

Speaker 1 ([00:00](#)):

We're all making it up. We go, you've jumped out of the plane, you're falling, you're trying to build a parachute, you're trying to build some wings. You're trying to get something together so you don't smash into the ground and you're just making it up. And again, we'll put our best foot forward via Facebook or Instagram or wherever and here's the smiles and here's the Photoshop pictures and here's how we all look great and deep down we're all still dealing with the same insecurities and fears and doubts.

Speaker 2 ([00:25](#)):

All right, everybody. Welcome to the front row dads podcast. I'm your host, John Broman. This is the show for family men with businesses, not business men with families, and that is exactly who I've got on the show with me today. Grant Baldwin family first. He lives it. He doesn't just talk a big game. It's actually how he lives. It's one of the reasons that I just love this guy. Some of you may have heard grant on the podcast before episode number 95 back in August, 2019 and here we are. I think we should just make this up a rhythm man. I think I've had any other repeat guests did we have, yeah, yeah, sure.

Speaker 2 ([01:01](#)):

Do this every year. You'll be the most return you'll, you'll do that. I'm going to go ahead and book it for next year. That's right. This is an annual, this is an annual ketchup for us. Not a bad idea. That's actually kind of fun. But for anybody who doesn't know you, uh, what the basics right. And actually tee up our conversation today. You're a married man. You've been married for 18 years. Just celebrated. Congratulations together with your wife for 23 three kids, 1311 and nine. Yup. Hey, by the way, I didn't tell you this, but do you know John Tyson? Do you know that name? I know the name pastor out in New York city. A really great dude. He has a program called primal path where he, he had his son go through this kind of Rite of passage program. Anyway, I just thought of you and we talked a lot about how he's approaching it with his daughter and we just had him on the show.

Speaker 2 ([01:51](#)):

It was amazing and it just came out. So anyway, I just thought you'd appreciate that. Cool. But with those ages, right? Nine, 11, 13, those critical ages of where we're sort of emerging in our lives and that there is this sort of Rite of passage age that happens around then, Oh, we didn't talk about this at all, but I'm just going to go right there, dude. Do you have any plans for that? Do you have a structure in your home right now for Rite of passage? Well, I mean we were talking a little bit beforehand before we started recording about how it's always fascinating to me. You can have, uh, multiple kids with the same wife, with the same mom, with the same dad and the same house, all just totally different and completely different distinct personalities. Right. So our oldest who's 13, is very responsible. She's very mature, she's very, she's very motivated. She's very driven. She's 13, but has been filling out scholarships, applications already, like not know, no pressure whatsoever from me or mom of, of just like, yeah, sure. I mean, if you want to, we'll help you, you know, like, are you eligible for me at point? You know,

Speaker 1 ([03:00](#)):

uh, so she is, she's been babysitting a lot all over the neighborhood. Uh, she gets money and she immediately, we don't do allowance here. Like we don't, I don't get a handout, you don't get a handout. So, but she has been busting her butt just earning money around the neighborhood and has saved \$2,000, which I keep telling her, it's like,

Speaker 2 (03:18):

that's amazing for a 13 year old girl

Speaker 1 (03:21):

that isn't [inaudible] astronomical amount of money. Like that's insane. So she's been really disciplined on just on saving toward a car and saving toward college. And I keep sounding like that's a really big deal. And she's like, Oh yeah, I don't know. So one of the things that we tell our kids all the time is that work

Speaker 2 (03:35):

equals money.

Speaker 1 (03:36):

Work equals money. If you

Speaker 2 (03:38):

or you want stuff and like, yeah, sure, there's some stuff though,

Speaker 1 (03:40):

mom or dad will hook you up with. But, uh, the bigger stuff, the nicer stuff, the more expensive the stuff gets. Like, yeah, that's, that's on you. And so, uh, helping them not understand the, the value that mom and dad have a good life. And that's because mom and dad worked for it, you know, not just because we, uh, you know, because we were given anything or, or, uh, born with anything. So yeah, it's a fun season right now. For sure.

Speaker 2 (04:02):

Dude. You know what, I forgot to ask you right away. I mean even pre-recording it just hit me where you live and then you guys just, you had a tornado come through, didn't you like three or something like that? Yeah, a couple of are you guys all right?

