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Annie: Hi friends! Welcome to a very special episode of That Sounds Fun. I'm your host Annie F. Downs. I'm so excited to be here with you today. I know, I know, we said yesterday was our last show until Easter Monday. But we got to announce the newest show to join the That Sounds Fun Network. And even though we are quiet next week on Holy Week, this new show has got a devotional for you every day. So I wanted to make sure you knew about it.

But before we dive into today's conversation, I want to take a moment to share about one of our incredible partners, [HydroJug](#). If you were spending even a minute in our office these days, if you've seen it on Instagram, you'd probably be wondering what the giant brightly colored water bottles are that literally everyone is carrying around. Well, those are our HydroJug. We adore them.

Listen, if you're not drinking out of a HydroJug, you ain't working here. That's how we live. Listen, they have these big integrated handles, so they're easy to carry and drink from, a wide mouth opening if you'd like to add ice or fruit to your water, and measurements along the sides so you can keep track of how much more you need to drink if you're trying to get through a gallon a day, which is our goal and we're all doing very well.

HydroJug makes hydration so convenient. But maybe my favorite thing about it is the fun colors and the insulated sleeves that you can mix and match from their 40 different combinations to create a HydroJug that reflects your personality.

There are pockets in the sleeves too so you can keep your essentials right with you. Never be caught without your keys and your chapstick and never go thirsty with your HydroJug in hand. So get your HydroJug at thehydrojug.com and use the discount code SOUNDSFUN to get 10% off your order today. HydroJugs are game-changers for anyone on the go. Again, the code is SOUNDSFUN at thehydrojug.com to get 10% off today and start your hydration upgrade.

Intro: Today on the show I'm beyond excited to share with you about our newest podcast to join the That Sounds Fun Network. Now, if you don't know what a podcast network is, the way we describe it around here is it's like our amusement park of podcasts. Each one has a different ride but we put them all together in one part because if you like the teacups, there's a good chance you're going to love the roller coasters too.

So we have amazing shows like Human Hope with Carlos Whittaker, coffee with Kailey Dickerson, Be the Bridge with Tasha Morrison and so many others. We

partner with them on things like advertising and strategy and curating a community for the host so no one feels like they're doing this on their own.

So today I am thrilled to share with you that The Unexpected Podcast hosted by my dear friend Hannah Love is the newest show in the That Sounds Fun Network amusement park. Today, you'll get to hear a conversation between me and her and a little snippet of one of her first episodes.

But before we do that, let me tell you a little bit about Hannah and her heart for this show. She's a former Miss Arkansas, and she is the wife of Shay from the country duo Dan + Shay. She's a mom of two sweet boys and she's an amazingly deep, well, have a heart.

As far as the show, here's what Hannah says about it. "Have you ever spent much time thinking about the events that led you to where you are? Have you ever noticed that some of the most unexpected moments are the very ones that God used in the biggest ways? I have. Not only did I notice this theme in my own life, but I also saw it all over the Bible, from Moses and Gideon to David and Esther and Nehemiah. God seemed to call the most unqualified people to do the most unexpected things.

When God put this podcast on my heart, He gave me the name and I knew this was a universal theme that He has used from the beginning of time. My hope is that as you listen to these stories, both biblical and present day, and to the lives of some incredible guests along the way, we will all gain a new perspective of how God loves us enough to call us to things we couldn't have imagined for ourselves. This is unexpected."

Y'all, I know. I know. It's going to be amazing. And let me go ahead and tell you why you're listening right now. Go ahead and wherever you're listening on your phone, go search Unexpected Podcast with Hannah Love. Go ahead and subscribe.

There are two things waiting there for you. One is the trailer so you can hear about the show. One is a prayer to help lead us into Holy Week. And then every day next week, Hannah will be releasing a short devotional Monday through Friday. And then the show will be every Monday after that.

So go ahead and subscribe right now so that you get that trailer, you can hear what the show is about, and the beautiful Holy Week prayer that will lead us into this most important week of our faith.

So now that you've done that, subscribed to The Unexpected Podcast with Hannah Love, here is my conversation with the host of that newest show on the That Sounds Fun Network, my friend Hannah.

[00:05:08] <music>

Annie: Hannah Love, welcome to That Sounds Fun.

Hannah: It's great to be here.

Annie: And technically welcome to the That Sounds Fun Network.

Hannah: Thank you for having me.

