

## **Transcript for the podcast “Worthy: Celebrating the Value of Women.”**

**Hosts:** Elyse Fitzpatrick and Eric Schumacher

**Episode 16 — Guest:** Beth Moore

**Date Aired:** May 18, 2020

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Elyse Fitzpatrick 0:06

Welcome to Worthy, a Christian podcast that celebrates the value of women. Each week, we'll bring you conversations with women and men, on the value of women in the church, home, and society. We won't always agree on everything. But we do agree that God is glorious, the Bible is true, and women are valuable, and respectful conversation on this topic is essential in our day.

Hi, I'm Elyse Fitzpatrick, and I'm happy to be here today with my co-host, Eric Schumacher. And hey, Eric.

Eric Schumacher 1:17

Hey, Elyse! How you doing?

Elyse Fitzpatrick 1:18

I'm good, I'm good. And we have a special guest with us today. Our special guest is Beth Moore. And in case you've been living off the grid in a yurt for the last two decades, let me tell you who Beth Moore is. Beth is an author and speaker. She's a teacher whose conferences have taken her around the globe. She founded Living Proof Ministries in 1994, with the purpose-- and get this, this is what's so important to us-- of encouraging women to know and love Jesus through the study of Scripture. That's so beautiful. She's written numerous bestselling books and Bible studies, how many Beth?

Beth Moore 2:06

I think it is 19 Bible studies and then I'm going to say probably 16 or so regular books, what we call trade books.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 2:18

Yes, yes, trade books. And, and those books and studies have been read around the world by women of all ages, races and denominations. And another recent addition to her book collection is her first work

work of fiction, which is *The Undoing of St. Sylvanus*. And that sounds really interesting. I'm going to ask you a question about that later. But--

Beth Moore 2:47

Oh, good, good, good.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 2:49

She and her husband of 40 years reside in Houston, Texas. She's a dedicated wife. I'm not sure how she's doing right now with the coronavirus quarantine, but I'm a wife, and trying. And she's the mother of two adult daughters and the grandmother of three delightful grandchildren. And today we're going to be talking about a number of things but primarily what Eric and I want to do is introduce you to her book, *Chasing Vines: Finding Your Way to an Immensely Fruitful Life*. And Beth, I need to say something to you first before we--

Beth Moore 3:29

You go right ahead, Elyse.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 3:33

This is my first book of yours that I've read cover to cover.

Beth Moore 3:37

Really?

Elyse Fitzpatrick 3:38

Yeah.

Beth Moore 3:38

Oh, I'm so thankful.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 3:41

And I have to say to you, this is a gorgeous book. It's beautifully written. There are times when I was reading it, I wept. I laughed out loud. It's-- It's so human. It's so glorious, about the amazing story of people who desire to have meaning in their life for the Lord for this world. You talk about your disappointments, your pain, your doubt in and you're facing of that as a godly, mature woman, and you do it in a very vulnerable way. And a very brave way. So, you know, I want to thank you. As I was reading it, I thought okay, I remember that CS Lewis is rumored to have said, we read so that we know we're not alone. And I read-- I read this Beth, I read things you've gone through and I said, She's just like me. We've gone-- we've gone through the same things. So thank you, I want to just thank you for this book, I'm going to say, if anybody who hears my voice right now trusts anything that I have to say, about what is an appropriate book to read, read this book. It's absolutely beautiful. And in this book, Beth takes the metaphor of the vine in the vineyard. So let's start talking about it. So thank you for that.

Beth Moore 5:27

Oh, my goodness, Elyse, I have to stop and say, I'm so grateful for your gracious words. And I'm just going to tell you, you talk about when it's just comes from a place of weakness and vulnerability. I tell you, I have-- I know what it's like to just be a train wreck at times. So it's really the only honest way for me to write is from that place of just-- just, some transparency, you just put it out there. And even if they don't relate on some level, that still what is lost, and being able to say, this is where I've been, this is where I've struggled? What, what gain is there in people thinking more of you than is true? What we want is for them to get to the end of anything that we write, or say and be impressed with, with Christ. And not us. And so I'm so grateful for the privilege. I'm just grateful for the to have the outlet of writing. Even if I'd never published I'm so thankful that for my life long this has been one of the ways I have processed information and processed what was going on inside of me and processed my own journey with the Lord is that I write a lot down so

Eric Schumacher 6:58

Hmm. And you're a good writer.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 7:00

Yes.