Speaker 1 (04:14):

We're good. We're good. Yeah. This was, um, uh, at the time this recording is just three days ago and it, uh, we're about 30 minutes South of where that all went down. We have a rental property that we Airbnb those about a mile from where things got hit. But yeah, this is dinged up pretty good. And then at the time of this recording, as of literally a couple of hours ago, we may look back on this episode and laugh at some point, but

Speaker 2 (04:35):

the first case of the coronavirus has been announced in the state of Tennessee and it's in our County. So that's exciting about that for a second. Let's talk about that. Okay. You want me to connect some dots here? So 30 minutes ago I'm on the phone with John Ruhlin. We're FaceTiming. I'm like, Oh dude. Do you know grant Baldwin? That's it. You know, I just think you guys would be amazing friends. But uh, he was talking about how cause he's in the speaking business. He does Giftology very good friend of mine. And yeah, he was talking about how a lot of speakers and you're in that business of coaching speakers, helping speakers got hit. Like this is [inaudible] big hit. Yeah. People in the speaking business. So I don't

want to turn this into a business conversation, but what I'm interested in is what's your take, how are you approaching this with your family?

Speaker 2 ([05:27](#)):

Because there's, I mean, clearly different camps. There's the one camp that's like, Hey, you know, uh, this is way overly blown. This is not as big of people are in panic mode. I'm not subscribed to that. And then other people are like, here are the stats. This is [inaudible] what it could turn into. Thousands of people have died already. It's, you know, I think this is really a relevant conversation. In fact, I can't believe, I didn't think to actually have a show about it, but yeah. But even like, I think, yeah. Ferris put out something today, he was BA is asking the mayor to cancel

Speaker 1 ([05:58](#)):

South by Southwest and it really kicked up some dust hitting the conversation. Wow. So I literally, I went to the doctor this morning. I do an annual physical, we're not as young as we used to be, so we've got to take care of ourselves. Right. Which is a totally separate conversation. But we went to the doctor this morning, this was already prescheduled and I was like, Hey, do we need to be concerned about this? And he's like, it's going to probably get worse before it gets better. But, uh, at the same time, like there's not a lot you can do other than just the normal stuff of, of washing your hands and being cautious of who you're around and what environment you're around. So I remember from a speaking perspective, you remember if swine flu, this was 10 years ago or something, so it was, you know, there's a lot of craze and buzz around that, but it was especially big in Texas.

Speaker 1 ([06:41](#)):

And so I had a, at the time it was going to be my, my biggest conference I had ever done this big national conference, 6,000 people there. Uh, and the week before the event, the event planner calls and says, Hey, there's too much buzz. We're getting too much push back here and so we are going to reschedule this and push the event back a month. And so they push the event back a month, which I just like, I can't imagine the logistics of, yeah, a 6,000 person event happening next week that we're just going to move by one month and the details that need to go into that. And so, but they ended up doing it and it ended up going fine, but the it cut the attendance in half. And so just like the number of headaches that they had to deal with. So yeah, it's one of those like, I don't know, me and some entrepreneur buddies had been talking and we kind of go back and forth like, should we be concerned?

Speaker 1 ([07:26](#)):

Is this just a bunch of of media hype? Is this because we're in an election year? Like what? At what point is this? Like, actually you should take this seriously. You know? So when the news broke that this one, and this was just a couple hours ago that there's one case that's in our County, my wife was headed the grocery store anyway, and she texted me, she's like, it is a madhouse here. People can't buy cleaning supplies. And they closed school for the next two days to do like this thorough sterile cleaning. So, I don't know man. Like it's, you know, maybe one of those things that there's a lot of buzz and hype and then a month or a couple months later we're going to look back and be like, yeah that was a lot of hype about nothing. Or it could be like, Oh crap, this really got serious. You know? So it's, it's, it's hard to know at this point.

Speaker 1 ([08:09](#)):

Yeah. Yeah man know it brings up a lot of emotion for me around not only like short term planning but longterm planning. Like on one hand you go, what do you do right now this week? This [inaudible] it immediately to deal with this. But the other part of it is like this longterm thought process around even how you live your life. Like your, your general lifestyle and how we protect our families. And you know, sometimes like our big, the rat is like, did we lock the front door? Yeah. Odds of somebody coming through the front door versus like, did we give our kids too much sugar? Right. Are they not getting enough sleep? Are they not getting enough exercise? Are they not healthy? Do they not have a healthy immune system because probably the real threat is

Speaker 2 ([08:55](#)):

diabetes or cancer or a virus that if you have a strong enough immune system you likely will be able to fight off [inaudible]. Okay, so first of all there is, I'm not a doctor, I'm not trying to present that. I understand how all this works in great detail. Somebody going to have a big problem with what I'm saying, but what I do want to say is that I think that it gets me, you know, even short term by the way, I guess this plays out like can I make sure I'm getting extra rest right now? Can I make sure my kids are going to bed on time? Can I make sure we're hydrated and that we dial back the sugar a little bit. Because I do think those things play a big role in [inaudible]. How we protect ourselves against anything and the things that can ultimately probably be a bigger threat than anything else.

