

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the podcast, a show for women who want to live a happier life while tackling their goals along the way. Want to learn more about what we talked about today? Visit our website. SheLivesPodcast.com. Now here's your host, Michelle.

Michelle Hancock 0:22

Welcome back everyone. Today I am with a dear friend. Her name is Nicole Scott. She has a ton of talented attributes. First of all, She's hilarious. Second of all, she is a very talented photographer, photographer rather sorry I can't talk today. And she also is very passionate about beauty. And another reason I have her on the show today is because she is amazing at saving money managing budgeting I remember a couple years back and you're going to have to correct my memory because I have mom brain right now. You were actually on the Dave Ramsey Instagram page.

Nicole Scott:

Yes.

Michelle Hancock

Before I divulge that why don't you tell that story and introduce yourself. She's a mom of three boys. She's a Boy Mom. Give it up there.

Tell us a little bit about yourself.

Nicole Scott 1:13

Yes, I have three boys and ages three, six, and eight. And we live out in the country. We're doing that whole country life with the chickens and the land and all of that. Like you said, I'm a mompreneur and particularly love just building women up and making them feel beautiful both through my beauty business and my photography. But we did our debt free scream in Tennessee with Dave Ramsey in September 2015, which is what you're thinking of. I remember seeing that thinking, Oh my gosh, that sounds like something that I could never do. But we did.

Michelle Hancock 1:49

I think a lot of people are like, wow, how do I how so how did you get into that program? Or did you just tag Dave Ramsey? And did you have to take a class like, tell us about that experience?

Nicole Scott 2:00

So a debt free scream is, it's just super fun. Not everybody who gets debt free through this program does that. But it's something that we were fortunate to be able to do. And it was an incredible experience. But basically, to get onto the show, all you have to do is be debt free and have used his steps to do so you call and schedule it and they give you a date and you go out and meet Dave and do it and tell your story and encourage other people.

Michelle Hancock 2:27

That's really great. Now, most everybody knows who Dave Ramsey is, but there might be somebody that doesn't. So, can you tell us a little bit about what he teaches and some of the tips that you're going to share with us today on the show.

Nicole Scott 2:40

right. And Dave Ramsey is an awesome gentleman based out of Tennessee. He's become a millionaire twice once because he lost it and had to declare bankruptcy and start all over and at that point, he decided that he and anyone else with the Ramsey went name would not ever live that way or have debt again. And so, he created this program with the baby steps to help other people get out of debt, and it's something he's been doing for probably 30, over 30 years now he has a radio show, it started off as a class. And there's a lot of different ways you can access his content and his material, which I'm happy to share. But it's worked for millions of millions and millions of people, when you go to do your debt, free scream, the walls are covered with people who have been there for their debt free screen signing their names and their totals. And it's really, really cool.

Michelle Hancock 3:34

And we'll put the links to that in all of his programs on our Facebook, our Facebook group, and also on the website. She Lives Podcast.com. So people are hurting right now. I don't know about you, but there's a lot. There's a lot going on right now with this virus. Some people are losing their jobs. Some people are just losing projects or they're losing their minds or all of the above that we've seen. Can you talk a little bit about how this has affected your everyday life? How are things going for you guys right now?

Nicole Scott 4:00

things are going well, it's been a testament to the importance of these principles. What we're living through right now is just one of those absolutely crazy and unforeseen things that you have to be prepared for. It's cut, you know, the like, the grandma always says, you've got to be prepared for a rainy day. This is a rainy season. I mean, it's, I don't know, torrential downpour for a lot of people. And so outside of even financial strains and stresses, we're wearing the hats of, you know, home schooling and schooling from home and trying to I mean, just, I think just trying to find the groceries and cook for our family three times a day. It's all the new hats that we're wearing right now. It's a lot.

Michelle Hancock 4:44

It really is. And it seems like the days are just getting longer and longer. It reminds me a little bit of when I had a newborn the first time and I'd be like, Oh my God, this day is so long. I thought it was going to get so much done. I didn't really I'm just I'm just surviving over here. But back then I got to snuggle a little baby at least and smell the new baby smell. And now it's like an

Nicole Scott 5:07

entirely new baby smell has worn off on this situation.