Eric Schumacher 7:00

I-- This, this is also my first book I've read of yours, Beth. And I-- actually, I listened to it, twice through your audio.

Beth Moore 7:10

Oh, Eric! I'm so glad.

Eric Schumacher 7:12

It was so... so I echo everything Elise said. It was an absolutely beautiful book. It it dealt with suffering very vulnerably. I think there's suffering in every chapter all the way through. But it's not hopeless or gloomy. It's a joy-filled book, from beginning to end, and it just grows as we get closer to the end--

Elyse Fitzpatrick 7:36

And the party.

Eric Schumacher 7:37

And the party, yeah. I, I've been honest, I've told you before. And even publicly, you know that I stayed away from your material for a long time due to some suspicions. And also because you were a woman author, and I have a theology degree. And I wasn't going to read that. And forgive me for that, that-- that was wrong of me to do. And I, I, I've just so grown to appreciate you on Twitter, and your boldness, and how you helped me understand what it's like to be a woman in the church. And so I picked up your book not knowing at all what to expect other than I liked this woman who was on Twitter and has been an encouragement to me. And I started reading it and I was like, so honestly, I thought this was going to be on a book entirely about the I am the vine, you are the branches passage. I didn't read a description of it first, I thought, oh, I've heard 100 sermons on this and you know, 10 books and, and this turns out to be an extended metaphor of the vineyard.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 8:40

Yes.

Eric Schumacher 8:40

It's a Biblical theology that walks all the way from the Garden of Eden to the New Jerusalem, tracing this theme and this metaphor the whole way through, and very gospel-centered. But back to your writing. I could tell as I listened to you read it that you are a poet and a wordsmith. And you will appreciate this. Because you just read Jaber Crow, right? I went there. Yes. Yes.

Beth Moore 9:09

In the process. Yes.

So, I, my first book of his was the audiobook of Hannah Coulter. And I don't know if it's your, your accent, but I felt like at the end, I was listening to Hannah Coulter talk, because of your-- what you had to say about place and all those things. So anyway, enough of that. Elyse, where do you want to start in this conversation?

Elyse Fitzpatrick 9:32

I just-- I think I'd like Beth to talk for a bit about why this book. I know you went to Tuscany. I've been to Tuscany. I know those hills you're talking about

Beth Moore 9:43

Oh good, oh good, I'm so glad.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 9:44

And the cypress trees for every one of the sons. Right? And it's just it's so gorgeous. So talk to us. Let the let our listeners know you know why this book? Why a book about vineyards and vines and growing grapes.

Beth Moore 10:02

I'd love to do that. I'd love to do that. Eric, first of all, I want so much to say to you that I have appreciated your interaction on Twitter so much. And I think that a number of us have watched one another scoot around and get new perceptions of one another all with the understanding that we don't

have to see it all the same way. But we can come to a greater appreciation of all the color, and texture and all the dimensions that God has in the body of Christ. And I've just so appreciate that. I come from a large family and I have two brothers and two sisters. And so I've really never understood the whole concept of that we are supposed to always agree in order to be a family, we couldn't have functioned. I grew up in a family of eight, my grandmother lived with us. I've mentioned I mentioned her in the book from time to time, and it was there, there was very little we ever agreed on at all. And yet we functioned very much as a, as a family. And so I've never-- so often someone will say to me, you know, I don't agree with you about everything, and I say, you know, I don't even agree with myself about everything. But, you know, I don't. I go back, I'm still hearing things that I wrote in, you know, 30 years ago, and I'm you know, I can't chase all of them down. But I, I wouldn't, I wouldn't say that today. Maybe I still agree with it in some way. But maybe I wouldn't have said it that way. But anyway, I appreciate. I just appreciate nuance in a day when there is such, such divisiveness and that there is room for us not to just throw one another-- one another out as heretics but to appreciate that we're all coming from different traditions that, that put some of the language in our mouth that we have,

Eric Schumacher 12:08

Yeah.

