

EPS 11 Kim Stanley – Worship leader, songwriter, & speaker

Kim Stanley is a worship leader, songwriter, and speaker who loves to inspire others to pursue the heart of God. She calls women up to a higher place, awakening them to a lifestyle of worship.

Alongside her husband Joe, they have ministered together for over 30 years, speaking and leading worship in many churches and conferences both stateside and overseas.

They have recorded several CD's **and Kim is also the co-host of a podcast called “A Burst Of Hope.”** Joe and Kim have raised 4 children; they have 7 grandchildren and live in South Atlanta.

<https://joeandkimstanley.com>

Gift from Kim

[https://gallery.mailchimp.com/417a1ef6db81ac4d35e115c82/files/7bc53597-fb9e-4f86-b18c-19e280e2fd7d/Who I Am in Christ handout our ministry .pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/417a1ef6db81ac4d35e115c82/files/7bc53597-fb9e-4f86-b18c-19e280e2fd7d/Who_I_Am_in_Christ_handout_our_ministry_.pdf)

Need relationship encouragement? Fresh Insights with Host Connie Durham

(FREE 40 minutes with Connie)

<https://www.theextraordinarymarriage.com/fresh-insights-free-session> Podcast Show Notes www.theextraordinarymarriage.com/podcast

Unedited Show Notes transcribed by “Headliner”

A Chance Meeting Leads to Ministry Calling

Welcome to the extraordinary marriage I am welcoming today with Kim Stanley

Speaker A: Are you ready to open the door to more romance, fun, and adventure? Or maybe it's compassion, support, and strength you're looking for. Discover real life stories and a path

to overcome the pitfalls every marriage encounters. Welcome to the extraordinary marriage. Welcome to the extraordinary marriage I am welcoming today. Kim Stanley. Hey, Kim.

Speaker B: Hey, Connie. Good to be with you today.

Speaker A: Awesome. I can't wait to hear a little bit about your life with Joe.

Joe and I have been in worship ministry for over 30 years

Speaker A: So I want you to go ahead and tell us now, kind of some things, what, you're doing these days.

Speaker B: Well, Joe and I have been in Worship ministry for over 30 years in full time. That's what we do. So we're still getting to do that by the grace of God. So thankful that he still allows us to travel and sing and lead worship together. And we do it however the Lord allows us in church services and revivals and conferences and that kind of thing. so we're staying busy with that. And it's funny, though, that in new seasons, the Lord moves differently. So you find yourself trying to recreate, and, it's like the gospel. You keep the message the same, but the method might change, right? So we're always trying to just recreate. So I do a lot of women's ministry, too, on top of that, and I lead at a local Bible study here in town, and then, do some writing. So there's a lot of different things going on right now in our ministry, so we're very excited and blessed.

Connie, you have a podcast called a burst of hope

Speaker A: Well, I also know that you are doing a podcast of your own. You want to tell us about that?

Speaker B: Sure. Yeah. About, two and a half years ago, my good friend Martha Wilson, who is the founding director of Touching Hearts Ministries, and that's where I lead worship every week. It's a wonderful ladies ministry. She and I started a podcast, and, we call it a burst of hope and just love it. It's been such a delight and, as, you know, a learning curve, trying to figure out how to actually do a podcast. But it's been so much fun, and we've had guests. We usually have guests. You have been a guest on our podcAst, Connie. Yes. I am so grateful for

that. And we just allow people to share their stories of hope. And I think because stories are so powerful, and when someone hears, another person's story and how God has become God of hope to them, we latch onto that, and it bolsters our faith and just lets us know we're not alone. and we've had a lot of fun doing that.

Speaker A: I love that. Because I believe people really need hope, they need encouragement, they need love. And there's so many people that are alone out there or feel like they're all alone. And so these know you have a podcast, you can listen. know I'm not so sure what happened to radio stations. I remember back in that. Right, yeah. So. Well, Kim and I, have known each other for really a long time. We actually, were both in Mary Kay cosmetics together. she crossed my path, one of the first times, maybe singing at my church many years ago. And so I can't wait to hear your love story, because that's what we do on here is we share how we met our, you know, somebody's going to really connect to that.

Jordan and Joe Stanley met in college while attending University of Cincinnati Conservatory

Speaker A: So you have a special story because you guys met. Am I right? Is it Nashville?

Speaker B: it was actually Charlotte, North Carolina.