Michelle Hancock 5:11

Oh, yeah. People are talking about a baby boom. And I'm thinking I'm not in this house. And that ship has sailed no more. But I do I do agree with you. You know, the experts always say have a rainy day fund for Well, I don't think they could have foreseen this but there are people out there that were living paycheck to paycheck and the harsh reality is it's it's a hard time especially for them and then it's also a hard time for people that are getting stimulus checks and their work. They still have their jobs but they're also feeling a little bit of guilt about having this extra money. I think the number one question everyone is googling and searching and asking right now is what Okay, I get the stimulus check. What do I What are your What are your tips? What do you think people should be doing and let's just disclaimer here, we are not financial advisors! We are just two moms that run households.

Michelle Hancock 6:05

that run households. And you have more background information on this, but I just want to say, you know, have you heard anything that we should be doing? And does that change depending on ours?

Nicole Scott 6:16

Absolutely. It changes and so yes, I'm not a financial planner I there are, there is a course that you can go through to become one of his advisors. I haven't been through that we do we have facilitated the course Financial Peace and taken a lot of our friends and families and church members and people from our community through that course. And we've taken people all the way through to where they get debt free as well. So I've seen a lot of different situations and circumstances I'm, I listen to his podcast religiously. So I have a lot of answers, but I'm not an advisor or anything like that. First of all, if, if your income is not stable If you've been laid off if you've been furloughed, if you're even remotely concerned that your financial situation isn't solid, you know, if you're maybe hearing rumors of hours being cut or people getting laid off that kind of thing, you're going to use your stimulus money to cover what Dave calls the four walls, your four walls, that's to make sure that you are current and up to date on your shelter, meaning your rent and your mortgage and food. It's your pantry is stocked your utilities, your electric, your water, and your transportation as well. Those are your four walls, your food, utility, shelter, transportation, and then everything else you just need to sit on and save. And that doesn't mean that later when your income becomes stable again that you can then what he calls it like a pause button. It's something you do when you're pregnant as well. You're pregnant, you're going through this process, you hit a pause button. You still stockpile all the money into a savings account, but you don't work the quote unquote baby steps until mom and baby come home healthy It's just kind of when you know, okay, we're on the other side of it, everything's okay that then you get to hit play on whatever baby step you were on. But for now, it's just kind of a giant pause. If you're in a stable situation, if your income is stable, you use your stimulus money to crush your goals and to speed up whatever baby step you fall on.

Michelle Hancock 8:21

Okay? Now, for me, this is where I fall into. So I got, I got to go food. And I'm, you know, because I'm tired of cooking. And then I was like, I'm gonna tip them really, really well, because I feel like I'm, you know, I'm stimulating the economy. I'm helping the small businessman. Is

there still some portion of our budget that we should really consider giving to others? Or, I mean, I know this is kind of a weird question, but that's where I struggle. I'm like, I know I should really be saving this money, but should I be stimulating the economy in some way?

Nicole Scott 8:56

Yes. I mean, I don't think you should stimulate the economy. If it put you in a bad position financially, if you have room in your budget to, to do that, it's kind of like when Dave, he'll get a caller that says, You know, I just got a big inheritance and I don't know what to do with it. And, of course, he always says apply it to whatever baby step you're on. So if you're paying down the house, pay down the house, if you're paying down debt, you do that. But he always says, to give a little and save a little hearts give a little and spend a little too and the percentage, you know, I mean, he believes in a 10% tie. So he'll usually say, you know, give 10% to some cause that's important to you. Spend a little for yourself, do a little something and then the rest gets applied. But if you're in full on like paying down debt, I don't know that I would spend a whole lot but I might, you know, we might celebrate and grab dinner to go I think that's okay. And tip will always tip Well,

Michelle Hancock 9:48

yeah, I always feel like this is where my anxiety and my rationale come from. I'm like, Oh, well, I deserve that because I've been doing this and that. It's like wait That's not a good that's not a good way to to make money decisions have you been seeing or what what is your thoughts on people that are kind of like me and emotional these specific therapy?