Annie: Oh my gosh, I'm so thrilled. I mean, you and I are real-life friends. It feels like such a gift to get to professional life friendship as well as real-life friendship.

Hannah: It's exciting.

Annie: It is really exciting. How are you feeling with your show launching?

Hannah: Well, I can't believe it. I mean, it's not something I would have done on my own.

Annie: How long have you been dreaming of it?

Hannah: I didn't. I'm just going to put that out there. I came in telling you my story but let me just share here. Back last year around January kind of just had this talk with Jesus where I was like, "I'm listening and I want to hear. Speak to me. Give me eyes to see, ears to hear, a heart to recognize. And most importantly, give me the boldness to say yes to whatever that is." But of course, what do you ask for?

And slowly I just started hearing Him call me to do things that were out of my comfort zone to do. I was walking and praying one day and I just hear in my spirit this name, this title. And I was just like, "It feels like a podcast, but I'm sure it's already a thing." And just to play it safe, I went home to research and I'm like, "I'm sure it's already out there. I don't even need to be playing with that. That's not something I want to do."

It wasn't out there, Annie. And He just kept telling me and I was like, "What? I don't even want to do a podcast. My husband is in the entertainment business.

Annie: Yes, your husband is Shay Mooney from Dan + Shay.

Hannah: Shay Mooney. He is bigger than life and always fun. And I was like, "There's not room here for two of us.?"

Annie: Wow. I bet there are so many people who need to hear that. That's such a fear in relationship.

Hannah: Well, probably not so much a fear. It's just I'm more introverted, if I'm being honest. And I'm a nine on the Enneagram, so like peace and quiet. I don't need all the things. And Shay thrives off of all that. So I was like, "That's okay. Let's let him do that."

Annie: Oh, wow.

Hannah: But God was just pretty insistent. Then I was telling actually my therapist about this and she just points me in the right direction, aka Annie F. Downs. She was like, "Have you talked to Annie?" And I was like, "No, I haven't talked to Annie. Why would I talk to Annie." And she was just like, "Well, she has a network." And I was like, "Well, I don't know the first thing about technology. I'm a writer and I can speak what God wants me to say. But I don't know anything about the logistics."

So she points me to you, I sit on it for a while. A nine. I'm marinating. Finally, I got the unction of the Holy Spirit and I was like, "I'm supposed to message Annie." I don't know if I've told you this. It took me so long to come up with your information.

Annie: Really?

Hannah: Yes. Because I was like, "This is a personal message. God gave me a personal message to send to you at the time we'd never met." So I was like, "This isn't for her team. I don't want to email her team for a million people to read it before it gets started. Because this is me talking to her."

But I mean, breadcrumbs of the Holy Spirit. God led me slowly and I shot off an email to you titled "Breadcrumbs of the Holy Spirit," and I just got an auto reply that you're on vacation and that you wouldn't be back in a week. And not even 24 hours later, you responded in person and you're like, "Hannah, what?"

Annie: I said, "Are you at the beach?"

Hannah: "Come and walk with me."

Annie: That's what I said. I said, "Let's go on a walk." I want to say my part because I think it's interesting to hear how God works things out. I was on vacation and was not

checking email. In fact, I didn't have any social media and I could not find my login for Netflix or something. And I was at someone else's beach house and I wanted to log into my Netflix. So I had to open my computer.

And in a moment of no self-control, I was like, "I'll just look at my email." One time in that month, I looked at my email and yours was sitting at the top. And it said, "Holy Spirit breadcrumbs, Hannah Mooney." And I was like, "I know Hannah Mooney. I know who this is."

So I was like, "If it says Holy Spirit breadcrumbs, how do you not open it." So then I opened it and I was like, "Your whole dream of what God had given you for what this Unexpected with Hannah Love could be, I was like... I was at the beach where a lot of our friends go and I was like, "I mean, if you're down here, let's go on a walk. And you weren't, sadly.

Hannah: But it's funny, isn't it? I mean, that just Holy Spirit's breadcrumbs for you, for me.

Annie: Have you still been scared creating it even though the doors have opened in a lot of really incredible ways?

Hannah: In a weird way I have peace. And that's not to say that I haven't... I actually journal this out this week. It's not that I haven't had doubts and fears and pushback. But I'm sitting in this place where I told God I would say yes. And I said yes. And this is where He's put me in, therefore the safest place to be is in the will of God.