Speaker A: Charlotte, North Carolina. Okay. Okay, so go ahead and start there.

Speaker B: Okay, so we were both in college, didn't know each other. I was at University of Cincinnati Conservatory. Joe was going to Ball State, Muncie, Indiana. And, in that area of the country, there's a big amusement park called Kings island at the time, and they own several parks all over. And so we both auditioned to try to get into the Cincinnati park, but they ended up putting us in a sister park in Charlotte, North Carolina. It was called Carowinds. And so we met and we were both in a country show together. We didn't know any of our cast. You just come know, find some people you can room with. And so I found some the girls in my cast. And this is a funny story. we had gotten fitted for our costumes already. This is back in 1981. So country Music in Charlotte, North Carolina, there was lots of Blue Gingham. That was my, it was Blue Gingham for the first half. And then, we were in the green room and we noticed that there was some other people getting fitted for their costume. And I looked over

and the guy had a blue Gingham shirt, which meant he was probably going to be my partner in the show.

Speaker A: So that Joe Stanley didn't know that already.

Speaker B: No, that night, we all met each other and we kind of auditioned for the solos that are in the show. And that was back in the day when Kenny, I'm really dating myself, but when Kenny Rogers. Yeah, I did, didn't I? 81, when Kenny Rogers song Lady was popular. back. Yeah, centuries ago. So Joe sang that song as a solo. I'm not kidding. I couldn't take my eyes off of him. So it kind of was. We teased each other. It really was kind of a love at first sight thing. But because of the nature of our work that we all, there were six of us in this cast, plus the band, we got really close, all of us very tight, very quickly because we worked 1214 hours a day together every day. And so we got to know each.

Speaker A: Other well, you not only work together in those kind of situations, but you spend hours and hours practicing together.

Speaker B: Oh, yeah. So you get to know everybody's point when they're going to break down and what sets them off. Anyway, it's really fun. So we got to know each other quickly and, actually got married, about a year and a half later because we were both in college and we were trying to figure out what our paths were going to be. we both wanted to stay in entertainment, and I had majored in musical theater, but I wanted to be married, too, so I didn't know for sure how those would marry each other. So we just decided we get married and try to make a go of it. And we did a couple of USO tours, and we worked for that same production company that owned the Parks and for seasonal work. And then Joe finished his degree and we were still working in shows. And in the meantime, we had a.

Speaker A: you know, that kind of sounds like my husband. And, you know, we met through music also because he plays piano and we both sing. And we met in chorus in high.

Speaker B: Wow.

Speaker A: actually, after we were dating, I intended to go to the North Carolina school of the Arts for, because something that was going on at the school of the Arts that year when I went to, they asked me to come back to summer school, and I didn't get to do that, or I made a

decision not to do that. And there it goes. You get married and you start having babies. There it goes. So we're in music also. Okay, so you guys, let's recap. So you guys are now married and you're still trying to, do the music thing, and you both sing beautifully. and now you have a baby. So now where's that?

Speaker B: Well, I think I was the first one to have take your baby to work day. Back in the 80s, Joe was working and teaching some too on the side because he had finished his degree and he was a phys ed teacher. That's what his degree was in. So sometimes he would take some subbing jobs, but then he'd perform at night with this band. So I was taking Jordan, our oldest, to work with me back. She was a backstage baby for a while. We did that for probably about three seasons of shows. And, it was a unique thing, but she learned to walk, and we have a picture of her. This is back in the day of Hannah Barbera. So she learned to walk with Smurf, hands and feet, because we were in a Smurf show then and just some other stuff. So I had a great team. Our shows were only like 2030 minutes long, so whoever was swung out that day would hold Jordan in the audience while I did the show. And they just did that. So it was really fun. It worked out okay for a while.

Speaker A: Somehow I'm wishing that we had some pictures, way back when. Yeah, there's many a mom out there who, is working from home these days and their kids are at home. It's really different when you take them out on a set. But the thing is, everybody loves little ones, especially really small little ones, and, everybody helps out and it just becomes like a family, doesn't it?

Speaker B: It does. It really was, yeah, it was great. And we did that for a couple years. And then Joe got involved in a band that actually brought him. We were living in Cincinnati, so he got involved in a show band that brought him down to Atlanta. And that's what brought us to Atlanta. This is BC Days. So he performed in a, nightclub. And because it was, ah, attached to a hotel, they were doing all kinds of music with costume changes and it got to be very popular. So people were coming by the Groves to watch this band and they were bringing their families. So it was not your typical nightclub, audience. It was very family oriented. And then they decided to add a female singer. So I got that job, so that's how I got down.