Nicole Scott 10:14

So about the only thing we can do from home

Michelle Hancock 10:19

is online now I mean, it's crazy I can only online shopping has really taken off for some companies How can we check ourselves?

Nicole Scott 10:31

and you know the the biggest things our biggest takeaways from from this whole process. And I didn't I didn't get to say we we we work the baby steps and we paid off \$75,000 in debt and 35 months that was our cars or student loans, credit cards and a HELOC on our house. I forgot to say that early. But the biggest takeaways from our almost three years experience of getting out of debt and we're certainly still working the baby steps now. We're just not in The debt pay off part of our plan, but our biggest takeaways is to budget. So we've got this stimulus check coming. We have income, maybe it's regular, maybe it's not regular, you still have to budget and it was really hard to budget this month. I mean, I legitimately more than doubled our normal grocery budget because groceries are expensive right now. But you know, what did I put in gas? What do I put in gas? Where am I going?

Michelle Hancock 11:26

That's true. And gas is so cheap right now, which is almost like a Alanis Morissette song. Isn't it ironic?

Nicole Scott 11:34

Okay! Go anywhere, but you know, we don't need entertainment money in the kids. You know, don't need clothes. And so, so the budgeting was really weird. But you still even though things are weird, even though your income is bizarre, you still have to know and plan for your money. He says if you don't budget and you know you'll spend your life wondering where your money went. It just slipped through your fingers. So a budget is just planning for that knowing where your money is going. The second thing our biggest takeaway is kind of what you were just talking about, which is contentment, which is that we don't deserve anything. We doubt we earn a lot of things and we work towards a lot of goals that we want for ourselves, but we don't deserve any of it. And keeping up with the Joneses is just a very dangerous trap. And it's harder in the days of social media, I think because people show their highlight reels and look at my new car and people will comment, Oh, girl, you deserve it. Congratulations. And it's just like, you deserve a you deserve a car payment.

Michelle Hancock 12:35

That is a great way of looking at that. Like my mind is kind of blown right now because I I think I deserve everything.

Unknown Speaker 12:42

That's, that's my parents fault!

Michelle Hancock 12:44

I was special. I am so special. But you're right. We don't deserve all these things.

Nicole Scott 12:52

And it's a scary thing that we're modeling and teaching our kids as well because if we don't teach them contentment, they're always going to be searching for the next thing. The next thing the next bigger thing and it's that way, you know, iPhones The next thing the car The next thing, and it's just like we're sitting on these car payments to sit at stoplights next to person, the person we don't know so that we can feel fancy in our car. And it's just like once you realize that the car you drive doesn't matter, just get you from point A to point B and that the Joneses are broke, then it's kind of a it's a whole brain switch. That happens.

Michelle Hancock 13:29

Yeah, and I think we're going to see we're going to learn a lot about simplifying decluttering a lot of that stuff, especially we're being forced to do to do that right now. And I think when we look back on this, I think we're going to realize that if you haven't already that some of those materialistic things aren't the things that are going to bring you joy and it actually clogs up your mind a lot, I think yes. I mean, it is nice to have Yes, better nice things, but at the end of De if those bills are stressing you out to the max, I mean, your mental health, is it really worth it?

Nicole Scott 14:06

It's okay to have nice things. Just don't let your nice things have you is to say,

Michelle Hancock 14:11

That's really good. That is so good. So yeah, how now you are a photographer. Your business has probably really been impacted, right? Unless you are doing like, Are you are you still doing it?

Unknown Speaker 14:24

Can you not legally do it? It's a really it's a hot topic right now.

Michelle Hancock 14:30

Yeah, I saw the front porch, you know, project, which I think is great. But you know, there's I mean, that's a whole other podcast. Yeah. And business and legal. But that is such a blow. Yeah. And so you're really having to rethink your budget. Did you guys sit down together and go through your budget line for line and start over?