Speaker 1 ([09:37](#)):

Well, and you're exactly right in the terms of, and just the bigger conversation of like as dads, part of our role is to, you want to protect our family and we want to protect our children and we want nothing to happen to them. But there's also like, it can go to the extreme of just like, all right, kids hunkered down like we're not leaving the house and close the blinds. You're never going to see the sun again and say goodbye to your friends. And like there are certainly like people who go to that extreme, you know, it's like, yeah, absolutely, you're right, you're safe, you're protected, you did it. But it's like, is that the quality of life that you want? So it is tough. It reminds me of the movie finding Nemo and the whole premise of, you know, the dad trying to protect the son and like I don't want anything bad to happen to you.

Speaker 1 ([10:17](#)):

I don't want anything to happen to you. And it's like you can't not let anything ever happen to your child. Right. There's your kids aren't going to make mistakes. They are going to fall down and skin their knees. Like you're not going to be there at every waking moment of every day. They're going to make dumb decisions that are going to affect you and other people. Like you can't just, uh, like constantly sheltered them and follow them around with an umbrella hoping it never rains on them. Like that's just a life, you know? But it is the balance of like, yeah, but I want to prevent the stuff that I can prevent, you know? So it's,

Speaker 2 ([10:47](#)):

it's tough, you know? And I think I have, do you have fears? Like do you have any fears that you might wrestle with? And I mean, I don't know, like [inaudible] anything being on an airplane. Like there's so many fears that I've heard people talk about sending their kids to the bathroom alone because they know somebody that was attacked in the bat, whatever it is. Do you have fears like that, that you wrestle with his dad?

Speaker 1 ([11:08](#)):

I mean, nothing major comes to mind. I know my wife does. And so sometimes, you know, especially with daughters, there's been a couple of stories in the past, I don't know, year or two in within this area of like kids that were kidnapped and like sex trafficking, you know, type stuff. And on one hand you're like, that's crazy. That will never happen to us. And that's just a, something that happens to other people or in foreign countries. But then you're like, Oh wait that, you know, something like that happened recently at a store we've been to, you know, type thing. It's like, Whoa, Holy crap. That makes sense. Very real. You know. So, you know, even especially as my oldest daughter is going around the neighborhood babysitting as she's just going over a couple blocks, you know, it doesn't seem like much [inaudible] a lot can, and her going from our house to someone else's house to babysit, you know?

Speaker 1 ([11:57](#)):

And so even today, as of this morning, my, she was babysitting some kids a couple streets over, uh, and she got over there and she's, she's notorious in our house for not keeping up with her phone. And so my wife always tells her like, Hey, make sure you text us when you get there. You know, you're not going far but text us. And she didn't text her and wasn't picking up her phone. And so my wife's kind of panic like, Hey, can you drive over there and make sure she got over there? She's okay. You know, and so I want to, and you're like, she's there, she's fine. I pull up on, on the find my iPhone app and sure enough her phones and they're at the house where this other house where she was supposed to be and so one and you're like, yeah, she's good.

Speaker 1 ([12:36](#)):

On the other hand you're like, well what if she wasn't, you know, like what if something happened? You know, what if, uh, someone picks her up or something, you know, or something, you know. And again, going back to you think about each of your kids' personalities, like she for being 13 is a strong, feisty little thing. So she'd probably probably, you would think like, should, should put up a good fight and yell and scream and kick or something. But I think about like our middle daughter is extremely quiet, is extremely timid, is extremely shy and even like how they would do in some type of just awkward, weird situation, you know, whether they just weren't comfortable in or weren't really sure how to handle it. So yeah, I think it's just like as dads, you just gotta be cautious of like, I want to protect my family, but like I don't want to let my mind go to Lake dark places.

Speaker 1 ([13:16](#)):

Yeah. What would happen to my kids? You know, I totally didn't see us go, but I actually am really fascinated by this with you. And here's why I'm fascinated grant, because always have struck me as like this cool, calm, collected dude who doesn't like, I can see that if there was a panic, I'd probably want to be in your camp cause I could see you just really calmly dealing with a situation. I'm not saying that you wouldn't like rise up and turn into a beast and fight somebody off if need be. But I'm saying you just, you seem to be really [inaudible] even keeled. Is that true by the way? Or is there a side of grant is not. I think that's actually true. Yeah, for sure. I think he's just really like just big picture in life. You have to recognize like what are the things that you can control and what are the things that you cannot do anything about?

