

Consumed By First - FINAL

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SPEAKERS

Mike Stone, Josh Ward, Consumed By Fire, Caleb Ward, Jordan Ward



Consumed By Fire 00:14

I don't want to love what the world loves. I don't want to chase what the world does I only want you. I only want you. First Things First, I seek Your will, not my own...



Mike Stone 00:36

Hey, welcome back. I am here with Caleb, Jordan and Josh Ward, three brothers from Oklahoma who make up the band Consumed By Fire. Hey, guys, thanks for joining me today. It's great honor to have you guys.



Jordan Ward 00:50

Thanks for hanging out Mike. We're excited.



Caleb Ward 00:52

Fired up!



Mike Stone 00:53

Yeah. So you guys are in Oklahoma? Yes. Are you Oklahoma Sooner fans sooner fans? Oh, are we? Big guy fan? I'm a Buckeye fan. So we clash every once in a while.



Caleb Ward 01:11

What's it What's it feel like to win? Consistently, consistently? Yeah,



Mike Stone 01:16

well, we'll see this year, this year may be a challenge for the Buckeyes. But we'll see.



Jordan Ward 01:22

Yeah, I still letting go. We've had such a long run of disappointment with the Sooners that we had to like step away for a little bit because we got too emotionally invested, especially after the Oh, eight Fiesta Bowl, the little statue of liberty play or whatever you call it against Boise State.



Caleb Ward 01:38

It feels like since like, what the early 2000s. We've been let down.



Jordan Ward 01:43

Yeah, our buddy, Arthur. He's in radio over there, Boise. And he took us to the stadium, and then showed us the Fiesta Bowl trophy. And then we didn't realize how much we still had to work on in our hearts. So it was pretty tough. That hurt



Mike Stone 01:59

college football. Does that tell you doesn't it? We get and we can just not wouldn't never make it over the hump. So yeah, that's awesome.



Caleb Ward 02:09

We're all about us. And we love our football.



Mike Stone 02:12

Yeah. So is it just the three of you guys? Do you have any other siblings?



Josh Ward 02:17


It's just as just as three.





Caleb Ward 02:19


.....

Yeah, just the three we always tell mama. We would tell her over the years her and Dad. Hey, y'all should have had a couple more we could have round out the bands. It would have made life

 Jordan Ward 02:29
a little bit easier as a bass player. Yeah, at


 Mike Stone 02:31
least. missing somebody there. That's all right. So who's the baby of the family?


 Caleb Ward 02:39
I guess that would be me as the years go on. It doesn't feel as much like a baby. Yeah, it's kind of rolling your eyes. We're getting old.

 Mike Stone 02:49
And you're all married.

 Jordan Ward 02:51
We just keep speaking the word over. Our youth renewed now. Stop watching

 Caleb Ward 02:57
and sooner football games. And we'll have some Yeah.

 Mike Stone 02:59
Yeah, that's right. I know the age thing too. So you guys, you guys really have had some great things going on. I mean "First Things First" has been hanging around at the top of the Christian music chart for a while. You guys have plans just to keep it there? What what's going on with that? I mean, did you guys know the sound was gonna take off like it did.

 Jordan Ward 03:24
You know, we've had a lot a long run of almost. And so we're just so grateful that we've got one right now that people are being impacted by and that the Lord is able to use it in the way that he is. And I mean, just it does feel like a ride right now. It's It's exciting. It's been a blast more than anything. I think this song deals with the heart of man. And it deals with that part that part

of I guess you could say the how Paul would word it the crucifying of the flesh. You know what I mean? The five physical senses kind of saying, Hey, I'm gonna let the Spirit of God when this one and I'm gonna give, I'm gonna seek the kingdom first. Even when my earthly desires don't really feel like it even when I kind of, I'm not into this. I'm gonna go hey, flesh. We're seeking the Kingdom today. We're seeking His righteousness. And it starts over every day Paul would say