Nicole Scott 14:50

This whole budget is different just because our lives are different, and no two budgets are the same. It's not like you can take April's budget and copy paste it into me, you know, may have Mother's Day is a good example. Right? So we're going to be trying to figure out how to send Mother's Day gifts, which we don't do in April. No two budgets are the same. But I think it's been a really huge wakeup call on a lot of businesses and on a lot of families, like you said that just how important these principles are, and the same principles that we use in our home budget, having an emergency fund planning ahead. And not that not that I budget for my business, but I know what my expenses are, and when they come in and how much they are. And so I had saved up an emergency fund in my business I had saved up basically an operational fund for a year's worth of operations and my business. So I have I can still draw down income from my business during this time even though I'm not working and I can still pay for my expenses for my business during that time. Because I was operating my business on the same principles. I operate my family budget on the That is really smart.

And what a blessing. I've seen a lot of people who have not done that, and it's, and they're losing, they're losing everything. And it's sad, and it's scary. But hopefully this is a wakeup call for a lot of Families and business owners that in my thought process always was, well, you know, what if I have to have my gallbladder out, and I'm out for six weeks in the fall, you know, how are we going to supplement my income during that busy season? That's always my thought process. It was never like, what if there's a global pandemic and I'm shut down?

Michelle Hancock 16:32

Yeah, I don't think anybody saw this coming. Or maybe they did. And nobody listened to them. Because Oh, that's crazy. I think we all live in a little bit of a bubble. Sometimes. I know. I do. Like, oh, life is great. Everything's going to be great. And then Oh, hello, curveball. But now Now we kind of understand what our grandparents were talking about. I remember my my granddad

would say you're not going to eat all that peanut butter and jelly sandwich and I was like, I was like, what's the big deal? Well back in the day if I didn't, you know, during the Great Depression, and I was like, What a crazy man, but now I totally, I mean, hopefully we don't have to go back to that but I mean it. Who knows what tomorrow is going to bring? We really don't i don't want to spread panic. Like, raise your hand if you have if you have half of Eggo waffle in your fridge because somebody is going to finish that waffle. Somebody I think I almost lost my mind the other day because somebody threw away some food in my house. I'm not going to blast them because then maybe I should. But I went nuts. I was like, What are you doing? Definitely could still eat with you. But uh, but yeah, it's funny, because before we were kind of, I mean, a lot of us. I don't want to put anybody on blast again. But I mean, I'm, I'm guilty of it. We're just kind of wasteful. We've gotten very spoiled. I mean, I go to Starbucks, get a drink that adds up. Now it's like well, I haven't had Starbucks. In a good 33 days, you know, okay, I like I had it once last

Unknown Speaker 18:05
method anyway,

Unknown Speaker 18:06
but I deserved it. I deserved

Michelle Hancock 18:10
you're going to I'm going to need a therapy session with you every day. No. Okay, so, I guess you know, we've talked about stimulus check, some people are still waiting for theirs. And that gives us a little bit of hope. And hopefully there's some more things down the line. Is there anything else some hard truths, you've already given us one hard truth that we don't deserve? Is there any other hard truth

Nicole Scott 18:34
that you want to I don't want to say you don't deserve things. I just want to say that, you know, especially in a marriage, you want to sit down and you just it's just about being intentional. It's the same thing some of your other guests have talked about, about being intentional with your time management and being intentional with your talents and you want to do the same thing with your money. You sit down as a family and you say what are our goals? You know, for my husband and I are big wise That we want to be those grandparents that takes you know everyone on a cruise a Disney Cruise and pays for everybody. We want to be the kind of grandparents that like spoil our grandkids. We don't want to burden our kids with our care in our old age. And so, what do we need to sacrifice today to be able to do that? And what steps do we need to take today that will get us there in 30 years? And so, it's you know, it's not, I like to think we deserve that kind of life later. But it's just more about being intentional with your goals, your goal setting and then following a plan to get you there smart. And you're right. It does take work. It does take sacrifice; it's not just going to come to you on a platter. I mean, that would be nice. If somebody called me tomorrow and said, Hey, you have a rich relative that's loving blah, blah, blah and wants to give you this money, but let's be realistic.

Michelle Hancock

I love this. So for people that I mean, we're not going to make anybody feel bad here, but maybe they haven't even thought about doing budgeting with their husbands. Or their spouse and they just really are kind of winging it. What do you recommend that they do?