Speaker 1 ([14:09](#)):

You know, like either one of us could contract some type of virus. We could contract cancer in our lifetime. We can have some tragedy happen that we cannot control, that we cannot do anything about.

No matter how much preventative measures we take, couldn't be avoided. So what are the things that you can control though? You know, you can control your attitude, you can control how you treat other people. You can control your mindset. You can't control your effort and your or your work ethic, you know. So looking at this, what are the things that you can do something about and pay attention to those things. So like, you know, in the thick of this hype and potential hysteria, you know, so one of the things you can do, you can just wash your hands a lot and just be aware and just use common sense and you know there are big crowds of people that you don't feel comfortable and then just don't go.

Speaker 1 ([14:54](#)):

You know, like there's a, a conference I'm attending in a couple of weeks and I was going through with a buddy and so me and him weren't actually talking this morning. Like you think they're actually going to do this event or you think they're going to cancel it. Cause there are like these huge events that are [inaudible] being canceled left and right. Right. Yeah. I got a couple of big speaking engagements coming up a few weeks from now. So what are the things that you, you can control, what are the things that you can do something about and the things that are outside of your control? Like don't you, you can't stress about those things. You know, you can't stress that if I walk outside to get the mail, you know, and it's really sunny, am I going to get skin cancer? Like you can't live life like that. You know, you can't worry and be panic all the time.

Speaker 1 ([15:26](#)):

So be smart. Use wisdom, but, but don't, you know, don't live in this perpetual state of, of fear. Yeah. I'm fascinated by it. The ages of your kids, partially because, well, tigers 10 yeah. And a lot of our conversations right now are around what he's allowed to do or not allowed to do. Or what age is he allowed to, you know, can you buy this thing? Can he have this thing? I'm wondering, you must be in that phase pretty intensely right now of like, there's some real big decisions to be made around levels of freedom. How far are they allowed to go? Who are they allowed to ride with whatever or phones or right screens or any of those things where when your kids hit the ages of what I feel like this nine, 11 and 13 that's really gotta be a topic for you, right?

Speaker 1 ([16:14](#)):

Of how much freedom are you giving them? How much are you still in control? Where's your stance on that right now? Where are you winning or wrestling? Yeah, so our, our oldest has a phone and she got a phone when she, I think when she turned 11, our 11 year old does not have a phone. And some of it, it would come down to their, their interest level of asking for a phone. Like I mentioned, our, uh, our 11 year old is very nervous, very quiet, very timid, very shy. She has said she doesn't ever want to get a driver's license. She doesn't want to learn to drive. She wants to live at home with mom and dad forever, you know, and she's a sweet as can be, has more care and compassion and kindness than anybody I know. But she also just like lives and fear at times.

Speaker 1 ([17:00](#)):

You know, I think she, she's definitely gotten a lot better. Like we, yeah, took her to a counselor a year or so ago. Uh, cause she's just, she dealt with a lot of anxiety and a lot of nervousness. Right. So as it relates to like the, the freedom side, she hasn't expressed a ton of interest for having a phone and she doesn't do it ton. That would necessitate her having one. All right. So, so that hasn't been a big deal. And the nine year old, same as you know, she's just [inaudible] [inaudible] an agent Sage where she doesn't, doesn't need a phone or something. Each of the girls have uh, iPads. So they do some, some texting on

that. But I think our, like our 13 year old, like we monitor, we keep an eye on her phone and at the same time, like she's a very mature, responsible young woman.

Speaker 1 ([17:43](#)):

And so again, kind of going back to the, you know, the thread of what we've covered is like you don't want to breathe down, they're and constantly stock them of what they're up to. She doesn't have any social media profiles. She hasn't really expressed interest in it. So I think that [inaudible] helps paying a lot closer attention if that were the case. So it's tough because like the, when you and I were teenagers, the, yeah, like I remember, I know for me like you can kind of roam the neighborhood and just go from house to house to house and your mom never really knew where you were and she was just kind of, you didn't have a cell phone, you didn't have a tracking chip in your pocket. You know, she's keeping up with where you are or where you're at. And I don't know if it's different with boys versus girls, but yeah, I don't, I don't know that I have a lot of great answers as much as I, you're trying to figured out each day that you go and, and doing the best you can with what you have, you know, at that moment.

