look at this and all of these things that God created. He said it was good. He said it was good. He said it was good. The first time that God said something was not good. The first problem that he recognized was that Adam was alone.

And that was the first thing that he had to solve. And he solved it by creating Eve, by recognizing that we needed a relationship with the Lord first. And then we also needed a relationship with one another. And so I wholeheartedly believe that Satan does his best work. In isolation, when we're isolated, if you think about it, even from what does it say in scripture, it talks about how he walks around like a lion looking for something to devour.

And that's what lions do, even though they're at the top of the food chain, they're not trying to run into the herd. They're trying to find that one, the weak and the one that's isolated, that's alone, that somehow gotten separated from the pack. And that's when they attack. And that's the one that they go after.

And I've. I think that that's the tactic of the enemy that we see as well. And so community is critical because if we don't, then we make ourselves too important. It, it causes us to live in an inward way instead of in an outward way.

And we, even every gift that we were given was for the purpose of serving one another.

It wasn't just so we could use the gift that God gave us and be awesome and feel really good about ourselves. But that first Peter 4:10 of he's given us each a gift to be a steward of God's grace. That's one of the verses when I think about that just blows my mind that us using our God-given gifts is part of how we steward God's grace in the world and so that that gift that he gave you was for other people and the call, the assignment that Jesus gave us in the great commission was to go and make disciples.

And so, again, it involves us going to others. And so I don't believe that we can live out the great commission or use the gifts that God has given us without other people in our lives.

Somer: Yeah, I, I think I always think of the book of acts. If we think about the mission being multiplied in the most dramatic way, if you haven't sat down and read through the book of acts and just the way the way it moved the way God just got a hold of people. If you think away about the way the mission was multiplied.

It was multiplied around dinner tables, breaking bread together, hanging out with each other, enjoying the company of each other. And there's something really special about that. But also thinking about who the exact people were that were around the table, the majority of the people that gathered, that was your local church family.

So you said, where would we go to find connection? Where do we go? We are the biggest cheerleaders for the local church. And I always tell people it's not because we haven't been hurt inside of it or watch things go down that shouldn't go down. So I want to be very clear and upfront about that. We both pastor's daughters and pastor's wives.

So we know, we know, we know, we know. However. We still love it. We still find it as one of the most beautiful, uh, avenues to finding Jesus and finding wholeness and finding a community. And so if you are looking for a community, I believe that is one of the best places to go. Again, in the book of Acts, they were sitting around the table, breaking bread, not just with random people, but with their church family that they had met and started together with, and they kept saying, Hey, you come over to, you come over to, you come over to, and I always tell women.

~~If you want to connect with each other and if you want to have a beautiful moment and discipleship time together, all you need is some cheese and a dining room table. And honestly, you are going to have the greatest night ever. So there's something special about that. And I think when we live outside of that, there is a part of joy that we are just leaving on the table.~~

~~Michelle talks about leaving it on the table that we are not going to engage in and that's on us. That opportunity is there.~~

Krystal: And everything y'all just shared is so counter [00:21:00] cultural for looking at work and like climbing the corporate ladder and like putting yourself out there and everything like you have to be the one that's advocating for yourself. And yet if we're looking at scripture and what we're called to do as believers, stewarding our gifts to serve God and serve others. We're not at the top, you know, so so I love because work is very personal. It's very I mean, we do have gifts. We have passions and we want to be able to leverage them for the glory. God. We also want to enjoy the work that we're doing. And so I think something that we've all probably have experience at some point is burnout or just stress that's related to work.

Um, and so I think it's important to talk about. I'm sure people listening like. I just want to know how to like, not hate going to my job, or I want to know how to not just like, like you said about Sabbath rest, not think about your to do list. That is such a struggle. And I think burnout, um, plays into that.

And so how can women restore just the joy and purpose and the sense of calling [00:22:00] they have in their work as believers, um, even when you are in demanding seasons or discouraging seasons?

Michelle: Oof. This is a big one. The first thing that comes to my mind, that's something that I have to remind myself of because I am like, uh, I get excited about things like summer knows this about me. I am constantly spinning in my desk chair, turning cartwheels. Like it's obnoxious how excited I can get. So in

Somer: actual cartwheels. I need to make sure that's not hypothetical in my mind, not an emoji. She gets up out of her chair, you guys, and she does actual cartwheels. So, okay, keep going, Michelle. I needed them to have that mental picture.

Michelle: there's a clear spot in my office for a reason. Um, but, but because of that, I will sometimes. say yes to things that are not mine to say yes to. And what we have to remember is that God does promise to give us everything that

we need to live a godly life. So whatever he calls us to, he will equip us for, he will give us the energy for.

And so often when I find myself burned out, [00:23:00] it's because I have added things to my list that God didn't put there. And so while he promises to supply me all of the energy that I need to do everything he's called me to, he does not extend that same promise to the things that he did not call me to. And so I have to like go back and check myself.