Beth Moore 12:08

It's so much what we were taught. But all that to say one of the interesting things I think about being in this little group of three right now, and all three of us writers, because at this point, Eric, honestly as much music as you've written, this may be the first full scale book, a nonfiction book, and project of this kind, but you know, Welcome to the world of writers. And that is a welcome to all the madness, as well as the joys of it and the fulfillment of it. But with this, Elyse and Eric, it was very much like you had experienced in that I can tell the difference between something that I just find extremely inspirational, that the Lord shows me if he, you know, if I'm looking at a particular site, or I'm, I'm having a particular experience someplace, there's that thing of being thankful for it. And sensing that God is showing me something and that he's present in it somehow-- there's that that I might keep to myself. And there's that then is a little bit stronger that I might then speak on a little bit might use in social media in one way or another but then there's that that will not let you go.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 13:20

Right.

Beth Moore 13:21

And that-- those for me, for every single Bible study and every single major project, it is always been that case. I've never thrown out an invitation for people to tell me what they wanted me to write on. I'm not saying I'm not saying that's wrong, by any stretch, we do things, different ways. And we're motivated in different ways. And we're different kinds of writers, but I am saying that how I've gone all of these years is by what would not let me go and--

Elyse Fitzpatrick 13:49

Right.

Beth Moore 13:49

--this would not let me go. And you know, in some respects still hasn't. Because I can still-- I'm still learning things about it. I am putting in-- this next week beginning to put in a little 15-vine vineyard on my property. So I know that-- I wanted to do it throughout the process, but I couldn't do it at the same time. So I needed to get this tucked away and then do it. So I've not lost fascination with it. But I felt like, that I was staring straight into the passage. I couldn't even-- I couldn't, I could not believe my eyes because we did not plan to be there at the end of the harvest in Tuscany. When those last gatherers were going through the rows and clipping off those clusters. But yet there it was in front of me and for anyone raised on the scriptures and certainly any of the very familiar passages like 'I am the vine, you are the branches.' 'My father is the gardener,' that can't help but come alive. You know, it's my whole-- it's my whole life. That's... I love-- I love scripture as much as I did 25 years ago, 30 years ago, it's just something that he lit a fire in me for that I have never ever, ever been able to quench. And so I just was staring in the face of it and what I love to do and I after reading Worthy, I can't wait to turn this conversation and I get to ask you questions, because I think you guys think the same way. What I love to do, I love to take a topic and work it through. I get into John 15 and into the, that one narrow lens and then pull out to a panoramic lens, and start tracing the things-- now, it's what I did with tabernacle, it is what I did with so many of the concepts with freedom, with the whole idea of freedom in Christ, that same thing. Push out from it, how do you see it across the the testaments? That's my favorite thing to do. And so that's what I did here. And I loved it when you said as you went, that it, it grew that way, Eric, because one of the things that publishers tell you and my publisher talked to me about it, and we compromised as much as we could. They want you to start with the bang, of course, because if you don't get your reader early, you're not going to keep them. And I get that in every way. But I am a teacher to my bones. And so I want them to discover, I don't want to tell them everywhere we're going. I want them to know the thrill of realizing, Wait a second. That passage right there. John 15 connects with Isaiah Chapter Five, the song of the Beloved. I mean, it's just like, I've got-- it's just so silly, but I've got chill bumps on my arms right now. Because I love that thing. I want them to see it. I want them to

then sit at the table at that final meal before Jesus is arrested. And I don't want to give it all away. I want them to have-- grow into it, but it's very contra to our culture.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 17:11

Yes,

Beth Moore 17:11

So, I want people to stick around to the end. But I don't know if they will or not.

Eric Schumacher 17:16

Well, that's what-- you sent me a note and said, when I told you I was reading it, you said hey, stick around to the end. And I started, I started listening to it. I thought what is she worried about? Like, I Why would I not stick around? It's it's, it's great from the beginning.

Beth Moore 17:31

I'm so glad.

Eric Schumacher 17:31

And I would just say, the way you wrote it, the way you want to write, and I think Elyse and I do think like you so I hope this isn't self flattery. But I think it's because we're in the image of God. That's how he wrote the Bible. You have to stick around to get the point.