Speaker 1 ([18:31](#)):

And really, I think a big part of it be like really keeping open lines of communication with them and like just trying to have good quality conversations with each of them, you know, about how they're doing or what they're thinking or how they're feeling. Some of those have comes better from me and some of that comes better from their mom, my wife, so yeah, I don't know that I have a great answer other than we're doing the best we can at any given moment.

Speaker 1 ([18:58](#)):

All right guys, I want to take just a quick second to talk about something really important now and know you're listening to the show because you want to level up your game at home, but if you want to take the next step within front row dads, I want you to do something today which is text the words front row dads to three 1466517673 separate words. Front row dads. It's not case sensitive. I want to send you a few things right away. First, I want to send you a recording from a masterclass that I recorded with my good friend and author of the miracle morning, Howe L rod. He's a father of two amazing human beings and we recorded a show called the five habits of a front row. Dad, I want to send that to you because I think it is well worth listening to. Second, I want to give you 45 minutes of a mind blowing conversation that I had with a woman named Kevin NAMI and the show is titled have better sex, hugely popular.

Speaker 1 ([19:46](#)):

This will rock your world and likely your spouses as well. But I want you to have access to this information. Number three, I want to give you access to 1300 other front row dads inside of our Facebook group where you can ask any question, share any win and give any resource that you think could be valuable to the community. And lastly, I want to include you in one email I send out each week. It's short, it's to the point and I pull from my life experiences along with the insights for more than 135 members of our brotherhood. I want to give you the best of the best in each email. So all you have to do is just text the words front row dads to (314) 665-1767 and we will get you started today.

Speaker 1 ([20:28](#)):

What I love about these conversations man, is these are real conversations just talking about this whole thing and I think that part of what feels good to people listening, at least they've expressed this to me, it's like, well we don't know. It's like it's good to know somebody else doesn't have it figured out. Like as

much as we want somebody who maybe has it figured out, does it tell us what to do? It's kind of nice that somebody else accomplished smart, good person maybe doesn't have like a crystal clear answer. And it's nice to know that you can live in that the space of, Hey, that's a little vague or it's a little gray or it could go both ways or it's a little bit of you and a little bit of the child and a little bit of circumstance and there's a lot of pieces of that puzzle to make it complete.

Speaker 1 ([21:08](#)):

And so it is hard to give somebody a one size fits all answer for a kid it's nine or 11 or even like within a family, like you said, every part everybody's different. So yeah. Yeah. I mean you can have like 10 different 13 year olds that have 10 different personalities and you know some of them that you are like, no, I'm not letting you leave our property ever. And someday like, no, you're good. Yeah. And everything in between. So, but yeah, I think there is a lot of truth to like, this isn't true with just parenting, but this is just marriage in life and business in general. It's like we're all doing the best we can. That's what we have at that moment. You know, like we're all, I say this about entrepreneurship all the time, like we're all making it up as we go.

Speaker 1 ([21:46](#)):

You've jumped out of the plane, you're falling, you're trying to build a parachute, you're trying to build some wings, you're trying to get something together so you don't smash into the ground and you're just making it up. And like, again, we'll put our best foot forward via Facebook or Instagram or wherever and here's the smiles and here's the Photoshop pictures and here's how we all look great. And deep down we're also dealing with the same insecurities and fears and doubts. And I wonder about those things from again, a professional standpoint and a personal standpoint. Like, am I doing okay as a dad or my kid's going to turn out okay. Or I'll give you a quick example. This is something that is very relatable to this conversation. So in college I worked for a guy who was a professional speaker and kind of got some of my first taste of, of what it was to be a speaker and huge, huge mentor in my life.

Speaker 1 ([22:32](#)):

And one of those guys did you just, you look up to and admire and respect. And so a buddy of mine texted me the other day is like, Hey, did you have you heard about such and such? And so now what's going on is that he'd build on the family and that's filing for divorce. And, well, I kind of walked away from his faith and just like, can I add like this what felt like this mental breakdown, know midlife crisis type thing. And you're like, wait, what? You know, like one of those guys that you look up to you like, no, not him. You know, like there's some people you're like, yeah, I can see that happening too. But like, no, no, no, no, not this guy. You know, like great guy, great husband, great father. And so this was literally like two, three days ago or something there.