Nicole Scott

Right? Okay, so first of all, and it's I know a lot of circumstances are difficult, but having your spouse on board is really important. Because otherwise you may have this momentum, you may have this, like motivation to get the finances taken care of, but you're you end up dragging a weight. It's like running a marathon with ankle weights, you've got to talk with your spouse, and a lot of people everyone carries baggage with them emotional and otherwise, about money and spending. It usually roots from how we were raised, or you know, the kind of relationship our parents had with money or with each other about money. So money in a marriage can be really tricky. And once you get on the same page about money and spending and your goals in life, it's a huge game changer. But other than to say you have to focus on the big Whys if you're there. Dave says there are two kinds of people there are nerds and they're free spirits nerds love numbers. They love budgets. They love Excel spreadsheets. Free spirits they don't want to be burdened that's too constricting. Let me live my life like I can't the stresses me out. I don't want to talk about it. But you also have spenders and savers people who are just, they're natural savers. I'm not one of those people. I don't understand how they work. But people who are just good at saving, even if you look at your kids, you have the kid who's like really good at saving up the money in the piggy bank. And the kid who's like, gets \$1 and wants to go the Dollar Tree, spend it because they can't let it you know, sit in their pockets. But I myself am a nerd spender. So I do the budget, but I also spend all the money.

Michelle Hancock 21:32

But my husband, yeah, I'm a spender and a free spirit, which is the ultimate disaster. I'm an enneagram. Seven, and we just want to live life to the fullest and don't put us in a box. But now that I've identified that I can definitely work with this.

Nicole Scott 21:50

Yes. But yeah, the biggest and the misunderstanding about a budget is that it is constrictive or that it's going to be telling you no all the time that you Can't have what you want. And that's not the case at all a budget is just determining how you want to spend your money before you get your money. So if you want to be all organic, then your grocery budget is going to reflect that it's going to be higher than an average family's if you guys love travel, your budget is going to reflect that because there's going to be a really big fat travel line. You know, if you guys love like we don't go to the movies because it's expensive, but some people love going to the movies, so their entertainment line is going to reflect that. But as a family you have decided and sat down and said, Hey, you know, we really love fellowshiping and eating meals together out we love eating out. That's just what we love doing. So your restaurant budget is going to reflect that but that may mean that you need to sacrifice in other areas, but it's not accidental at the end of the month.

Michelle Hancock 22:52

You're not going Oh, whoops, what that is, that is perfect and that will save you some headaches and stress down the line. That can really cause anxiety and depression and fighting With your spouse, and they say that's the number one reason for divorces money problems. So yes, we want to stay away from that, and being quarantined with them for three days.

Unknown Speaker 23:12

No, we're learning a lot about each other.

Nicole Scott 23:16

Dave teaches and what's called a zero based budget. And that just means that you account for every dollar when we're done with the budget, we get a big fat zero, that just means that no, not even \$5 was left and named to slip through your fingers. So you can do it on paper. You can do an Excel spreadsheet. He has an app called every dollar which we can link. But basically, you take all of the income you expect for the month, you take out all of your regular bills, and then what's left you divvy up into what are called funds and some funds you use every month like restaurants you'll eat until it's gone. groceries you'll spend until it's gone. gas is a good example but other ones are sinking funds. So for example, we put \$60 a month into Christmas. So that should get us. I can't do the math right now. That gets us enough money to go into Christmas smart. Depends on how much you spend for Christmas, some of my friends put 100 so they get 1200. To spend for Christmas, go back to school, if we get to go back to school is a really good one. When you've got three kids and school supplies and PTA funds and back to school clothes and you know those club fees and things all of that adds up. You could be putting 100 \$200 a month, then come August, you have what you need for that.

Michelle Hancock 24:38

Nicole, you mentioned something about baby steps when it comes to spending your stimulus check and how to do that. Can you elaborate on that and explain a little bit more about what the baby steps are? Yes.