C Caleb Ward 04:20

so you know, it's funny over the years with music, like, when you when you go and you look at the charts or anything like that when it's doing bad, you know? I don't want to look at it. I don't want to look at the numbers. I just want to keep you keep it on the ministry. I don't want to care about it. And you know, it's funny. This is the first time we've been in the top 10 So for us, it's like you know what, same thing. I don't want to look at the numbers. I don't want to look at it. I don't want to see it. Just give it to God. And

J Jordan Ward 04:46

ironically, I mean with this song. There's some lyrics that touch on that like opening out. The first things first it says you know, the things that can the vanities can sometimes whisper in our ear. Yeah, we can kind of get this song came in a season of disappointment for us. I feel like out of that, out of a lot of discouragement, we didn't know what we were going to do. As far as our music ministry went in the future, we didn't know what the future look like. And so this song was our song of surrender of going God, you know, you have our hearts, you know that we're surrendered to the call, we can't see ourselves doing anything else. And this song was are all out, returned to our first love in our hearts, because I think sometimes we can be obedient, and then the willing parts not there. And other times we can be obedient, you know, willing and not so obedient. And so it's like, but it's the willing and the obedient. The scripture says that I need to go to the land. And I feel like for us, this was our willing and obedient, return to our first love song. And I'd maybe, maybe that's why there's some other folks that can relate to that as well right now. So. Yeah.

M Mike Stone 05:58

Yeah, the, I guess, I guess the reason that I think that one of the reasons it's doing so well is because people relate to it we are so we're pulled in so many different directions in life. And there are times you just have to stop and jump off the ride and go, Man, I've got to just reprioritize things because a man sometimes you don't even realize what's going on. And all of a sudden, you're chasing things that you don't didn't mean to chase. So what was that like for you guys? When this thing took off? And all of a sudden, you know, I mean, let's face it, we're all human. And you got to be going Yeah, that's awesome. You know, I love this and and probably things cropping up all the time, that start to distract you even though this is a good thing that can distract you away. So writing a song called First things first and and you kind of you're living it it was that like for you guys when that things started taking off?

J Jordan Ward 06:52

Yeah, I mean you know, we've been doing a such a long time, it feels like we were we were telling Jay DeMarcus at Red Street Records. The owner of the label CEO, the label, he were telling him man, this feels like our first moment where we feels like our first mountaintop experience, I guess you could say Yeah, and so it feels every everybody needs a win every now. And I feel like this one came on the back end of what felt like a real season of loss. Yeah, we just went through so much loss and our family and such the trying of our faith, if you will felt like there was a lot of perseverance that took place for for a handful of years. And so this comes on the back end of a lot of that. We were we were throwing our hands up and praise in the middle of it believing for the breakthrough. And then, you know, as our dad actually, you know, he had a lot of folks may have heard this story, maybe not, I don't know, but we experienced in the early part of 2019 Our dad had a massive stroke. And so then we would be in the hospital with him for 15 months. And then he would come home in the summer of 2020 we would nurse him for until he passed in May of last year in 2022. So it's been a long journey the last few years coming off the road we've always been on the road it feels like our whole adult lives and in part of our childhood I guess you can say Yeah, so

J Josh Ward 08:21

it's really that coming out of that like you're saying it's really just everything that's happened we are we're quick to be joyful we're quick to be grateful for but it's really it's it's we haven't really had that we did it you know kind of a thing because it's like we're just sitting there going overwhelmed going yeah Wow God you feel faithful Yes. Like like you're so faithful you you can take all of this disappointment all of this struggle loss pain all these things and yet in the middle of all that we can create songs and you can take it and you can use it for other people and for ourselves like this was you know, you asked if we knew that this song was going to be anything you can never know what it's going to do in the marketplace per se but I do think this was one of those songs that was very personal like like they brought that back from Nashville and showed it to me for the first time and I knew that it was you know, it messes with you Caleb was like you know he Caleb will tell you he was yeah up at night thinking about this song.