Speaker 1 ([23:12](#)):

This [inaudible] [inaudible] had texted me about this, you know? So those types of things were just like, and cause that happened to me, you know, cause I haven't, like you and I, I care deeply about being good husbands and being good fathers and I know that this guy has as well and like, yeah, I don't know, it was like something snapped or something. It fell apart at some point, you know, like yeah crap, well how do we prevent that from happening to us? You know? So all that to say again, I think you have like some of the same doubts and insecurities and worries of like, I don't know how all this is going to play out, but I hope I'm doing a good job and I hope I continue to do a good job. You know, when you try to teach your, I'm curious as to what your approaches there.

Speaker 1 ([23:48](#)):

I want to like, I want to mention that part of why I'm asking is because you previously, well I guess you still do some speaking, but you did a lot of speaking. Now you coach a lot of people and speaking, right? Congrats on your new book by the way. Thank you. But it's like I sometimes feel like I go into keynote mode with my kids, my wife, right? Like, trust me, I'm good at this great storyteller. People pay Elizabeth space speak, right? You get to listen to me every day. You're so lucky. But I'm curious as to where does work or your profession, and I'm always fascinated about this with every entrepreneur, but specifically with you as are I really relate to it is where has your business helped you as a dad? How has your business given you the tools and the resources and where do you kind of pull from your business to perform better at home?

Speaker 1 ([24:47](#)):

Right. And where has that maybe hurt you as like I think about the studies I've read about people that are lawyers that all day long they try to catch people doing the wrong thing and then you go home and trying to switch it off. Right. It's really hard to do. So I don't know your thoughts on that. Yeah. A couple thoughts. One would be a playful way to piggyback on what you said originally. There are times we have like a teachable moment or something and you're, you're sharing something. So my daughters will say that, you know, you have your normal talking voice. Then you and I have our speaking voice, right? You get on stage, you get on the microphone, you can be talking with someone backstage and you have one voice. And then as soon as you have the microphone in your hands, you're on a different ways.

Speaker 1 ([25:24](#)):

And so my daughters have dubbed it the wisdom voice. So when dad starts, you know, Hey, let me, let me share it. You know, they're like your voice change, your tone changes like up. Dad's doing the wisdom voice again, you know. So I was a kick out of that. But do you find that that would yourself, do you have a different voice? Yeah, 100%. Well, if the dynamic in my house is that I get very passionate, right? I get that. That's probably not a big shock. Get very passionate, very emotional. But, uh, my wife is from Russia, you know that many people may not, but um, my mother-in-law lives here six months out of the year, doesn't speak any English. So all she hears is tone. And what Tatiana reminds me is like, my mom thinks that you're yelling a lot and I'm thinking, I'm not yelling, I'm just really excited.

Speaker 1 ([26:12](#)):

But tone is so important. So I don't, they haven't given me like, yeah, I haven't named it, they haven't named it, but they certainly have called it out. Yeah. As do the rest of the question there. Yeah. So I'd say on the plus side is that the nature of what it is that we do has given me a lot of freedom and flexibility. My wife, uh, I think we talked about this on the last interview, has that my wife homeschools our girls. And so on one hand you're like, that's so fun. I work from home. She homeschools we're all together all the time. And on the other hand you're like, yeah, but we're all together all the time. So I think like on the plus side, like being an entrepreneur, having my own thing has given me a lot of freedom and flexibility too. Like yesterday afternoon was a, I got to kind of a stopping point and the girls, my wife hadn't been feeling great and the girls had been begging to go to the library and I was like, you know, I'll stick to the library, you know, and so middle of the day type of thing of let's run to the library and they pick up a bunch of books and we come back and start the, not that big a deal in the scheme of things in the course of my day.

Speaker 1 ([27:12](#)):

So having the freedom flexibility to be able to do that, I think it's also been valuable that they can see like we have a really good life and we have a good life because dad works really hard and so it's one thing to like dad leaves in the morning and goes to the office and then comes home. But like, no, no, you like, you see me in here day in and day out to provide this, this life that we have. You know, should I say that that's some of the upside is they get kind of a front row seat, two dad working the, I would say the negative side is as an entrepreneur, not every day is great and thankfully more days are good than bad, but there are certainly days they're just [inaudible] normal, frustrating days are stressful days or things aren't going well or something, then something happened or you're frustrated about something or whatever, you know?