Annie: So many of our friends listening want to start podcast and I think everyone should. I think everyone should want. Everyone should have a podcast because the more light we put in the darkness the better the world's going to get. And everybody has a story that matters. So there are several friends listening that want to start a podcast, what would you tell them their first step should be?

Hannah: Pray about it. Maybe I'm not the right person to ask about this because I am the one that was like, "No."

Annie: No, I think that's why you're the right person.

Hannah: Pray about it. And I don't mean just like toss it out there to God. But be in the word and ask... We have a mutual friend, Lauren Tomlin. She does these listening prayers. And I've started-

Annie: People have heard her on Lauren Akins Podcast.

Hannah: And I've started practicing those listening prayers where you're taking something to God, and you're saying, "Okay, God, how do you want me to pray about this? Give me a word. Show me something." And I've been just shocked... I don't know why I'm shocked, but shocked to see what God gives me.

Annie: We're in a whole month of prayer on the podcast. Will you talk for just a minute about praying out loud and how that has helped not just praying in your head and not just praying alone out loud, but praying with people out loud, particularly about something like this, a dream you want to put into the world, that you want to create out of nothing?

Hannah: Well, this is something that I've been working on and practicing. And I know I've told you this, but I grew up Baptist. And for any of you that don't know, that means that you're a little more buttoned-up than other denominations. We hold on to the back of the pew while we worship. There's nothing big or charismatic. Where Shay grew up, Assemblies of God-

Annie: Oh, wow.

Hannah: ...it is much more charismatic. In the last few years, I've kind of taken this deep dive in my walk personally. So what I'll do is I'll go on walks for like a few miles with worship music on because I'm a firm believer that that sets the atmosphere. And I just start worshiping and praying in my spirit. This is something that has taken me a lot to do but slowly, slowly, I've started raising my hands. So I'm just walking our neighborhood-

Annie: With your hand up.

Hannah: ...with my hands raised and my headphones in. And I might look like a crazy lady but I'm kind of like, if I'm embarrassed to worship God and to pray here just with no one looking, then what does that say about me and my faith? So that's kind of been my exercise to build that muscle of praying openly and big. And since I started doing that, Annie, I have found myself more bold in... For example, my sister in law-

Annie: Oh, yes, can you tell the story?

Hannah: I was back home in Arkansas for spring break and we were at Red Lobster, because Hello-

Annie: Why not?

Hannah: ...Cheddar Bay biscuits.

Annie: Those Cheddar Bay biscuits. That's it. I respect it.

Hannah: We were there and we met the sweetest server. But it just seemed like she was having such a hard time. And every time she came back to talk to us, she just was sharing more of her story. And before it was over, I knew by the look in Erica's eyes, I knew that she gave us an opening with like, you know, "But it doesn't matter." She had a diagnosis she wasn't sure, and she was like, "But none of it matters."

Annie: Wow.

Hannah: And I was just kind of waiting... And I'm embarrassed that I wasn't brave enough to be the one that was like, "But do you know Jesus?" But Erica opened that up and she was like, "But do you know Jesus?"

Annie: Your sister-in-law?

Hannah: Yes, Erica. And she said, "I do." And she tells us more of her history and finally I just kind of put my hand on her arm and I was like, "Can we pray for you?"

Annie: Wow.

Hannah: So together, Erica and I were in the middle of Red Lobster and we got our hands on her and we're just declaring life and just speaking over her. Because, I mean, if not us, then who?

Annie: Wow.

Hannah: Like I said, I kind of want to call Red Lobster up and ask how she's doing because I'm like, that is something I wouldn't have done years ago. And I've just seen it. I've seen my mother-in-law. I've seen my own mom. I've seen... You know, we've had foundations laid for us to go and do these things. I'm 31 years old now. And if I'm not doing this with my life, how are my kids going to see Jesus in the world?

Annie: There's just something about saying it out loud. It's one of the reasons to do a podcast. We're saying out loud Jesus is Lord and we believe that God answers us when we pray.

Hannah: Absolutely.

Annie: What happens when you say it out loud?

Hannah: You've just done this podcast with Mike Todd because I listen, I love Mike Todd. He did a whole series, and it's about your voice and the power of that. One of the things I spoke with our server at Red Lobster was the power of life and death is in your tongue. And when you say things out loud, it gives heaven permission to release what that is. Because God wants these things for us.