C Caleb Ward 09:28

Well and then in the season of going are we gonna continue on are we gonna do this? Are we are we done with Consumed By Fire? This was the song that brought us back. So I think that's it's really special to see how God sees this one. When we we were burned out and we were done. And I think that just says a lot. For the ones why the word actually says don't grow weary in doing good. Yes. And I think when you are burnout and you have man your harvest your season you to be you You could be right on the other side of it. And maybe you're you're about to give up right before the breakthroughs coming. And I think it's just wild because you hear that and you might, you might have heard it your whole life, but then to live it, and to watch it actually happen right? Before you actually give up. We're really good for us. We did. And we paused. But so so to come back and watch God just resurrect everything. That's why we just go, Oh, who cares about the numbers? He's just faithful. So we're doing it and we're just grateful, man.

M Mike Stone 10:33

Yeah, as a lot of us experienced these times when a kind of like I said earlier where you just get

Yeah, so a lot of us experience those times when a kind of, like I said earlier, where we just get stripped down, and we're like, man, it's just time to take a break. And you find that some of the things that we're doing, even if it's doing it for God, we're trying to do it in our own power in our own strength. And, you know, and I think your pause, although you probably didn't want to see that happen. That pause just helped you to kind of settle and say, God, you know, yeah, opening closed doors, and boy, he opened a big door. And I'm, I'm praying that this continues for you guys. Because I know that it's it ministers to me the song, just the one song and you have an EP, and actually a previous album to song really ministered to me. And it helps me to grow to be grounded every day when I hear it. And I listened to it all the time and doesn't get old. So tell us about consumed by fire. Let's, let's get some background on you guys. For those that don't know, you have a you have a huge following on social media, which is great. So tell us about consumed by fire, how it began, how you guys came up with the name, just all that stuff? And then we'll talk about where you're at today. And what's happening in the future.

J

Jordan Ward 11:48

Yeah, well, so we're pastor's kids, a little bit of our story, a little bit of our background and ministry has always been our lives, like truly, a lot of our pastor friends now ask us, hey, you know, how what did your parents do that made it to where it was so real for you to where you continued in ministry into your adulthood because you know, the statistics don't know the pastor's kids keep in their own walk with the Lord in general. And I feel like for all of us, we believe that it's because our parents included us. We didn't, it wasn't something they did. It was always something we did as a family. And so by the time Caleb turned 13, we were asking our parents, hey, can you homeschool us together so that we can tour? And we were like, we want to have our own ministry. And so it didn't take much time before we were like, we wanted to own it ourselves. And we wanted to do our own ministry and toured the country. And they prayed about it. And you know, here we are, we talk about it. Because, you know, it'd be really easy to go like, hey, let's forget about all the embarrassing photoshoots and the embarrassing hairstyles and embarrassing music you put out or whatever. We only reason we still talk about it. It's one it's a testimony to God's faithfulness to I also really believe that other parents need to understand the importance of supporting kids and supporting their vision. Because if our parents wouldn't have done that, who knows where we'd be today?

J

Josh Ward 13:19

And steward those gifts and steward them. Yeah,

J

Jordan Ward 13:23

so we started that way, bro. And also, you know, it is cute. Yeah, another kid in another band, but Consumed By Fire When Caleb was 13. We played 100 more than 100 dates that year. And we went anywhere and everywhere we could, you know, there were a lot of youth groups and coffee shops and crazy stuff like that. But, but we just, you know, dad used to always teach us the importance of bloom and where you're playing it. And slow growth is solid growth. And he'd always just speak those little nuggets of wisdom in us and, you know, don't despise the day of small beginnings. And so that's where we started, you know, and we had a lot of great mentors along the way to get us to this point, for sure. And still do. Yeah.



Mike Stone 14:07

How did you come up with a name Consumed By Fire? Where'd that come from?