Speaker 1 ([27:54](#)):

And so I work from home, my office is right here and as soon as I walk out, you know, the, the living room and kitchen is 20 feet away or whatever. And you walk out there and you're like, you're trying to just mentally make that switch. And so there are times where I know I'll sit down for dinner and I'm trying to like switch gears of, Nope, you're home now, but like you're still just hanging onto it. And so there's times where, especially again, like I mentioned, my middle daughter who's very compassionate, very caring, and so I'll be putting her to bed at night and she'll say, are you okay? You seem sad or you seem upset or something wrong, you know type thing and you're like, it has nothing to do with you or you haven't done anything. Or it's just like something with work that is just kind of bubbling and you're just kinda carrying in your head that they see and they're like, why is dad stressed or what's going on or why, you know, what's wrong with dad, you know, that type of thing. And so again, thankfully that's not the norm, but it happens. And so I certainly like that. You know, the downside of it is they get a front row seat to a cool life and, and dad working really hard, but they also do, they get a front row seat of like when that's having a tough day, you know, or things aren't going as well as we'd like.

Speaker 2 ([29:04](#)):

Yeah. Hey, I know we're only got so much time here left, but real quick, can you drill down into your daily routine? Like just walk us through, I know there's no real, maybe every day is not the same. Right? But what time do you approximately get up? How much time with the kids when you go to where, like just walk us through like what does a grant Baldwin day look like?

Speaker 1 ([29:24](#)):

Yeah. So, uh, yeah, each day is a little bit different. Um, I love working from home. You know, I, I have no desire to go to an office. I like being here and so even though, you know, it's like in the course of a Workday, I'm working, but I like the, even if it's just quick interactions with my, with my kids, just passing them, seeing them in the kitchen, you know, given, because my wife's homeschooling, then I'm just checking in, Hey, how's school going? Get everybody, you know, hugs and kisses throughout the day and you know, that sort of thing. Or my wife and my wife's been really good about, Hey, when dad's working, dad's working. But sometimes she'll text me, I'm like, hi, such and such, one of the girls is really struggling with math, you know, can you just come out and give her a hug?

Speaker 1 ([30:00](#)):

You know, type thing. So I like that environment that we have here, you know, but I will, a Monday was a Friday, I go to the gym at six, there's a, uh, a class I go to there. And then, uh, but I'm usually home and at my desk I'm starting around seven 45, eight o'clock or so. I don't want to, I like to get back, get right into, and so I always [inaudible] go around and hug the girls and see everybody. And then, you know,

throughout the day I'll pop out multiple times during the day and grab lunch and grab a snack or drink or just say Hey, and see how everybody's doing. And, and most days I'll work til four or five. And it kind of depends on the week. You know, there's some weeks where it just, it's busier than others. And other times, you know, this particular week, like you had mentioned, we had launched a book a couple of weeks ago, and so that particular stretch, it was just a really busy week or two, you know, and the dust is settled from that.

Speaker 1 ([30:47](#)):

And so it's starting to slow down at this, you know, we have, we'll finish this up and then I've got another call and then I'm pretty much done for the day. Tomorrow's pretty light as you kind of have some, you know, some days where it's like I don't have as much. And I also try to remind myself, I think you're probably similar like because you and I enjoy what it is that we do. It can be easy to just go and go and go and go and go. Part of the reason that we like being entrepreneurs is so that on a random afternoon we can take the kids to the library just because, you know, it's like, well we, we talk about like I love the freedom and flexibility and autonomy and yeah, yeah. It's like, but like let's utilize that. Let's, let's do something good with that, you know?

Speaker 1 ([31:26](#)):

So I find also like, I don't know about you, especially as the weather gets nicer at the time of this recording. We're getting into spring, the time is getting ready to change. The days are going to say it's going to be stay light longer. The more like you hit the afternoon and you're like, I don't want to do anything. We get, we have a a, a pool at our house. So I'm just like, the kids are all, you know, on the wife. The kids are all swimming and you're like, I do it in here. I don't want to, I don't want to work. I want to go somewhere. I'm going to go play, I want to go through fog, you know, so it's [inaudible] each day is different, but I try to, yeah. I, I try to spend a time with the, uh, with the kids throughout the day, you know, again, even just little hugs and kisses throughout the day and work on, I need to work and play when I need to play.

Speaker 2 ([32:05](#)):

Well man, I just want to take a second before we have to wrap here and just say, I honor you brother, for the life you've built. We were on a similar path in a similar industry with the speaking and then I watched you build this business of teaching other people. How to speak and to build that in their life and why I want to thank you kind of [inaudible] maybe this is hard to connect these dots, but becoming a speaker was the best thing that ever happened to me in my life. It was the hardest thing I was, I mean they were calling the foreclose on my home and it was a rough year, right, of trying to build that parachute the way down. But it worked. And then, you know, after the, whatever it was, year two I one campus speaker of the year and then I made a hundred grand that year and then the next year I made 200 grand and it was like, and then I built a life around speaking that I was really happy with.