Even in how we pray "on earth as is in heaven," that is asking us to come into partnership with God. That is asking us to say, "God, how can we partner with you? How do you want me to pray?" Again, with those listening, "How do you want me to pray? I'll pray that." If I'm praying that then that is bringing heaven to earth. That is bringing God's will. And if we can't put that out, it's just so much... I don't know. You're missing so much blessing that He has for you.

Annie: That's right. We say it out loud.

Hannah: We declare it.

Annie: So tell me about Unexpected with Hannah Love. Just give us kind of the plan for the podcast.

Hannah: Okay. Well, initially, I went in. God gave me this word and I was just like, "Man, that is timeless and it's universal, and it is absolutely all over the Bible." Every character he uses. I mean, Moses has a list, right? Gideon is hiding in a winepress threshing his wheat because he's scared and then he leads this... Every story in the Bible. It's just like humans wouldn't have picked him. Man wouldn't have picked those people to do those things because God gets the glory for it. So I was like, man, there's not a single person I could talk to probably alive ever whose life has gone the way they expected it to go.

Annie: That's right.

Hannah: And I know for me personally, as a woman, as a mom, as a wife, I have been encouraged by listening to other people's stories and hearing the unexpected moments that they lived through and more than lived through, they look to God in them. And in the future, they can look back and say, "I can see Him all over it. I can see how He used it. If that wasn't His will, He worked it to the good. And maybe that was His will and I was just rebelling and He was just getting me back in line."

Annie: Jonah stuff.

Hannah: Yeah. So He works it out. So I was like, "Man." Years ago when Shay and I got married and I first moved here, it was a really hard season for me. All of a sudden, I had all these extra eyes on me and I didn't know what to do with that. I remember

listening to a podcast. And one of the first things that she said, Julie Solomon, she said, "How are you serving? How are you using what you have to serve people or an audience?"

And it resonated with me because I thought, "Well, I can write and I can encourage people. And if nothing else, with all these eyes on me, I'm going to point out. It's not about me. I didn't do this. I never wanted this. So I'm going to point it back."

Annie: Wow.

Hannah: So I feel, in the last few years, God has just been preparing me steadily for what I didn't know has become this podcast.

Annie: I mean, that's the amazing thing is that for all of us who follow you on Instagram, you have never been building a thing for you. You just married someone who has a public life and therefore you have a public life. So you've gone, "Okay, well, I'm going to do something with that. I'm not going to waste that. I'm going to point people to Jesus with beautiful captions on your Instagram and great pictures."

So to turn it into an audio format and start pastoring us and discipling us in a way through your words makes so much sense to me. It's just amazing.

Hannah: Well, thank you. Those are all very kind words. And coming from someone who was born in a town of 180 people, that's part of it. I'm like, "I came from a town that does not have a stoplight."

Annie: Oh my gosh!

Hannah: ...to Nashville, Tennessee to have tens of thousands of people who follow our life. It's all just so unexpected and it's all so God.

Annie: Unexpected. So the shows are going to release on Mondays.

Hannah: Yes.

Annie: I love it. I mean, our goal with the That Sounds Fun Network is we say a lot we're an amusement park of podcasts. So we want a bunch of different rides. But one of the things we love about what you're making is we want people to have devotional kind of experiences with God. So you're going to offer some of those.

Hannah: Yes.

Annie: So on Mondays, we're going to start with that starting April 18th. So not this coming Monday that starts Holy Week but the next Monday. What we will do is have pretty much sometimes interviews, mostly devotionals that kind of set us up for a week of thinking through a characteristic of God or a Bible character or a concept in Scripture that you are going to tell stories around and write around the theme of unexpected.

Hannah: The Bible is made up of people and their stories represent everything that is in life today, right?

Annie: Yes.

Hannah: So you can look at each life and go, there is someone out there whose life is directly parallel. So whoever, whoever we're speaking to that week, and I love making things relevant, and bringing it up to date, but they're all just people.

Annie: Right. So what we're going to do here is we're going to put a portion of that episode from April 18th into this podcast. And after everybody gets to listen to that, let's come back and talk about what we're actually doing next week for Holy Week, because I think that is incredible.

Hannah: Okay.

[00:21:02] <music>

Sponsor: And I'm just interrupting this conversation real quick to share about one of our incredible partners, [Canopy](#). Did you know the average American child is exposed to pornography online by the age of 13? And that it usually happens by accident? Y'all, that's wild, isn't it? I'm betting your reaction is similar to mine. How can we stop that? How do we keep that from being the case?