Jordan Ward 14:11

Yeah, it came out of Jeremiah chapter 20, verse nine. Again, we were just kids, you know, we were reading like, what do you what's the band name?



Caleb Ward 14:21

I don't even know how we got to that.



Jordan Ward 14:22

You don't really either, that now looking back, it feels very much like a Holy Spirit thing because we felt the evolution of becoming our name, if you will. When we read that verse. Jeremiah said, when I say I'm done, when I say I'm about to give up your word, it burns in my heart like a fire. And I'm weary of holding it in. Indeed, I cannot. And I feel like for anybody doing anything. There's always that moment where you're like, Hey, I'm done. You know, there was a story of a pastor friend, not a mentor that was talking to the pastor. As in he said, Hey, what do you do? A young pastor come up to him said, what do you do when you want to quit? And he felt so guilty for wanting to quit? You know, he's like talking to the older figure like, what, what's the secret? And you know, that father figure just stepped off the platform, embrace, the younger pastor held him and said, Son, I've quit 1000 times. And I think the the wisdom in that is understanding like in our hearts, we can say, you know, we can say, with our mouths all the way I'm done with this, I'm stuck with this. But there was something Jeremiah tapped into. And he was saying, Man, this word that's in my heart won't let me actually just quit. And now we've got something even better since Jeremiah, and that's the Holy Spirit coming and dwelling within us, and taking us up anytime we fall and empowering us to keep getting back up. And so yeah, I mean, that's what I would say



Caleb Ward 15:52

about it now. Yeah. And it's just weird. It's just kind of crazy to think some kids came across something like that. And now, you know, we look back all these years and go, Oh, my goodness, we've lived that. Like, you know, just kind of circling back to what we were just talking about a moment ago, and that our season of golden calf, we're done. Yeah. And it's just so wild. It is, it's just crazy. To me, it's



Josh Ward 16:17

funny, because the last over a decade, it's been the running joke has been, when are we finally just gonna go out there and change our band name.

C Caleb Ward 16:27

So many years ago, and all and now this name's terrible

J Josh Ward 16:30

and then you know, kind of having that, that, that pause, being with our dad, and and then the whole world being on positive COVID. And then all of a sudden, it's like, and we're back. And we're going during a chance for change in this way. And

C Caleb Ward 16:49

it's just so funny to me how anymore, all the things that we used to maybe despise or not like, or it just feels like all those things we've learned to embrace. It's just so funny to watch. So many doors, like you're talking about just swinging wide open when you've just stopped caring about everything, and you just get

J Jordan Ward 17:10

Dad used to say when the stars finally leave your eyes, then God can use them. We finally I think we finally Yeah, that sounds like "First Things First" is really birth, it's going you know, another thing that you said, we I don't know if anybody's ever lost somebody dear to them, especially father, figure or mentor, a mentor, you hear those words of wisdom in your ears and in your hearts after they go almost every day for us. And dad used to always say, you know, success, for believers shouldn't look the way it does for the world. We shouldn't measure success, the way the world measure success. And then, you know, he would go on to tell us success is being in the will of God. And that is very testing and very trying.

C Caleb Ward 18:01

It doesn't mean that we you know, you don't want to have a spirit of that. Oh, no, because of course, you want to have a spirit of excellence. But it's just more of like, you know what, the little things that maybe would tick it off, or you'd lose your joy over because you're back to your point you're trying in your own strength so much to make it just right. It's like, yeah, no, we're not gonna get caught up in all that, you know, we're going to give our best we're going to have a spirit of excellence, but we're not going to lose our cool over trying to get things right. Well, I

J Jordan Ward 18:27

think also on the success side, well, first things first comes from is like, I think not, it wasn't just us that gets caught up in the numbers. I feel like that's a human condition. We all measure. We all have the tendency in the world system to look at the numbers and go, Is this thing working?

Yeah, that's just the human condition. But I think if you seek the kingdom first, I feel like there's a promise that one day the numbers just catch up and your heart doesn't really care about it when they do. Who said that? I think it was Jesus.