Nicole Scott 24:48

So the baby steps are seven steps and he's got them in order. And it's kind of this theory that you know, like how do you eat an elephant? One bite one bite at a time right before we were Doing Dave Ramsey's plan, it felt like and I know, you know, this feeling like I was trying to do all the right things. I was trying to put money in savings. I was trying to do retirement, I was trying to pay down debt. I was trying to, you know, save for college, I was trying to do all of these things, and I wasn't doing any of them. Well, I wasn't getting anywhere, like I was treading water. The idea is, and it's kind of like if you were training to be an Olympic athlete, you know, if you're an Olympic gymnast, and an Olympic gymnast doesn't, you know, go pull ball on the weekends, she only trains on what she's trying to succeed at. So this idea that you just put all of your intensity and focus all of your resources and motivation into one step at a time. That gives you the momentum and the payoff like things happen really quickly because you're just pouring absolutely everything into that step. And then you're move quickly or more quickly through the steps. So baby step one is assuming again, if you have the stimulus check and you are behind in your four walls. That's what happens. First you get current and take care of your four walls.

That baby step one is \$1,000 in savings. And I think they say like seven out of 10. American households don't have that, by the way, but \$1,000 in savings, it's supposed to be a small little baby emergency fund. And for us, we actually had to take down our savings account to do that we followed it, we went all the way down, it's \$1,000. Because if you even withdraw \$10, from that, it goes from four digits, three digits, and it's scary. It's not fun. So \$1,000 and then everything else you can pour into baby step to baby step two is to pay off all your debt, you list your debts, smallest balance to largest balance and you attack the little one with a vengeance. When that's done, you take its minimum payment, and everything you can toss into the second one, and then that rolls into the next one. That's called the Debt Snowball picks up speed and more snow as it goes down the hill. So I think our first Debt Snowball payment was \$125 by the end of that We were paying thousands of dollars on debt a month because you just start making cuts from your budget everywhere. You're just trying to find any 20 bucks you can throw at it because you just, you see that it's working. You see them momentum happening, and you want to get it over with so bad.

Michelle Hancock 27:17

I love finding that.

Nicole Scott 27:20

The first one you're like, Okay, this is let's see if this works. You get that paid off. You're like, Oh, yeah, that felt good. You do the second one. You're like, okay, we're doing this thing. Third one, you're like, Okay, this works and you're cutting cable and you're taking the, you know, you're taking the Tollway anymore, you're just doing anything you can because you see that \$10 here and \$20 here, you know, you want it, you're going to pay \$780 to that debt and where can I find 20 more dollars so we can make it around 800 that kind of a thing. It's really motivating to check stuff off. I'm a list maker that I love checking stuff off that baby. Step three is three to six months of expenses, which is what we are living proof of right now. And that's expenses, not have any Come. So once you've got your budget now you're, you're debt free, you've got your budget, you know how much it costs to live, and you're now living without all those payments. So, it actually costs less to live than you would have thought because you're not making payments. So, you put three to six months for most people that's like 12 to 20,000 in savings. And that really is the most exciting step because you finally feel that Financial Peace that he speaks of, you're sitting there, you have 12 to \$20,000 in your savings account, and you don't owe anybody anything.

And it's like, hallelujah.

Michelle Hancock 28:36

What an amazing time to feel that. Kudos to you!

Nicole Scott 28:40

It's a surreal feeling. Of course, that's what you know, we're drawing from at this point in our lives with what's going on, but that's what it's there for. It's there in case you get in a car accident, or you get in a health crisis, or somebody loses their job or somebody passes away

like things happen, life happens and that's what that's there for. So that's a fully funded emergency fund and then Do baby steps four, five and six simultaneously. That's investing 15% of your income in retirement, saving for your kids college if that's appropriate and paying down your house early, baby step seven is the last step and that's you're basically completely debt free and you get to live and give like no one else. So

Michelle Hancock 29:18

That is the dream and it can happen that with a lot of work and sacrifice it sounds like well thank you so much for sharing your your topics on money and mom life and everything like that. Where can people follow you if they want to hear more of your advice and you always post the most positive graphics in your Facebook group. I love it. It brings me so much joy right now because there's so much negativity out there. So, if we could share a little bit about if, if we want to follow you