Oh I love it, Eric.

You're created the image of God not an editor.

Beth Moore 17:51

You have to stick around. Absolutely, yes.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 17:54

Beth, you know, in, in the book, you, you say over and over again. God likes watching things grow. Jesus like watching things grow. Talk about that, why? Why didn't, you know, why didn't he just make everything and have it done?

Beth Moore 18:17

Elyse, I gotta tell you something. I am getting to talk with you, too, at the age of 62 and a little more than a half. And I'm going to tell you this, if I didn't have the philosophy I just told you above it ago that I love discovery, I would be embarrassed about this. But since I do love discovery, I won't be embarrassed about it. Because it's-- this is almost a new thought to me. And of course you know, I knew it if you asked me that. Yes, I would have been able to answer that but, I'm talking about when something comes to you as a true revelation. When it's like, look at this, it's a game changer, that he actually like any-- we all three happen to be parents, but for our listeners who are not parents, you know how it is when you've got a, a friend that's got kids or you got-- you've been able to be in with a sibling, your-- you've got nieces and nephews, whatever it may be. Who among us would have wanted that infant to be born as a 165 pound adult-- certainly not the mother, I would like to say a little bit tongue in cheek. But one of the things that it's done for me if this is again, not that I want this to be self serving. I'm so hoping someone is encouraged by what I'm about to say because it's-- I'm gonna-- this is going to be something I'm going to have to break down probably in a memoir of some kind. This is how significant it was to me, because I am looking back-- by the time you're my age, and Elyse, you must be close because you've been married about the same time. So by the time you have ministered publicly, Eric, as long as Elyse and I have, you have made all sorts of mistakes.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 20:10

Yes.

Beth Moore 20:10

You have, you've had to grow like everyone else. You're learning, you're trying to respond to what you know, you know I say to people all the time, you can't know what you don't know. We just, we don't know it, or we would be trying to operate from that. And so one of the things that it did for me, was give me pause, I have a lot of regrets. I have so many regrets because I come from just some real darkness. I did not have a clean path. I had such a messy, messy journey, such a messy journey, and I come, man, I

come from the depths of the pit of sin and, and despair in my past. So, man, that's that's a little slice of my story. But it's so easy to look back and hate it all. It's easy to look back-- especially a moment ago, how I hear things-- how things get quoted back to me, and for everyone young in ministry, in public ministry now, this will also be true in 20 years for them, 30 years for them, so have compassion on us now, because you're going to need later. Because you hear all of this back, and it's taken out of context, taken out of culture and time. So it's very, yes, you pulled that out by itself. And it just sounds insane. Taken where was, and in the time, it's a different story. But, you know, I just have had so many things that I would have done differently. And I-- so much of my past comes back to me all the time, that to sit back and know that the Lord esteemed the process.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 20:10

Yes.

Beth Moore 20:56

And I want someone to hear that. And you need to know that this voice speaking to you right now, I couldn't come for more things that are regret. So please hear me when I say that it was a revelation to me, that he did not despise my process. Yes. And that I, I, I may feel like I have to make a lot of apologies to a lot of other people along the way. But God doesn't just have me in a-- one, one repentance was enough for him, for various things, failures along the way. And then just the process of being, you know, not formally taught, it's easy to look back and then think I must have sounded so silly. And it's so it would be understandable to just go, I just despise that. Well, something about the book, it was like, no, oh, I was growing. I'm still growing, I'm still gonna have things that if the Lord tarries, I'm gonna have things in 15 years, I'll look back on today and think, Oh, I wish I would have said that differently. I wish I would have known that then. And so I, oh-- that-- just know that the Lord has not despised your growth process. And that, boy you talk about grace, that-- that can, that can take you a long way.

Eric Schumacher 23:29

Yeah, I, I really appreciate what you just said there. I remember. Just yesterday, the day before listening through the book for the second time I was out on a walk and you were talking about regrets. And I was thinking how in-- boy let's see, it's uh, 17, almost 18 years of ministry now as a pastor, that I don't think there's a stretch of time in my pastoral ministry that I don't look back on with regret. And I remember thinking, how many people did I harm?

Elyse Fitzpatrick 24:05

Yeah, me too.