Mike Stone 18:59

Yeah, that's a really a great point. Because we do we chase things to the world, even even as believers we're like, God, you're all mine. But then the next day you wake up and you find yourself again, chasing those things that were human, you know. And so whether you like it or not, The Chosen series has helped me to kind of see Jesus in a new light. And I think it's probably more accurate than what my previous impression of who Jesus really was. Actually is because he he was just, you know, he loved people. He cared about people the joking that they do on the series really helped me to realize that, you know, that's probably the way he is in men. And so we need to, we need to carry that with us because we like you said the Holy Spirit lives within us. It's it's now our job. Not to convert people, but just to be as hands and feet man.



Jordan Ward 19:57

Come on. I love that you saw him out there, because we always talk about, you know, it's this for us. It's it's letting know, letting people know that God is good god nice for them, and that He loves them and introducing people to the real Jesus can sometimes be a shock, because there's so there's so acquainted with the historical Jesus, there's so acquainted with maybe the stained glass window version of Jesus, all the do's and don'ts and the do's and don'ts and the doctrine and all of this. And it's like when you get to understand who the person of Jesus is, he's still saying, Come unto me, for my yoke is easy. My burden is light, everybody that's been beat up by religion and regulations and all the checklists and you can't do it. He said, Come unto me, and I'll give you rest. And that's a huge, I mean, that's what all of our ministry should be if we're if we're called after his name. But that's definitely our focus is Consumed By Fire. And when so when we say "First Things First", all that's in our heart is we're singing and I think a lot of people might hear it, we've seen some comments where people don't quite get the heart of it. And if they were watching this, I'd want to let them know. This is where we're actually coming from. And then we're coming from a place of just not forgetting our first love. There's still something to do with surrender. And it's every day it is yes, daily. It's daily.



Mike Stone 21:15

Yeah, take up your cross. So I'm going to switch gears here. You know, you alluded to it May 19. Is this week, and that holds some significance for you guys. Can you can you talk about that? And what's coming out of that this week?



Caleb Ward 21:33

Yeah, yeah, we are. We have a song that we wrote for our daddy, and we're releasing it the day of his home going, May 19. And it's just a song, just speaking about his life and who he was. And there's a line in the song that talks about, you know, "we we wish we could be half the man that he is" and carrying on the torch and the legacy. There's a line in that song talking about

legacy. And it's it means so much more than just that lyric in the song to us, just mom and daddy, one of the churches, 12-13 churches that they pioneered over all the years. One of them that they pass, the last church, they pastored was actually called Legacy Family Church. And so talking about wanting to leave a legacy. It's a little deeper, much deeper than just the surface of that. Man, we're just we're excited for people to hear this and maybe catch a small glimpse, how we feel about him and who he was and who he is. And yeah, we love this one. This one means a lot. We played it. The other night. For the first time live and man, it was hard to get through it. It was tough to get through it. It was emotional, but it's probably you know, we talked about "First Things First". And now this song right here "Man That Made Me" and these two probably have our heart in just a way that I don't know if many other songs to it. You know? So just with the emotional side and the spirit it's amazing when you sing something you know the word even talks about it the same thing in spirit and in truth and it's like when something's true to you and you had has your heart It has your your spirit as you're doing it. It just music comes alive. Yeah, whenever those two things, those worlds collide. So yeah, we're excited for people to hear it, bro. Were excited.



Mike Stone 23:38

Tell us a bit more about your dad. You said you were PK's growing up and obviously had, you know, I think that's one of the concerns that a lot of believers have is how do we raise our kids to continue to follow we have a podcast we did a while back on, you know, our kids walking away from from their faith. And so yeah, tell us tell us about your about your father and some of the things that that you can share with us.