Jordan and Joe say their motivation now is to glorify God in everything

Speaker B: And so Jordan and Joe and I lived in hotel rooms for a few months, traveled a little bit with that band. And then through all that is how we started visiting. Someone invited us to church and we went to church and heard the gospel. And I had a lot of religion in my life, but heard the gospel, And then the Lord just changed our hearts and showed, us his grace and turned our lives upside down, and then we went sing for him.

Speaker A: So you're saying you're in ministry now, but back in those days, whenever you guys got together, you weren't doing religious music or religious shows or not really. You were doing popular kind of things. I have to tell you, I envy you a little bit on that because I love the performances and the singing and dancing and. I love that kind of stuff.

Speaker B: I, too.

Speaker A: so what would you think before you continue? What would be the difference of those early days and 1020 years after that? What would be the differences? Can you think of anything?

Speaker B: Yeah, I mean, personally, just the motivation to do all of that. When you're performing, it's a competitive field and you're always aware of how your audience is receiving you. And my husband would say the same thing. You're gauging your performance based on how the audience is responding. And so that means if you're not secure in who you are, you are up and down all over the place, and you might do some things, get a lifestyle. Your motivation just is from a whole different perspective. But because God showed us who he was, and because now we're followers of Jesus, that has all changed. Whatever we do, whether we're singing, if we were singing secular music, if we were doing anything, our motivation now is just to glorify God in whatever we do and to bring his presence into a situation, into a room. And so that's a major thing. And that affects your marriage too, I'd say big time.

Speaker A: And I think that's finding your center.

Speaker A: And I'm going to go another direction, because today we have so many areas of social media, and people see your very best when you're on social media. I mean, none of us post our pictures when we're having a down day or when we're depressed or, we're frustrated. nobody sees those pictures and pretty much everybody has those times. But we start to really

get stuck on how things look on the outside. And I think that, young marrieds, especially these days, are looking at somebody else's family as they're having babies and having toddlers or get together and all the things they're getting to do, or whether they have a lot of money or whether they have a little bit of money. and I think we start to look at others thinking they have it better than us, but we never know what's going on inside somebody's doors. And, I have found that whenever we have challenges, we bring them with us into marriage sometimes. And people have some troubles that way. So my main thing would be just to remind people not to look at the outside. Of course, for you guys, here you are singing professionally and you're getting to do it together and you're getting to take your baby with you. So that's certainly great. But there's also always, ah, a little hardship in trying to do all that. But I'm sure it was great for you guys. But I just want to remind people, it looks so wonderful, but no matter what you're doing, first of all, it's not instant, it's not perfect. everything takes work. And so you guys are in the middle of that right here as you're, trying to keep your marriage together, take care of your baby at some time, right?

Speaker B: Yeah, it was a challenge. But when you're so young in those days, you don't have anything to compare it to, and you just think, we're just going to go make this work. And I'm thankful that it did. But it had changed as the years went by, because then we got plugged into our church and we started traveling and, singing in churches and leading worship and having more children. So traveling with four kids was a challenge or imbalance for me as a mom. It was a balance of how much can we do? And I did not home school my kids. They were very plugged into the community, into our home church, and we just felt like that was the best thing here for them at the time. So we were balancing how much can we be gone? Who's going to help us with our was. As a mom, there was a lot of, that was a struggle sometimes I felt, but God always provided and Joe always came alongside. And he just reminded me, know, if God's called us to ministry, he's called our whole family, and that may look different for our family than it does for someone else. Like you said, we want to compare our story to somebody else's. everybody I knew that was in full time ministry had an RV, and they took their kids with them and homeschooled. And to me, that was like the ultimate. I was like, that's what we should be doing, honey. And Joe's like, I don't think so. This is where God's called us. Let's just be know. And it really helped me to our, this is what God's called us to. And he's going to give us the grace to do it. And he did, and he still does.

Speaker A: And we do get a preconceived idea about what we want for our life and how we think it should look. Right?

Speaker B: Right. Yeah.

Communication is probably the biggest challenge in marriage, Bruce says

Speaker A: Well, so as you guys are married and you keep on having a kids, let's see, what would you consider a challenge in marriage besides kids and trying to juggle children?