Well, Canopy, a new next-generation digital parenting app is on a mission to help change that. Canopy is an app for smartphones, tablets, and computers that makes the internet safe for kids by blocking explicit images and videos on every single website. It also does a bunch of other useful things that keep kids safe online, like helping detect and stop inappropriate photo sharing.

You can check it out at canopy.us/thatsoundsfun and get 30 days free and 15% off the regular price forever when you use the promo code THATSOUNDSFUN at checkout. That's canopy.us/thatsoundsfun and promo code THATSOUNDSFUN. With Canopy you'll never have to worry about what your child sees online.

Sponsor: And I have one more amazing partner to tell you about, the new [Talk About](#) feature from Awana. Okay, do you remember Awana from when we were kids? Do your kids already go to Awana at your church?

One of the things I hear all the time from my friends who are parents is that they want to have spiritual conversations with their kids, but they don't always feel like they know where to start. I'm so happy to have a good answer to that need. Awana's new Talk About feature with questions and answers and Bible verses to go along with it, talk about provides parents and caretakers with the tools you need to have discipleship conversations that help deepen your family's faith.

Since each child and each family is different, talk about also provides options for family fun. Kids can draw, color, sing and engage in each week's content in a variety of ways. This resource is available as a subscription for only \$5.99 a month with all kinds of great faith content for families accessible via email once you've logged in with your subscription.

I think you're going to love the conversations that will come from this awesome content. Just go to talkaboutdiscipleship.com for all the info. Again, that's talkaboutdiscipleship.com.

And now back to more conversation with Hannah. But first here is a clip from her new podcast, The Unexpected Podcast with Hannah Love.

[00:23:30] <music>

Hannah: Purpose, Hannah. Purpose: we find it in different places and different things. It does not define us but it does motivate us to keep going. Motherhood has done that for me. Maybe for you too. Unlike careers in the pursuit of more, motherhood anchors the soul.

From the moment that perfect little person enters your world, you will do everything in your power to love them well. You will help them grow, you will encourage their hearts, fill their spirits and remind them whose they are and how much they are loved.

You will protect them from what you can. You will teach them kindness by showing it yourself. You will cry with them and you will cry for them. You will laugh with them and marvel at the joy they bring. I try to do these things.

And when the day is done and we lay our babies down, I pray over them. It is as much a reminder to myself as it is a declaration to God. I say these words: "God thank you for all of you've given us. Never let us forget that it is all yours and not

our own. That includes these children. Just like we are your children, they are yours. Help us to raise them in a way that is pleasing to you, God. Give us the wisdom and the grace to live our lives as examples to them."

This is just a version of the prayer we pray often over our boys. Depending on the day and the circumstances, this act of surrender can be the hardest thing that we will ever do. But we do it over and over. And that is motherhood. It is the perfect picture of our posture of surrender. In truth, it shouldn't just be in motherhood, but our posture to God over every aspect of our lives.

Motherhood just happened to open my eyes to it. I often think of Hannah in the Old Testament. Her heart was one of surrender. Truly, her heart was a broken one. But as I've noted before, brokenness leads to surrender.

For deeper context, I'll read a story beginning in 1 Samuel 1:1-26. "There was a certain man from Ramathaim, a Zuphite from the hill country of Ephraim, whose name was Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. He had two wives; one was called Hannah and the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had none.

Year after year this man went up from his town to worship and sacrifice to the Lord Almighty at Shiloh, where Hophni and Phinehas, the two sons of Eli, were priests of the Lord. Whenever the day came for Elkanah to sacrifice, he would give portions of the meat to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters. But to Hannah, he gave a double portion because he loved her, and the Lord had closed her womb.

Because the Lord had closed Hannah's womb, her rival kept provoking her in order to irritate her. This went on year after year. Whenever Hannah went up to the house of the Lord, her rival provoked her till she wept and would not eat. Her husband Elkanah would say to her, 'Hannah, why are you weeping? Why don't you eat? Why are you downhearted? Don't I mean more to you than ten sons?'

Once when they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh, Hannah stood up. Now Eli the priest was sitting on his chair by the doorpost of the Lord's house. In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the Lord, weeping bitterly. And she made a vow, saying, 'Lord Almighty, if you will only look on your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the Lord for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head.'

As she kept on praying to the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving but her voice was not heard. Eli thought she

was drunk and said to her, 'How long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your wine.'