Jordan Ward 24:04

Yeah. Well, I think his his love for people, you could tell him anything. And he would listen, you know what I mean? He was he he was a well full of wisdom and knowledge and the meanings behind all the words that he could unpack to you. But he was first a listener. But and I think that was such a gift of all the gifts he had people come up constantly, even still to this day, come up and said, Man, I sure miss talking to your dad and he had a heart that you know the old saying that says people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care like he was. He seemed to have an inward awareness of that and I think we're trying to we're trying to carry that now as much as we can. We you know when it comes to his work at the ministry, man Caleb mentioned it but he pioneered churches nearly It doesn't him and mom all over the United States. And probably Gosh, when you I mean realistically, like seven and



Josh Ward 25:08

so many churches together does sees Yeah 33 Different countries



Jordan Ward 25:12

33 countries. Yeah. Wow. So he was a, he was a pastor, but then he traveled around speaking and then he traveled around doing missions work. And so all of those things are still very much in our fabric and our foundation of who we are. You know, we we love the church, we love doing

the work of the Kingdom, and in any way that we can, and and so we're truly just trying to just pick up that torch that he left us. But yeah, so it was to grow up, though, in different parts of the country too. So we got,



Mike Stone 25:47

yeah. When he traveled, did you guys go with him? Or was he like, apart from the family for a while? How did that work?



Josh Ward 25:56

And you know, as long as it was on the North American continent, yeah, I grew up wanting to go with him so bad overseas and became a teenager and realized what they eat and some of these places, and how they don't have McDonald's everywhere. And I decided I did not want to go as much. But now, you know, that was one thing that he was always very, very much an encourager and a person that would say, hey, the people that whenever I go, and I'm gone for weeks at a time, he said, that is you're a part of this ministry yet. You're sending me? Yeah, over there. He was like the people that support and that send. It's, it's that is the working of what the ministry is partnership. And, you know, we take that same principle to our families, whenever we're on the road for weeks at a time, we, you know, it's just all of those things of who he was and how he approached his life dedicated to just look, we're just spreading the gospel. You know, we're gonna let you know, like you said, we don't make conversions. Amen. You know, we're just out there spreading planting seeds, the Gospel, loving people, showing them who Jesus is. And he does the rest, man, it seems, it makes life a lot easier. And



Caleb Ward 27:20

Momma and daddy were an incredible team. It was pretty cool. When we were younger. My goodness, Dad would be done weeks at a time sometimes overseas doing mission work, and mom would just step up and she would, she would lead out to church, she would keep us in order. It was



Jordan Ward 27:37

that would make the joke. He'd come back because they had radio and TV and stuff, too. Yeah, time she'd have to take on all that and people would tell him what, we missed you but I mean, not as much as you might think. Because Mom was doing such a great job.



Caleb Ward 27:53

Mom would hold the fort down. She's



Jordan Ward 27:54

a rock star in her own right for sure. Yeah. Hey, man.



Mike Stone 27:58

Most moms are. Wow. Yeah, you guys. You guys have some brand new fresh off the press news to share and we're delighted to share it right here on Behind the Mike: Conversations of Hope what's going on?



Jordan Ward 28:16

Man, we're so honored and grateful man. All of the early voting for the K-LOVE Fan Awards. I guess everybody stepped up and was so sweet and kind to us and we're officially nominated for 2 K-LOVE Fan Awards this year. Wow. So we'll I think it's Breakout Song of the Year and Group of the Year for the year So go vote KLOVE FAN AWARDS



Josh Ward 28:43

at K-LOVE Fan Awards. Yeah, today. Starting today



Mike Stone 28:47

today. Yeah. Let's do it. Yes, let's do it.