Speaker 2 ([32:54](#)):

But I also like how the speaking business evolves. I love how you can continue to tweak it and tune it to fit your life. So now I just do a lot less speaking. I was doing 50 gigs a year, now I'm doing, I'll do like five to seven this year, but my family's coming with me on it. Every single one of them really cool and we're just traveling a ton and we're like, I just this weekend, like literally four days ago, I was in Atlanta for a big speech and tiger was there. We flew in on Friday morning. We rented a cool car, we hung out all day and then he went and he sat front row for the speech and we just had this amazing experience and

people were interacting with him and I, he heard me talk about him from stage and yeah, I involved him a bunch during the speech and then we just spent time together.

Speaker 2 ([33:39](#)):

We went to the museums, we did all this stuff and speaking as provided for me, an amazing life with my children and with my wife. And then this month we have a speech coming up in San Diego. We do a whole week in San Diego and they're coming and bringing my mother in law. Both kids like we're all going and it's going to be awesome, but I just wanted to thank you for the work you're doing to help people because I also know that when I was trying to get into speaking, I was in a really dark place trying to do it all by myself and because I had so much stress around it, it really put a strain on my relationship with my wife. It put a really, you know, I was putting a strain on my body. I wasn't taking care of my health to go full circle back to the beginning of this chat, right?

Speaker 2 ([34:19](#)):

My immune system was run down. I was getting sick all the time. I was not going to make it a long time as a dad, but having people like you in my life and people that could teach the speaking skillset allowed me to have a more balanced life. I could figure out the business. So I just wanted to say props and a little plug to you, man in your book. I got it right here. I'm pumped about it. The successful speaker, five steps for booking gigs, getting paid and building your platform. I'm so happy for you and your community, man. Some really cool testimonials on the back here. Michael Hyatt. Good stuff, buddy. I'm really happy for you.

Speaker 1 ([34:53](#)):

I really appreciate it. Yeah, I um, you and I, I think I have clicked well over the years and, and part because of we both geek out on speaking but really on this stuff, you know, we love being husbands, we love being fathers, we love travel, we love adventure, we live experiences. And so, yeah, I mean I, I think the world of Vienna, I appreciate you. Let me hang out with you. No, this is great. Well you get together on the front row. I was thinking, cause it used to be an annual that used to come to Nashville once a year for a gig and I think we got together for a couple of times with that [inaudible] given up on that gig.

Speaker 2 ([35:22](#)):

Uh, I don't know, man. We'll see. I'm just being really careful, really careful with where I'm traveling and what I'm doing. But I love Nashville. I'm going to be praying for anybody that was impacted by the tornado that hit you guys and also, uh, praying for your town. And then of course everybody is healthy and safe and covering their nose when they sneeze and washing their hands. Just the little things you can control. That's it man. Hey, thanks again buddy. Do you ever need anything? Reach out and I hope guys go, uh, check out your work. If you're in the speaking business, you're an entrepreneur and you happen to do speaking to help some part of your business or you want to give a Ted talk or whatever. I want to spread a message of being a better dad, better husband, all that stuff. You got to get the book, the successful speaker grants the real deal. Love you buddy. Thanks man. Appreciate your John.

Speaker 2 ([36:10](#)):

Hey guys, if you haven't already done so, go right now to [front row dads.com](https://frontrowdads.com)/facebook and join the conversation that's happening right now on line. We designed this group for guys who are entrepreneurial in their thinking that are high performing guys with low egos. We're looking for the dads that believe in teaching their kids how to think, solve problems, and be real leaders. We're looking for

guys who believe in being family, men with businesses, not businessmen with families. We're looking for the fathers who have great knowledge, but also believe that they have so much more to learn and we're looking for men who want to add value by sharing their wisdom and those that are willing to ask the questions that we all need and want answers to. That's front row dads.com/facebook or simply go to Facebook, type in front row dads and you'll get to our group and what we put in there, links to all the podcasts and videos and other resources that you can't get access to anywhere else except for in this group. We want to give you the best ideas to help you with your marriage, balancing work and family life communication strategies with your spouse and also your children, travel ideas and even suggestions on the latest gear that would save you time and help you be more effective. We've got updates on upcoming events and so much more. Go right now to front row dads.com/facebook and join the conversation. I'll look forward to connecting with you there.

Speaker 3 ([37:38](#)):

[inaudible].