Eric Schumacher 24:05

How many people did I hurt?

Beth Moore 24:07

Yes. Yes.

Eric Schumacher 24:08

And then I'm thinking about how God grows people and how he grows his church. And he's working even through that, you know, my mistakes, can't thwart the vinedressers work in his vineyard. And that was such a good thing. One of the things I mentioned earlier that your book is just very vulnerable, full of suffering. I hope you write that memoir, because this book felt like a memoir at times. And I want to hear more.

Beth Moore 24:37

Thank you for that. Thank you for that.

Eric Schumacher 24:39

You know I was thinking as you were saying that, Eric, we're just not-- we're just not good enough at being bad to keep Him from being good. You know?

Elyse Fitzpatrick 24:47

That's really good. Say that again!

Beth Moore 24:51

--We're just not good enough at being bad to keep Him from being good. You know, we think we really were bad enough to throw the whole thing off and then you-- If we were foreknown-- now this is, I'm

not. I'm not suggesting foolishness and that presumptuous sin, but I am saying that we were foreknown. And we were chosen. Our books were even chosen before creation. And if that's so then Okay, we can take a deep breath and go well, you know, as a friend of mine says he knew what he was getting when he got me.

Eric Schumacher 25:30

Yeah, that's good. One of the-- so as you, as you wove anecdotes of suffering and all that through the book, in your chapter on abiding, you said something like abiding, is the branch's sole duty, like the one thing the branch is responsible to do is to abide in that vine. And as I reflected on that today, just thinking about the book as a whole, you know, you mentioned several times in the book, and just now coming from a really hard, dark past, it would be easy to write a book, where you end it with a list of bullet points to tell people not-- how to avoid that life. Right,

Elyse Fitzpatrick 26:14

Right, right. You don't do tht.

Eric Schumacher 26:16

And what you end it with, and the whole way through is, we need to be in Christ. And, and a hopeful vision that's looking to the future for this resurrection from the dead. And so-- and you even get into like, God is working through our suffering. But you don't push us to find the answers for what he's doing in there. Your whole bit about Was it worth it? I love that piece. And then, and even, we don't know where we're going, except for we're going to a resurrection. And that was-- that was just beautiful. How is the Lord? How has he taught you that?

Beth Moore 26:58

What I discovered, accidentally, I don't recall ever being raised on this idea. Although I am so thankful for the way I was raised, we were as dysfunctional as my family was, and let me use a different word. As unstable. My, my home was very unstable, as unstable as it was, we were always taken to church, it was the way that my parents thought, this is the way you educate your children. I think it was very common at that time, you let the church do it, you just take them. And this is this is what's going to happen. And so I'm very thankful even for that I really am because it was a harbor for me. But what I discovered, I'm going to try to say this, I don't like to be-- I don't like to. I'm not very often emotional in public, but my voice will break every now and then because this is so dear to me that it's liable to do this now. But what I discovered that was a complete game changer for me, and it came early, it would have come with, with

the first thing I ever really deeply, deeply studied. And that would have been the tabernacle series. And so this would have been in my early 30s. And this was-- I was just several years, 27 was when I began to study just like I could not get enough of it, I could not get enough. But about that time, early 30s is when I would have told you that I went just scriptur-- just scripturally speaking and, and spiritually speaking into that holy of holies with him and what changed everything for me and what I want, if I could give something to somebody else, this is what I would want to give them. For me by big eye opener, was that Jesus is his own reward. It's, it is him. It is him. I was taught growing up all the don'ts. And this, I think was common in my tradition. We were told what not to do in order to be godly. Well, I was so messed up that I didn't. I didn't couldn't keep any of them. Yes, I agree. Keep any of them I couldn't. I couldn't behave myself. I couldn't, I was just such a wreck. But I had this heart for God. But what began to set me free and get me out of my pattern because I would listen, the Holy Spirit was in me, so he would do his job. So of course I was going to have conviction and of course and was going to repent. If the Holy Spirit does not-- if there's no conviction of sin, something is amiss, because the Holy Spirit does his job. So I would live in this pattern. I was so sorry. I was so sorry. God, I'm so sorry, I would repent. I mean, the real thing where you have sorrow, where your Lord, I'm never going to do that again, I'm never going to do that again. And, and so you know, he pulled me out of that pit, set my feet back on the path, and then you know, I go on and then the next set of circumstances, whatever it would be, that would give me the same insecurities again. I can't always define what would send me back there again. But this is how I lived, this is how I lived, and what God used to set me free. What he did to wean me off of turning back over and over again, to the things of the flesh was that I so enjoyed Christ, that it's still my motivation. And I want people to know all the timing, yes, I of course, there is repentance. In coming to him, there's repentance, but I'm going to tell you something, what I what I try to tell people all the time, they're giving up something huge. I mean, giving up something huge, and in order to follow Christ. And I, you know, I will tell them, and I'm talking about in their process of sanctification, and I will often tell them, you immerse yourself and in prayer, ask God to give you a love for his son.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 31:26