'Not so, my lord,' Hannah replied, 'I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer; I was pouring out my soul to the Lord. Do not take your servant for a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief.'

Eli answered, 'Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him.' She said, 'May your servant find favor in your eyes.' Then she went her way and ate something, and her face was no longer downcast.

Early the next morning they arose and worshiped before the Lord and then went back to their home at Ramah. Elkanah made love to his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. So in the course of time Hannah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, 'Because I asked the Lord for him.'

When her husband Elkanah went up with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfill his vow, Hannah did not go. She said to her husband, 'After the boy is weaned, I will take him and present him before the Lord, and he will live there always.'

Do what seems best to you,' her husband Elkanah told her. 'Stay here until you have weaned him; only may the Lord make good his word.' So the woman stayed at home and nursed her son until she had weaned him.

After he was weaned, she took the boy with her, young as he was, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh. When the bull had been sacrificed, they brought the boy to Eli, and she said to him, 'Pardon me, my lord. As surely as you live, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the Lord. I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me what I asked of him. So now I give him to the Lord. For his whole life he will be given over to the Lord.' And he worshiped the Lord there."

Hannah was a strong woman. It takes strength to surrender. Imagine longing your whole life for a child. Indeed, some of you may have or still may be. It takes strength to surrender the unknown to God, and even more to surrender the prayers he answers back to him, the source from which your miracle comes.

But know this: there is no safer place to be than in the will of God. Hannah bore a son and dedicated him to God who gave him to her. Her purpose was in raising him upon a foundation of truth. Her purpose was in surrendering Samuel to become a priest. Not just any priest, but the priesthood anoint the first two kings of Israel. She

was obedient to surrender. She let her son go to be a voice for truth, the very truth she founded before him.

Samuel plays a prominent role in the Old Testament as a leader who does whatever is in God's heart and mind, all because Hannah answered her purpose with obedience, surrendered.

[00:30:14] <music>

Annie: Hannah, this show is so special. Thank you so much for making it.

Hannah: Oh, thank you for being there. Thank you for answering your email-

Annie: On vacation.

Hannah: Checking your email when you shouldn't have.

Annie: That's right. The Lord works in mysterious ways.

Hannah: Yes, he does.

Annie: He works all things together.

Hannah: That's right. He doesn't take vacation even when we do.

Annie: That's right. That's right. Okay, that'll start every Monday starting on April 18th. But actually, I am so thankful for this. You've written five podcast devotionals that will release next week during Holy Week.

Hannah: Yes.

Annie: And the theme of those is Laying Foundations. Will you talk about that for a minute? Why is that going to happen every day next week?

Hannah: I just think it's so important for us to remember where we start and that that foundation should be in Christ, no matter the circumstance and no matter where you begin. Because a lot of things can lead you to that point. Pain can lead you to that point, surrender can lead you to that point, brokenness, all of these things.

I will go over a few of those things each day, but I want to kind of wrap it up with no matter where you start, it's just important to start and to have that foundation. Because it's not just for you, it's for your kids. It's for the generations behind us.

And I just think, what better place to start than there? I should have Shay sing *From the Ground Up*. I mean, what am I talking about?

Annie: That's right. Dear buddy, listen to Dan and Shay too, please.

Hannah: Shameless plug.

Annie: I think what I'm looking forward to is adding that to my morning rhythms next week. My Holy Week is quieter. We're intentional about that in the podcast. For That Sounds Fun, we don't record or release. I just go a little bit quieter next week. But what I add is more content and devotionals and reading that points me to the cross.

And I'm so grateful for these five coming next week. And then today, everybody can go subscribe to Unexpected with Hannah Love. Over there you have the trailer so they can hear about the show. And then you've also written and recorded a Holy Week prayer for us.

Hannah: Yes.

Annie: That's awesome.

Hannah: I'm excited. I'm excited.

Annie: In our friendship, what I have learned is that prayer really matters to you.

Hannah: It matters. It's big. It's big.

Annie: So when we are listening to this prayer you're going to read over us, what's our posture? What do we do today? If we listened today on Friday, if we listen while we're picking our kids up from Drive Thru, at school, or tomorrow on a quiet Saturday or Sunday after church on Palm Sunday, what posture do you hope for? What do we do? Do we stop doing the dishes? Do we stop? Do we keep going? What do we do?