Jordan Ward 28:54

Hey, you know what, I love it. It's all kingdom and everybody that is nominated it's a win win it's all team Jesus and so it's all really it's just fun it's just a fun thing. And for us in this journey we've never been it this is all new for us and so all the first thing it's kind of this like mile markers of in like little wings from heaven it feels like So



Mike Stone 29:18

yeah, we're this is in the hands of your fans though so let's let's let's flood the voting and get you




Josh Ward 29:24


in these situations it's like we're the underdog as well when it comes to some of our fans and how they supported us dude i i put them up against anybody





Mike Stone 29:39


there you go there you go. Hey, let's do that listeners and watchers let's let's go to the K-LOVE Fan Awards and vote these guys in and that'll be pretty cool. And then and we'll watch for you guys somewhere down the road. You'll be I'm sure on the road and and you guys will be able to meet face to face and you can congratulate all of your fans then for helping you to go on so yeah check


 Jordan Ward 30:07
out ConsumedByFire.com We're traveling all over the country this year yeah, I


 Mike Stone 30:12
would love to see all out there that's awesome


 Caleb Ward 30:17
got okay KFC on the day

 Mike Stone 30:22
well while we're talking about food what's what's some of your favorites? You guys are on the road all the time so do you are you are you like me and you just eat what tastes good are you you're not into the whole salad and eating like rabbits.

 Jordan Ward 30:37
We go through periodically Yeah,

 Caleb Ward 30:40
I love a good salad but man it's hard to beat a Mexican place did you get a little Mexican joint I don't care if it's a little hole in the wall that's where it's at. So good. I think

 Jordan Ward 30:52
I'm in a season of correction so I'm not gonna spiritualize it

 Caleb Ward 30:59
Jordan's on on a fast he loves the late night diner do crazy about him. Josh is such a state guy. So if he sees a steak place, he's I can



Josh Ward 31:07

eat one meal a day. As long as it's about a 20 ounce Porterhouse. He's crazy.



Mike Stone 31:13

That's probably healthy for you. Right? They say you know eat little bits through the day and and make it one meal instead of three big meals. So



Josh Ward 31:21

Maybe not the way I do it.



Jordan Ward 31:25

Texas Roadhouse all that bread? Yeah. So we're from the south, like we identifies southern boys. So like, we spent like a large portion of our childhood in South Georgia before coming back to Mama's hometown in Oklahoma, which Oklahoma especially this area just feels like a melting pot. So all the Southern cooking in the food and stuff like and then just like we relate hanging out to eat and to. So it's difficult. And when we're on the road, we're like when we're especially things like you know, the the award seasons and things like we're all just getting together or like momentum going Orlando with all of our friends. It's we're eating, we're hanging out. We're laughing and telling stories and eating some more. And so it's it's tough. It's dangerous. It's very dangerous.



Mike Stone 32:18

I've got some Southern Baptist friends and that's kind of their sounds like you guys kind of run it in that same vein there. So yeah,



Jordan Ward 32:27

yeah. Dad used to say that Rev. Reverend just stood for Rest. Eat. and Visit.



Mike Stone 32:41

Hey, is there anything you guys want to as we wrap up here, anything you guys want to share? individually? Either either about what what's going on in your lives or something that you can share with our listeners and watchers?



Caleb Ward 32:53

Yeah, yeah, absolutely. We were we were talking yesterday, and we were we were actually talking about scriptures and saying the things the scriptures of the past that have meant the most to us over the years through ministry. And you know, it really just had me thinking afterwards, about our family and about how the word can have such a special place in your heart and in how the word can just cut like a sword. It's just so beautiful. And we were on John 10:10. And we are taught in the words of Jesus, The thief comes to steal, to kill and to destroy the Jesus said, I've come for you to have life and for you to have it more abundantly. And I think that Scripture is so important for us as believers with every day, because I think so many times we get caught in our walk in our relationship with the Lord. So quickly, we're taught to take our shield and pointed up at God. And we need to remember that, you know, in those moments where we're going through things, we're going through loss, it feels like the truly we've been hit from every side, that God's not the one bringing the destruction that we have an adversary we have Satan coming against trying to steal, kill and destroy. But he's come Jesus says, I come for you to have a life. So today, if if you've gone through loss if you're experiencing life, because this isn't heaven, we're living on Earth. And it's, it's, it's an Earth after what Adam and Eve did. It's a fallen world, if you will, and we have to remember that God's for us, and that He loves us. And so, you know, I think that that's going to help somebody today that you know, when you're worshiping how much better is it to worship your father, when you know that he's for you? how much easier it is to say, Jesus, I love you when you know that truly he loves you and he's not the one bringing destruction into your life to teach you something. He's not the one coming at you to make you learn something from it. He's so much bigger than that. And I just it's a scripture that