I also think it's really important in those moments. Why do we say yes to those things? Why do we, why do we get in that situation in the first place? And sometimes I think it's because we ignore our human limits. Which we do have limits and then when we don't acknowledge our human limits I think it limits our worship of God because he's the only one that doesn't have those limits And so God can increase our capacity when he chooses, but I think so often we need to be better about praying and really seeking him in those things and making sure that we are following him and the places where he [00:24:00] has, and that we are leaving, uh, summer, one of my favorite things for her to talk about is she talks about how you leave margin in your schedule and the reason why is for people.

Krystal: Hmm. Hmm.

Michelle: You leave margin for people. If you look at Jesus, if you just look at his life in the Gospels, so many of the miracles that he performed were interruptions. They were like on his way to somewhere else. And so if we schedule our lives so much to the point to where God can't interrupt us, then we're probably, we've probably at that point.

I don't want to say it this way, but I'm going to anyway. Probably made ourselves too important.

Summer, you say something bad.

Somer: gotta pull her out of that fact. It's the truth! I'm just gonna, I'm gonna back her up on this and offer to reply to any of the, the mean emails that you guys get. But

Shelby: we'll get any. You're

Somer: [00:25:00] You, well, you have the best, you have the best community. No, but it is, it's the truth. We've got to leave margin and we don't think about that.

We think about what the world preaches is leaving margin for self care. Hey, and listen, let me just be the first to tell you. I go get my nails done. All right. I love a good long walk. In silence with nobody around. So I am not saying self care is bad, but having margin for people and for the Lord to interrupt your day.

It's like, it's like leaving space for the best surprise ever, you know, it's like someone trying to hand you a big gift and a spontaneous lunch date. And you look at them and being like, I'm sorry, I don't have time for this. We would never do that. We would be so excited to have that opportunity to receive that gift.

And I. We just need to make sure that we're not booked so solid. We can't receive the gift of these opportunities that the Lord gives us.

Shelby: I love that encouragement and [00:26:00] man, so much of what we're talking about today are just great reminders. I love that you. Kind of said that in the beginning, like, Hey, our job is to remind that I'm like, yes, these are all such great reminders that I need. ~~Um, but even more than just today, like I know I'll need these reminders tomorrow and the day after and the day after.~~

~~And so I know that you guys have put together several tools to help really walk alongside women in all seasons, to help them attend to the work in front of them in a healthy way, in a God glorifying way, can you explain a couple of those tools to us, then how women can get involved when she works his way?~~

Somer: ~~Okay, so there are a few. Michelle and I make eye contact. We're here on camera, so we don't script ourselves, so we make eye contact with who's going to answer the questions, and I just got the eye contact. I love that. Um, yeah, is that how you guys do it too? Is it good? Yeah, you got to keep it. You got to keep it spontaneous.~~

~~All right. So there are a few ways. So we obviously were on social media, like so many of our other friends who are online. But one of the places that social media will point you to is the podcast where we get to have conversations like we've talked about today once a week. And we just show up and it is not scripted and we really do have a conversation.~~

We say the conversation start outside with women in our lives. We come and we can continue the conversations and then they are furthered in our inboxes and DMS and all of those things as we get to answer more questions. So we believe women learn best when there's a conversation. You guys do that so well.

And we're so blessed by your ministry, honestly. Um, so the podcast is one social media is one. And then there are other ways to get connected. If you just go to sheworkshisway.com, there are other places that you can go and be a part of the ministry. You can also, if you're just really busy and you don't need any more content or anything like that, you can just help support our ministry because a lot of what we do is help women who can't afford to be a part of the community.

We bring them alongside of us. We have resources like our commentaries that are great Bible studies that are also around a conversation. So it's a commentary that you can actually talk about and understand. I don't know if you guys have ever read commentaries. They're not typically like dragging you in.

Like I can't put this commentary down. No, it's not like that. This is a commentary that we love to sit down with around that. She's bored girls and go through and learn about God's word, but it gives us plenty of opportunity to discuss and talk about, um, what scripture is telling us. So we've got resources.

We love to resource women in the local church, female leaders, but she works, his way.com would be the hub. And the podcast would be where we want you to invite you to.

Krystal: That's great. All right. Okay. We've talked about a lot of things and we've touched on a couple different things. Before we ask our last question, there's a, there's a question we ask every guest, but before we ask that, is there any like final encouragement you want to give to our listeners?

Michelle: Okay. The first thing that came to my mind is this idea of when we think about the topic of work, I think immediately some people pre disqualify themselves from that conversation because they either think, well, I only work part time or I work from home or my work is volunteering at my kid's school and I don't get a paycheck for that.

But I think the important thing is when we say work, what we mean is. You recognize that God has put you on this earth for a reason, and that you want to live your life for his glory and for the good of other people. And so if you are

putting effort toward that, like, that doesn't happen unintentionally, that's not going to happen by accident.