Hannah: It's so funny that you ask that and it's so funny that I just posted this on a story last week, God keeps saying it: open hearts.

Annie: Wow.

Hannah: And I have a verse underlined. I wish I had it in front of me now. But it's just the importance of your heart posture being opened. Recently God has even been

saying, "You need to have a softened heart." Keep your heart soft. Because nothing can get into a hardened heart, right?

Annie: Wow.

Hannah: So I would say have a heart posture of just an open heart and being receptive, being open to hear Him and to let Him work in areas that He needs to work. Because if you're not there, if you're not open to it, then it doesn't matter. What you do on Holy Week because your heart's going to be closed.

Annie: Yeah, that's right. That's beautiful. So just opening our hearts, just making an active choice to say to God, "Open my heart. Open my heart." And walk through Holy Week that way and then kick off Eastertide that is technically longer than lent. We celebrate two days longer than we grieve. And you will walk us straight through that every Monday.

Hannah: I love it.

Annie: Hannah, I'm so thankful. I'm so proud of you. I cannot wait for people to hear Unexpected with Hannah Love. It starts today. They can go get the trailer and a prayer and then we'll go into Holy Week.

Hannah: All right.

Annie: Hannah, the last question we always have to ask. Because the show and the network you just joined is called That Sounds Fun, tell me what sounds fun to you.

Hannah: Oh, Annie, a cup of coffee and quiet.

Annie: Says a mother of two little boys.

Hannah: Yes, says a mother of two. It's like a fraternity house. Shay is a seven on the Enneagram and I'm pretty sure Asher is too. So we are just living wild.

Annie: Do either of the boys sing with Shay?

Hannah: They both do. I will say I think Ames might be a dancer.

Annie: Really?

Hannah: But Asher has perfect pitch. It's really beautiful. It is.

Annie: Just like Shay. You are kidding.

Hannah: I know. And Shay has always said, "I don't want him to do what I do because it's one in a million." But we've told him, "Baby, you do whatever you want to do." Because God gives him-

Annie: How old is Asher now? Four?

Hannah: He just turned five.

Annie: Okay, just turned five. And then Ames is?

Hannah: Ames just turned two.

Annie: Two. Okay. I can't wait for our friends who aren't following you yet on Instagram to jump on board and watch your family. Y'all are the sweetest. And everybody sings Dan and Shay songs all the time, so we're like, "Oh, here's his people."

Hannah: And they are kid-friendly so that's good too.

Annie: Yes, yes. Okay, good. That's a great answer. You're going to get a lot of time with him when summer comes, huh? That's cool.

Hannah: And Asher starts kindergarten in the fall. So I'm just going to soak it in.

Annie: That's right. Well, now we're sending everybody over to you. Unexpected with Hannah Love. Are you ready?

Hannah: I am. Annie, thank you for having me. I love you.

Annie: I love you too, friend. And thanks for doing this. Making our amusement park of podcasts a lot better. So thank you.

[00:35:54] <music>

Outro: Oh, you guys, isn't she just the best? I'm telling you, this whole show is going to be awesome. I love that there's a short devotion every day next week. I cannot wait to participate in that. So make sure you have subscribed to the Unexpected Podcast with Hannah Love. Go do it right now so you don't miss anything.

Right and review the show. Even if you can do that today after you listen to the two pieces that are there. It helps it so much to get in front of people who may not know Jesus, who may not know Hannah, and can really benefit from what is coming, particularly next week during Holy Week and all the episodes after. Remember, she

has that Holy Week prayer available on the podcast feed. It is so special. Be sure to share it with your friends.

If you need anything else from me, you know I'm embarrassingly easy to find. Annie F. Downs on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook. All the places you may need me, that is how you can find me. I think that's it for me today, friends. Go out or stay home and do something that sounds fun to you. I will do the same.

Today. What sounds fun to me is getting some Easter baskets together for some friends. So about to head to one of my favorite stores. Can I just say Target? I'm going to go to Target, you guys.

Y'all have a great weekend. We'll see you back here next Monday, Easter Monday. Remember, we don't record or release podcasts on That Sounds Fun during Holy Week. But I do encourage you to go pray along with Hannah at the Unexpected Podcast feed and enjoy her devotions next week. I will as well.

And then I will see you back here on Monday, April 18, as we continue our month of conversations around prayer with the lovely and wise, Ann Voskamp. We'll see you guys then. Have a great Holy Week leading up to Easter. He is risen indeed.