Yes.

Beth Moore 31:27

Because here's what I found, the more I came to love him, the more I wanted to let go of those things, and I didn't want anything to cut off. And you can say it now and in our metaphor, because-- but I wouldn't have thought it then, I didn't want anything to cut me off from him. His love truly, as the psalmist said, for me was and is better than life. It's the best thing in life to me. And so I don't want-- that's abiding to me, is that don't let anything-- I want that. Jesus, I want you. And I don't want anything to quench the flow of your spirit, through me. So he became-- to me, he's, he is the thing. There's so many things that go with him that are benefits of walking with Him. But to me, he is it himself.

Eric Schumacher 32:26

Yeah,

Beth Moore 32:27

It's Jesus. I just, I love to be with him.

Eric Schumacher 32:32

Hmm. I want to explore that a little bit in terms of he's the thing I love the most, he is what I love the most. You say, later in the book that-- and I don't know, all the circumstances, you know, I've known of you for decades and known that your ministry is is very big. I don't know the numbers and all that. But it's the type of ministry and platform that many pastors would want, many women who write and speak would want, I think we all long to have influence like that. And then you, you mention in the book that you did some things that brought it from large to small. And, and, I think it might have been related. I don't know if you name the circumstances, but you did talk about speaking out about abuse and sexism. Yes, yes. Which I really appreciated. It's so helpful to me. But here's, here's the place where for many of us, there would be a strong temptation to restrain from speaking the truth--

Elyse Fitzpatrick 33:32

Right.

Eric Schumacher 33:33

And then this in particular, a way that's good for our neighbor, you're speaking out on behalf of people who are mistreated, it'd be-- we'd be tempted to say, I'm just going to be quiet on this. I can't talk about every topic in the world. Because if I do, it's going to cost me book sales and speaking invitations and friendships. How did the worth of Christ get through that, and give you courage.

Beth Moore 34:05

Absolutely, Eric, I'm so glad you asked that. Because here's what I can't tell you. For those who are listening, I can't tell you that it's not costly. What you what you would hope to hear me say is, You know what I thought it was going to be, but it wasn't, and listen, if you will just do the right thing, then I'm

going to tell you something, he will honor it by not letting any of that pain come to you and any of the consequences come to you. But sometimes he honors us by letting us enter in and fellowship with him in the sufferings of it. And this was certainly my experience. It was tremendously difficult because the best-- the best example of it I know to bring, because it was probably the hardest part for me was I truly did hit my own demographic in that I hit when I became more outspoken, which I say in the book, and I'll say again, I do not, I do not regret and would do 100 times out of 100, I would do it over.