Speaker B: Yeah. Well, I think one of the things that you highlight on your program is communication. I believe that's probably the biggest thing for us. I am non confrontational to the nth degree. And especially in the early days, gotten better. I've had to learn, and Joe is not, but he's very passionate. So when he's speaking, it's very passionate and he's in a good mood, it's passionate. If he's angry, he's passionate. And I didn't know how to balance that in the early days. and I would take it personally, and it was just his way of communicating. And so I had to learn not to be still learning, don't have it down yet, but not to be overly sensitive and to realize he's venting. Let him vent. And I'm the one that God has given me the grace and the privilege to come alongside and say, I can listen to you. Tell me what you're thinking. I'm just going to listen. I'm not going to take it as something you're saying against me. We all need those sounding boards, and I think communication is probably the number one and still continues to be a challenge as we're in, know, nesting or whatever, what's called golden years.

Speaker A: I don't like to say that, Kim.

Speaker B: I don't either.

Speaker A: We're not there yet.

Speaker B: Golden is. Yeah, well, we have a little more freedom in our time with the kids not being here.

Speaker A: I guess that. Absolutely. You know, what I'm hearing from you is that often people are opposites. The opposites attract, and so we do our feelings on our shoulders. And

whenever somebody's getting, quote, passionate, we all do that. We get passionate of what we believe. We get passionate and we go to defend ourselves. we get passionate when we need to make a point. but everybody's not as passionate as that. And I call that also, like, straightforward, that person who they tell you like it is. And there's a great value in that. But sometimes we do get our feelings hurt. for you guys and for many other couples out there, too, you have to just learn as you go. You have to let go of things. And one of the biggest things is, there are certain folks out there who have trouble forgiving, and I think we all pout a little bit once in a while, right? But it's like you have trouble forgiving and, sometimes you have to let go and move on, or you just keep dragging the dirt and the junk with you. Right?

Speaker B: Yeah, that's a big thing. I'm so glad you said that, because I was thinking that before we met today about how, major, forgiveness is in a relationship. I mean, let's face it, all of us are going to get wounded somehow along the way every day, and, we have to know what to do to that. And God really probably saved our marriage through teaching us about forgiveness, because I was like that. I was the powder. I was the one that I thought I was being holier than now and letting Joe have the upper hand on the confrontation or on the argument. I would walk away. And one day he called me, goes, why are you walking away? And I don't know. I don't know what to say, to know. I couldn't process my feelings, but I've learned over time to stay there, to stay there in the argument. But what happened is I took all those old things that happened in the past, and they all kind of snowballed together. And I realized I had built up resentment over the years on how we communicated, and I had to forgive. When we forgive people, we're not saying we're really forgiving the wounds that it caused in us. And, there's a wonderful ministry, and dear friends of ours, Tony and Bruce Heebel, and their ministry is called forgiving forward. And they go all over the world and teach this, and it's life changing, but it's the gospel. And so learning how to forgive and choosing to forgive is freedom. I mean, you can walk in freedom, and it really is a game changer for any marriage, any relationship.

Speaker A: Well, as you mentioned, the word resentment. Resentment is something that festers and grows, and sometimes it goes over a long period of time. And sometimes we're not the problem in the beginning. Maybe it's our spouse, but eventually we start to act and react differently than we would have if we weren't. We know we're frustrated. You get frustrated. It's just one of those things sometimes. I call this the, crazy cycle. There's actually a book on it, and it's called the Crazy Cycle. And it's once one partner gets irritated or

frustrated or mad or pouting or sulking or whatever's going on. And then men, probably I've said this before, but it's like, men need to be respected and women need to be loved. And once a woman's not feeling loved, because he has just been talking to me like that. Right. she's not feeling loved. And the next thing you know, m maybe she's not making dinner, or maybe she's making that food at dinner he doesn't like so much. Or there's a lot of oh, I'm sorry. You don't have any clean underwear. Sorry about that. She's starting to pull out some things that, she's like, m sticking it to him here and there, right? And the next thing you know, he's not feeling respected. No one's listening to each other and it just is a cycle that goes round and round and somebody has to stop it. And the only person that can stop it is usually us because we can't control anything the other person is doing.

Speaker B: That's true.

Speaker A: So those kind of things, do grow and get, bigger and bigger and cause us trouble.