Nicole Scott 29:46

so, we facilitate a class through our church new hope we have a group is made public right now for everything that's going on. It's new hope fpu I have a group my beauty group is building up beautiful That's just kind of to encourage moms and women out there. And you can follow Dave Ramsey, Rachael Cruz's his daughter, she wrote a book about contentment. That's really good as well. Christy Wright is his business-like entrepreneur, women guru. She has a book called business boutique, which is really good. But you can follow all of his personalities on Twitter, Facebook, the gram, he does his show on YouTube, I Heart Radio, and he has a podcast, you can take the class Financial Peace University online, just by searching that class there are in person classes that are facilitated like people by me, we don't get paid, we don't get anything for it. It's really just to help people. And to create a community accountability is really nice. And that takes you through the course. You can also buy his book, the total money makeover, which is a really great quick read on these principles. And you can check out his app which is free every dollar there's a paid version of well that connects to your bank account. So When a transaction comes in, you just drag it to the budget category and it subtracts it. Nice. Well, one

Michelle Hancock 31:05

last question before I let you go, what is bringing you joy right now? What is something that helps you stay positive when you're feeling down in the dumps right now?

Nicole Scott 31:15

I really love having all my little ducklings home with me. It's really crazy and I'm no Mary Poppins at all. But I love having all my kids home. Just being together. I love watching I'm sure you're seeing this with Drew too. I love watching my little get to spend time with my bigs. Because they don't really get a lot of that because they're so busy and in school and doing all the things so it's really been fun to watch them bond and fight but mostly bond and make memories. So it's it drives me crazy some days but it does bring me joy.

Michelle Hancock 31:49

I agree with that. My kids have gotten much closer through this. Yes, they still fight like cats and animals but seeing those little snippets of sweetness. Definitely worth it. And I think I think we'll look back on this time with a little bit of fondness, a lot of frustration. But if we keep looking at the good, I think that's going to help us get through it. So, I know I lied a little bit and I said that was going to be the last question I asked you of this podcast, but I can't let you go without any other final thoughts. You're so full of knowledge and good insight, please take it away,

Nicole Scott 32:23

I think through this whole experience and having walked a lot of people through this process as well cheered people along. And now being on the other side in the baby steps four, five and six. I just have experience that living on a budget and having plans and having goals but also living life without these without payments. I mean, you just even add up your car payments and you know, any bills that you may have you add those up, it adds up to real money and living with less overhead gives you freedom and so I just know that there's women out there who are would stay, it would choose to stay home. Maybe they're like, they're homeschooling their kids right now. And they're like, you know what, maybe this is something I'd like to do. Maybe this is a lifestyle change that we'd like to make as a family, but they think financially they can't do it. And I just I want everyone to know that if you sit down and you do the budget and you stick to it and you be intentional with your money, and you pay attention to where it's going and you get rid of the payments that you're making, you might have that freedom it might be possible for you to stay at home or for you to go back to school or for you to start a business or whatever it is that that you think I just never want a woman out there, especially women. I guess I'm speaking specifically to women today. I never want a woman out there to be held back by her financial situation. We are in control of our money and we can change things and do the things that we want to do and having no payments and living on less really does give you the freedom to do that.

Michelle Hancock 33:55

That is such a great message and piece of advice for people right now. And Think I think this situation is definitely making us all look at life in a different lens. And maybe when a door closes, another one's going to open for you guys that something that we've never even seen or thought about. And I think that is a real possibility for women if they don't want to go back to their, their jobs in that capacity. It's okay. I think it's okay to change your mind and just plan ahead. So that's beautiful advice. I love that. Well, thank you so much, Nicole, and we will see you over in our private Facebook group and online Of course, and if I see you in real life, six feet away. But yeah, what a weird, weird life are we all going to have post traumatic syndrome after this when we see each other in real life. And when it's all said and done, everybody? I know hugs for everyone, but it'll be a good day. And that's the day I'm looking forward to. And that's all we can really pray for and hope for right now. So, thank you so much, and we'll see you around. Okay.

Nicole Scott 34:57

Thanks, Michelle.

Closing 34:59

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