I would make the same decision over and over again, maybe, maybe different words. And I can't even say that that's always true, but I definitely would have done it. But the pain of losing the fellowship of some women, most of which were around my age that I had been in Bible study with for decades, and we had raised our children together, and to have heard from some of them, you know, very painful things-- I've thrown away every Bible study, I will never study with you again. And to not be able to process that, that information because in my mind, I felt that, you know, I'm, I'm called to women's ministry. I, I advocate for women, and our dignity in Christ. And, you know, I knew-- I knew, that it was, it was going to be a lot, but it was even-- it was even more than I thought. And it was like standing, it was like standing in front of a machine gun. And, and remained that way for months. But I will tell you, it then would hit a certain point perhaps, but it is never since that time ever dropped down. And and it's at times gone back up and then kind of low and then gone back up. And but here, here is what I know. And I'm not meaning to make this romantic here. This thing is, it's not romantic. It-- it still is painful, yes. But it's worth it. I have to be at peace with myself. In my own soul. I cannot lay my head on a pillow. I'm just not going to be the silent type. I'm not. I-- it's, it's not my calling. I talked to a fellow leader here recently that said-- I'm his brother. And he said, I'm just not going there. I'm not going there. I feel like God has not called me there. I think that's fair to say. And-- but he, he did call me there. And there are certain things that-- that I don't know how on earth, I would have remained silent about, with the calling that God had put upon me. But that doesn't mean it's not painful, but it means I would do it over and over. And it, it does mean to me, it-- these things matter to me. Because they matter for the generation coming up behind us.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 35:30

Yes. Yes.

Eric Schumacher 35:34

Mmm hmm.

Beth Moore 35:45

So some people say to me, what, you know, what what do you hope to gain? No one is changing their opinion. I think to myself, I'm going to tell you something. I think-- Elyse, I think this constantly, I think it constantly and Eric after what you guys have written together, you're going to get this too even-- even as a brother. But I think constantly what the-- what the repercussions are of our 20-something and 30-something-- what, what about also our high school girl-- of these young women watching their sisters quit. That when they look up at that generation, and they cannot find women that have persevered. I'm not about been perfect, they're not going to find one. But they're certainly not going to find one here. But I mean that they-- that they are not finding people that-- females, females that are going to persevere out there. In the, in the heat. I just, that-- when I had-- when nothing else was really motivating me. I would think to myself, is that the example you're gonna set?

Elyse Fitzpatrick 39:07

Yeah.

Beth Moore 39:07

Is that what you want for your granddaughter?

Elyse Fitzpatrick 39:09

Right.

Beth Moore 39:10

That she-- she's gonna think you know what? You don't ever, ever, ever speak out against the establishment. You don't ever. And that's just not the paradigm we see in Scripture. It's just not.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 39:25

Yeah, and the fact, Beth-- and let me just say I'm-- I'm right with you. And Eric and I are together with this book right with you. I feel very, very deeply that if we don't start speaking truth about women, and about the ways women have been treated in churches or silenced-- if we don't do that, we're going to lose-- and of course, you know, this is all humanly speaking. God can do whatever,

Beth Moore 39:57

Absolutely

Elyse Fitzpatrick 39:58

--but if we don't, if we, you and I, as women who have walked this path for decades, if we don't start speaking up, we're going to lose these girls. Because they're not going to put up with it. You know?

Beth Moore 40:13

No. We are going to lose them. And the church is going to lose them.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 40:18

Yes, yes!

Beth Moore 40:18

The church is going to, and these-- I can't wait till we bridge over to talk about your, your book Worthy. Because this is a tremendous blow to the church to lose that kind of gifting and what women bring to the mix, and I just, you're-- you're so right, we just cannot take-- we cannot be part of that. We can't, we can't stop it. We can't fix it. But I'm not going to cooperate.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 40:54

Right.

Beth Moore 40:54

And neither are you, Elyse, with the process of setting an example for just fading back and figuring out-- you know, I'll take my whatever gifts I have totally into the secular world. And this is what it's gonna look like. And I just--

Elyse Fitzpatrick 41:13

Mm-mm.

Beth Moore 41:13

No.

Eric Schumacher 41:14

No. Well, thank you, Beth.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 41:16

Thank you, Beth!

Eric Schumacher 41:17

Our time is up for the first of a two part interview. You are listening to the worthy podcast with our special guest, Beth Moore. We've been talking about her new book, Chasing Vines, which Elyse and I both found to be beautiful and inspiring and hope-giving. And I'm not just saying that because Beth's on the podcast, really do go get yourself a copy of this. You will be blessed by it. We thank you for listening. So at the Worthy podcast we hope that you will not only subscribe through your favorite device, but rate the podcast and share it with your friends. And we also would appreciate your support on Patreon so that we can keep this podcast going. Tune in next time when Beth will be back with us. And we'll be turning the tables! She'll be interviewing Elyse and I about Worthy.

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