There was like twelve years between the oldest and the youngest

Speaker A: All right, so you've got a bunch of kids. How many kids did you have while you're singing? Right? While you're doing all this?

Speaker B: Yeah, four. And they ranged in ages. There was like twelve years between the oldest and the youngest. So we had lost a set of twins in between. So it's kind of like we had two here and then two there. so we had two little families. But it was great because my oldest daughter helped me so much with the younger ones because she was like 11, 12, 13 when they were coming up. and she was a big help to me.

Speaker A: That's helpful. So you had that loss and that's always a hard thing. And there's probably somebody else out there who's had that same kind of thing happen. but having an eleven or twelve year old. Ah. And they learn to be Mommy, right? They learn Mommy skills whenever they're all helping each other. One of the funny things from, my youngest son, who's remarried and he has nine kids now, was. We were talking, I was talking to his wife, Justine, and I said, justine, you got to get these kids to help you do stuff because it's just too hard to do it all by yourself. and she was a person who just takes care of everyone and just was doing everything for everyone. Well, one day I went over and there was a

chalkboard up on the kitchen wall and I said, oh, what is that? And she said, oh, we started a chore chart. And so a couple of months later, I saw the chore chart was still up there because I was one of those who would. I would start the chores and I would put them on the refrigerator. But then within a couple of days, the chart was pretty. And maybe there was an X or a check here and there on it. And then in a couple of days I just forgot it was there. But here's what happened with her was that I said, how's that going with the kids doing their chores, are you having to nag them or bug them about it? No, there's a few who actually do their chores and they make sure everyone else is doing their chores.

Speaker B: Great.

Speaker A: That is a good kind of thing. How about your kids? were they all helpful or just that oldest?

Speaker B: They were all helpful in their own ways. They're all different personalities. And so my thing was, I would get frustrated. I'd probably try the chore chart for about two weeks, and then it didn't go the way I wanted, and then I'd just try something else. But I realized that all their personalities were different, and you had to kind of come at it a different way. Our oldest daughter was very compliant and just kind of took the ball and ran with it. And our son was not so much that, but you had to make it fun for him. If you could make it like a game or he could be moving around and a challenge, he liked that. And then our last two, they seemed to pick it up faster. I think because I'd been a mom for longer, when they came, it was easier for me to say, take this, and I let them have more responsibility at a younger age. So they seem to kind of catch on faster and just start. Like, my youngest son, he used to cook for himself growing up here. He just liked to do that. He's a great cook. Now he cooks for his wife at home, and I love when he comes home because he'll cook for us. So I think I learned from parenting longer to give them more responsibility, too. So that helped.

Speaker A: And the youngest ones, they're watching the older ones, and so if they're taking responsibility now, if you got one that's older and they're not doing anything, that is not helpful. But, as long as those older ones are working, I think the younger ones learn everything a, little bit quicker. And I love the idea that your son was cooking because that goes back to the personalities, too, and talents. We all have different talents.

Speaker B: Yeah.

Speaker A: And so he liked to cook. Is that the same one who liked for things to be fun?
Yeah.

Speaker B: No, that's a different one.

Speaker A: Okay. I don't think he's got a handful of kids. Yeah, we like it when somebody likes to cook.

Speaker B: Yes, we do.

Speaker A: As the years go on, and you guys continue to do church ministry and all that kind of thing.

Speaker A: I don't want to say was that your only work? But when you're not stationary at a church, some of the years were you stationary at a church, and some years relying on churches to call you in.

Speaker B: Yeah, it kind of was a combination of both along the way. There were times when we only did that, and then there would be times that, like our home church asked us to lead worship at a second campus and start there, and we were able to do both. we could help Sunday mornings and then we could travel. Back then they were doing Sunday night services a lot of places or during the week. So it's just been different along the way, which is part of how God's provided for us. So it's been wonderful.

Kim says it's important for women to claim what they're good at

Speaker A: Well, as we talk about, strengths and talents, can you think it's really always hard to share your own talents and strengths. But you know what? I think it's important for women, to build confidence and to claim what they're good at, because I know I was one also that I would tend to put myself down, or you think that's being humble, right. but at a certain point it tends to start to tear you down. And so, Kim, I'm going to ask you, what are a few of your superpowers? I know you're really great at some things. Besides, I bet you're a great listener.