J Jordan Ward 35:11

he gave us his word to perfect. His Holy Spirit to teach us and perfect us. And he's like, it's what we always grew up hearing God's good God, the devil is a bad devil, and they never swap they never swap jobs and then you'd be surprised how much that has been? Controversial. Are you kidding with but it's gonna free it is James 1:13. James said it this way said if any man be tempted of evil, don't think for a second he was tempted of God because God doesn't know evil. Neither can attempt any man with evil go on down a little bit. He says, Don't be deceived. Verse 17. Every good and perfect gift comes from above. And in him there is no variableness no shadow of turning. And so God's consistent. He's the same yesterday, today and forever. Hebrews 13:8 says, we don't have to wonder if he's four is one day and trying to break our leg the next No, he's consistent. He's always good. No matter what


C Caleb Ward 36:08

he loves. Here. He does.

J Josh Ward 36:10

Amen. Yeah. Yeah, that was probably be like, that's if you haven't noticed the theme. That's kind of been the thing that has kind of summed up what we've taken, even before our father passed. That was one of the things that we took with us all over the country for the last over a decade. Yeah. Was that's always been kind of the overarching final word of consumer fires. Like, we just want people to know that God loves you in a way that is not cliché. It's not in

passing. It's it's active, it's present. It's real. It matters. And it's very much that he is for you. He's coming from a place of your defender. He's coming from the place that whenever everything around you looks like it's all bad, and you don't really know where God's been during all this. He is the only one with the ability and he's faithful with his ability to take everything that the enemy means for evil, and to twist it around and make it to where you're gonna come out, smelling like a rose. Gonna make this thing work together for your good and that's and it's all because he's growing his kingdom. Amen. And it's just, it's when you see it, and then you see it active in your life. It's the biggest testimony and it's the biggest. It's it's a beautiful thing.

 Caleb Ward 37:36

And that's the importance of not giving up because right now in this moment, he's working together those things for your good.

 Jordan Ward 37:42

Everything the enemy meant to destroy you. God truly is perfecting everything that concerns you. Can I pray over everybody for, Mike?

 Mike Stone 37:49

Absolutely. Please do.

 Jordan Ward 37:52

I just speak right now to any hurting heart, anybody that feels like they're going through confusion. God is not the God of confusion, but the God of peace. And we just speak that the peace that passes all understanding would flood your whole spirit, your whole soul and your whole body. You have clarity of mind, wisdom will be the stability of your days. Your house is blessed and filled with the peace of God. We thank You, Lord, you're perfecting everything that concerns them. You keep in perfect peace. Those whose minds are fixed on you. And we agree on that. And we speak that all of those things, all those broken hearts, all of the places that need mending all the places that feel torn, Lord, you're near to the brokenhearted. You you heal the brokenhearted and you bind up their wounds, David said, and we thank you for the work that you're doing on the hearts of everybody who's listening right now of this podcast and we thank you for in advance in Jesus name. Amen. Amen.

 Mike Stone 38:49

Amen. All right, we have Josh, Jordan, and Caleb, Consumed By Fire. Thank you guys for joining us. Check out their new single drops on Friday. And go vote. Thank you guys for coming.

 Caleb Ward 39:05



Caleb Ward 39:05

Thank you, Mike



Jordan Ward 39:06

Appreciate you, brother. Hope to see you soon.



Mike Stone 39:08

Yes.