And so we believe that work is anything that a believer does, that you say, hey, God, please use this. Use this in whatever way that you see fit. And so that's the lens through which we have all sorts of conversations. And so if you've allowed yourself to believe that I don't, I, this can't apply to me because I don't work.

I just want to let you know. Work is different than how the world defines it. And it's not necessarily just something that means I have a title or I earn this amount of money. It is recognizing that living a life that says I want to love God and love others like that takes effort.

Somer: I think for me, it's just permission to let the Lord set your pace, let the Lord create for you whatever is next. I think so many times we get in one of two places where we feel like we've got to keep up with the rap race of everyone else in terms of just scheduling our families or what's next for our careers or what do I need to produce?

And so many women that I talk to are actually content right where they all are. Where they are, but they feel like they shouldn't be. They feel like they need to be constantly growing, changing what's new, what's next? This project, this, the side hustle culture is everywhere, right? There's just gotta be something more, and some of those women are falling into that, even though they were content with where they are.

So I just want permission to. If you're content, that's because the Lord has created you and he's made you to do exactly what you're doing right now. And so that's enough if you're content. And then if there are women on the other side of that, who feel so driven and excited about what's next and they can, they wake up ready to run and they have a hard time going to sleep because they're so excited about doing whatever is next for the Lord and creating something and growing something.

That's beautiful too. If the Lord has called you to that run, go, it's okay to be ambitious. He made you that way. Don't let people make you feel like you are not allowed to be that if it's not selfish, it's not selfish. Period. So if someone else perceives it as that way, that's on them, if the Lord has called you to it, then you get to go, you get to run.

So I just want women to hear from the Lord when they set their pace, hear from the Lord, when they create their dream board and their goals and their list of

~~what they want to accomplish, listen to the Lord and let him determine what that is for you.~~

Krystal: ~~Yep. Mm hmm.~~

Shelby: That's really good encouragement. Yeah. Yeah. That's a great way to kind of end this conversation. Uh, so we have one more question. This is a question we ask every single guest who comes on the podcast and it's like our favorite question to ask because I, have we ever gotten the same answer twice?

I really don't think that we have. And so at the Daily Grace Co. we always say that the gospel changes everything. So Michelle and Summer, we'd love to know from each of you, what has the gospel changed for you? Thank you.

Michelle: right. It does change everything. Uh, that's, that's hard. That's hard to nail down. But I think when I. When I think about my bend of like the, the personality and my flesh and this just incessant need to please and to prove, I just feel like the gospel just obliterates that because when I, [00:27:00] I'm in awe, there's no other word for it that genuinely God loves me enough that there's nothing that I could do.

That would make him love me more. And there's nothing I could do that would make him love me less and understanding that that is the unconditional, powerful love of God that he loves me with and will put in me to love others. I can't muster that up on my own, but through the power of the Holy Spirit.

That is the kind of love that he'll put in me to allow me to join him in his work in the world, knowing how different my flesh responds and the way that I thought and saw things before he entered my life. Like, I just, I will never stop being in awe of that.

Somer: Okay. Amen. I want to stand up and clap for that. That's so good. That got me really excited. Holy moly.

Michelle: Yeah.[00:28:00]

Somer: Uh, for me, it almost goes along with the end of what Michelle said. The gospel changes the way I see people. And I think that that's the thing that popped into my mind first, because it's so easy for me to contrast with the way I used to see people and the way we see people changes everything in the way we behave too.

So when I see people as people who need to find Jesus or people who want to run on mission for Jesus, when I see that, then it clarifies my calling. My existence, the point of why I'm here. It answers my purpose question. It reminds me that it's not inward focused and allows me to be others focused and get excited about being others focused.

It's not a punishment to be others focused. I get to be that because I see them and I see the gift of eternity and I just want it. I want it for everybody. So it like the lens [00:29:00] in which I see. Into other people. It's, I just hope to never not have that.

Krystal: I'm with you Summer, like hearing this, I'm just like, yes, like the gospel, it does change everything. It's one of our favorites. One of us might cry when we hear the response and I often can't be on the rap because I'm like, Shelby, I'm crying. I can't say these words. It is so beautiful just to always end on the fact that it's not about us.

It's not about what we do and what we can or cannot accomplish. Christ has already accomplished it for us. So just ending on that note is always. So beautiful. So Michelle, Summer, thank you so much for joining us today on the Daily Grace

Michelle: thank you for having us and thank you guys for your ministry. Seriously. It's so encouraging.

Krystal: podcast. It's a joy for us. And so we're just excited for our listeners to get to know you. We're going to include links to SheWorksHisWay and all the ways to connect with Michelle and Summer in the show notes.

Shelby: And don't forget to subscribe to our weekly newsletter to receive free resources related to the podcast straight to your inbox.

You can also find the link to that in the show notes [00:30:00] until next time. We hope that you will come join us as we continue this conversation over on Instagram at daily grace podcast. We'll see you next week. Goodbye.