Speaker B: Well, I thought I was at one time, and I think I need more practice, which is. I do like to listen. I do enjoy listening. I don't know. Superpowers?

Speaker A: Superpowers, yeah.

Speaker B: I love being around people. I love hearing people's stories. And I love seeing God at work in people's lives. I love to read. I don't know if that's a superpower, but, I don't know. That's a hard one, Connie, something that you enjoy.

Speaker A: Okay, so I didn't mean to cut you off on that, but I want all of our listeners to think about that. Because as women or as men, because I hope that there's both. Listening to the podcast, we do have to stop sometimes. And maybe just between us and God, if we can't say it out loud. We don't want to be vain. But I do think that sometimes, acknowledging your superpowers and knowing that you are good at some things, I think God wants us to acknowledge the talents that he's given us.

Speaker B: Well, I did think of one I forgot to mention because it's kind of a new one. And, I'm writing a lot these days, and I start out writing blogs. I'm writing a book. I've got some teaching things that I'm working on. And so, about twelve years ago, I challenged myself to call myself a writer, even though I didn't feel like it. And I said, I'm going to call myself. I'm going to start calling myself a writer just between me and God. Yeah. And that really helped, though. But I love to write. it's a fun new season for me, so I don't know if I call it a superpower, but it's certainly something that I love to do and I'm hopefully getting better at.

Speaker A: Yeah. That you enjoy. And the more you do something, the better you get at it. And I think we have to call ourselves what we are, what we want to be, where we're at. And have you ever run across a really super confident person and they tell you who they are and what they are and how great, and then five years later, down the road, you find out they were just starting out?

Speaker B: Yeah. But, that's part of that self talk. You have to have healthy self talk to yourself. and I think biblically, that's like you said, we're just saying what God's doing, so it's not in a haughty way. We are affirming the gifts of God in us.

Speaker A: And of course, one of your super gifts is singing and, singing and everything, things coming from the heart. So I think that would be your superpower. I'm going to give that to you today. That things that you do, Kim, come from the heart, and things that come from the heart speak to other people.

Joe Stanley is a great husband and a great storyteller

Speaker A: all right, so what do you think are some superpowers your husband has? I know I could always name off a million superpowers.

Speaker B: Yeah, I can. He's hilarious. He loves to tell stories. He is the fun guy in our house. and yet he has great compassion for other people. He's a storyteller, but he likes to hear other people's stories, too. But he is definitely the life of the party. And, you're going to know when Joe Stanley comes into the room, that.

Speaker A: Makes for a good performer, right?

Speaker B: Yeah, he's a natural. Yeah, that's a natural thing for him. He's a great husband. It's funny. Here we are talking about marriage, and I loved being married now more than I did when I was younger. Do you know what I mean? How we grow into that. And it's like, it's so good. When it's good, it's really, really good. But we're so thankful that we stuck it out in those early days and learned how to get through some things, because this is good stuff. This is gold. And that's what I wish. I hope that's why I tell my kids, like, hang in there. It's hard, but it's good. It's a good Hard. And enjoy the fruit of your labor when you get to this end of it.

Speaker A: Jeez, if everything was easy all along, just get bored because we wouldn't have work on, right?

Speaker B: That's right.

Speaker A: Yeah, that's right. Okay, so I had him one thought, and it went away. This happens quite often these days.

Your podcast is called A Burst of Hope, and it's on all platforms

Speaker A: well, tell us about your podcast and the name of that there again. So that if anybody wants to come and be encouraged and grow their hope. And as I ask you that, I think about the fact of these days, I think that we allow too much junk to go into our mind. We watch things on TV. We listen to people who are having a bad attitude. We watch people with bad attitudes on TV. Even the kids are watching kids with bad attitudes. And we wonder what's happening to the young people. Right. it's so important to find those things that feed your soul, feed your mind, and that's, what keeps us going. I know I can be down and out, and I can listen to some great music or a great speaker who has great, you know, we're here to lift one another up. Right? Right.

Speaker B: Absolutely.

Speaker A: Yeah.

Speaker B: Thank you. Yes. It's called A Burst of Hope, and it's on all major podcast platforms. Apple, Spotify, Amazon, all of those. And, yeah, we'd love for y'all to come and check us out and just listen to some stories because you will leave feeling more hope filled. I do believe that, and that's a testimony to how God has set it up and the people that come and share their stories. And it's a great avenue to tell our stories.

Speaker A: I know it was fun for me whenever I, came and did that with y'all. And you know what? Everything I have been doing is online. So I had to go sit down and be with two real people. I was like, gosh, I'm so nervous. Yeah, but that was fun. And you and Joe also have, what do you have? A site where people can find you if churches are interested?

Speaker B: It's really easy. It's just. Joeandkinstanley.com. Yeah, we have lots of, information there about our speaking and our worship ministry. And the podcast is on there, too, so it's all there.

Speaker A: And you actually speak at women's events, too? Sometimes. You spoke at my church?

Speaker B: I do.

Speaker A: Just a while back, yes.

Speaker B: Got a lot lined up for this Christmas season, so I'm excited about that.

Speaker A: yeah. And here we are in December, and we just now mentioned Christmas season, didn't we? Yeah. Ah, we're at the end of it at this point. and it's going to be a time to start a brand new year and new goals, thinking about what you want to do different next year than you're doing now, right?

Speaker B: Yeah, that's right. I love getting that new calendar for the year. That's always a fun time.

The importance of planning for what you want in your life is important

Speaker A: Well, and I believe relationships and couples, it's important. Something that I've realized as we finished off today, something I realized important that, I used to do it or I've done it at times and I kind of stopped planning my life purposely. And I would find that another weekend came, and another weekend came, and another weekend came, and I'd be like, oh, I meant to do this. Oh, I meant to do that. And so, I actually take this note from my daughter Melissa, because she's a great planner and I guess it's because she's at a very busy time during her life. And so, I think that's what I would want to leave people with today is the importance of planning for what you want in your life. Is it time with family, time with friends? a most important here at the extraordinary marriage, of course, is time with your husband, keeping that relationship going. but planning your life and planning what you want, otherwise it just slips by and we stay in defense mode instead of in offense mode or where we want to go. Right.

Speaker B: That's right. I think that's so important. And, I would say especially planning, like, date nights. And I know for us and other couples out there that might work together, that's really important because you need to have some time when you're just having fun together and not in work mode. And so we planned that. It used to be Thursday nights, and now we're changing at night up, because of a prior commitment. But we are pretty committed to doing that at least once a week. Even if we just go out, see a movie or go somewhere and talk about anything or walk around. It's important to have those times set.

Speaker A: Aside with your once a week. I love that.

Do you need change or does your spouse need change

Speaker A: All right, so I'm going to finish with this one question because you just told me that I'm going to ask this. A lot of times there's people who need change in their life and others don't need that change. They're just satisfied and they're just very content. So which one would be the one who needs more change in life. You or, oh, it might be a tie if you're having to think about it.

Speaker B: No, I know. I'm trying to think of a nice way to put it. Now, I would say probably Joe. He's the kind of guy that if you go into a restaurant, he's going to order the same thing. If he loves, know it's just him. If it's not broke, don't fix it. And I don't mean that in a bad way, because that leads to a lot of really great things in a relationship. But I would say he's probably the one that, change is kind of harder for. I kind of thrive in that. I like new things. I like trying new stuff, going new places, taking a back road. And he likes the sure and steady. We've done it this way. This works.

Speaker A: I love that, Kim, because guess what? Teaching communication styles, typically, the person who is fun loving and very straightforward, like you're kind of talking about earlier, is the one who needs change. Like, I need change. I need a new menu. I need to taste something different, do something different. And my husband is, he's just happy and easy. And I'm like, oh, I wish I was like that sometimes.

Speaker B: Well, I know I need change. Well, we need to learn from both. That's why God put us together.

Speaker A: That's right. And as we finish today, just think about that. Do you need change or does your spouse need change? And the importance of paying attention to the needs of your spouse.

Be sure to subscribe to The Extraordinary Marriage to get

Speaker A: All right. And if you like this today, be sure and subscribe so you don't miss any of the extraordinary marriage. Thank you, Kim, for being with me today.

Speaker B: Thank you, Connie. It was really fun being with you.

Speaker A: If you've been encouraged today, please hit subscribe and help me spread the word by sharing with your friends. You'll find show notes and how you can connect with today's guest@theextraordinarymarriage.com. Get ready to uncover the best kept secrets of happy, healthy marriages and gain the power of understanding how you and your spouse think, act and respond differently. Learn more about the unique communication secrets for marriage@theextraordinarymarriage.com. This is your host, Connie Durham, and I'll see you next week.