

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

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Episode 36 — Guest: Megan Lively

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Eric Schumacher 00:06

Welcome to worthy Christian podcast 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 will not always agree on everything. But we do agree that God is glorious. The Bible's true. Women are valuable, and respectful conversation on this topic is essential in our day. Welcome to the Worthy podcast. This is Eric Schumacher, along with my co author, co host, and co many other things. I can't bring myself to use Co Co

Elyse Fitzpatrick 01:20

Co, co co co co co is good,

Eric Schumacher 01:22

Coco is good. I like to drink mine, you eat yours out of a candle. But you know, listen, we all have our things. You're out there in San Diego where it's too hot to actually drink hot cocoa

Elyse Fitzpatrick 01:39

Correct.

Eric Schumacher 01:41

So we are joined today by someone from the a friend of ours, a good friend of ours from the other coast of these United States of America. I'm speaking from the Heartland. And so where we just went through our own land hurricane few weeks ago and and I'm looking at the south right now and praying for them as we record this, that's just that's just awful. But, our friend is Megan Lively. And Megan is the creator and owner of Relevant Reach, which is an online membership community that assists Christian organizations, churches, schools and businesses with their social media needs. And so if that describes you, Google Relevant Reach and check out what Megan has to offer there. Megan is a graduate of Campbell University with a Religion Major, and she received her Master's degree in Christian studies in 2019, from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. She is married to Vincent, a godly man who loves Jesus, and together they have two children. And they live in our hometown of North Carolina where she has a twin sister. And so we hope we're talking to the right sister today. But I wouldn't know Megan enjoys laughing, grilling, hitting the beach and catching critters for her children. So Megan, welcome to the podcast.

Megan Lively 03:16

Thank you. Thank you for having me.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 03:18

What kind of critters Megan?

03:22

Anything from crabs at the beach.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 03:25

Yeah.

Megan Lively 03:26

And frogs and the tree frogs that live at the beach to Roly Polies. At home, lizards. We like to throw bugs into garden spider's webs this time of year, and my children get to see them at work and so I was brought up to have an appreciation for nature. And they do too. In fact, this morning, I woke up and there were four Rolly Polies under my pillow. And

Eric Schumacher 03:59

oh

Megan Lively 03:59

asked my little girl I said why (she's four) what? What happened? Why are there bugs under my pillow? And she said the tooth fairy came, Mommy. So a little bit more comfortable, more comfortable with bugs and

Eric Schumacher 04:15

Just remember that when she loses a tooth that she'll take Roly Polies

Megan Lively 04:19

Roly Polies instead of the dollar.

Eric Schumacher 04:21

Yeah.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 04:22

So Megan, how many kids do you have and how old are they?

Megan Lively 04:27

Reed is 12 and Charlotte Gray is four and a half.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 04:32

Okay,

Eric Schumacher 04:33

Nice. And are you and your twin sister identical twins?

Megan Lively 04:38

We're identical. Yes, we are. In fact we're mirror image identical, which is when you split a few hours later than just regular identical so the neat thing about that is I don't wear contacts much but when I do

if I run out of a contact for this eye, she can just give me the contact for her other eye. Because everything is identical opposite so, um I wear my watch on this arm, she wears her watch on this arm. Purses keep my purse secured here. So everything it's fun.

Eric Schumacher 05:13

is one right hand and one's left handed?

Megan Lively 05:15

No, ironically we're both left handed but the the doctor our pediatrician said early on it's because we did everything the same.

Eric Schumacher 05:23

Oh.

Megan Lively 05:23

Yeah. So one of us is supposed to be right-handed and I think it's me because she's got a prettier handwriting.

Eric Schumacher 05:31

All right, that is, and you live in the same town, with your twin sister.

Megan Lively 05:37

We do. So it's fun. I keep my hair long and curly, and I wear glasses and she her hair is straight. She straightens hers and she keeps it short. And she wears contacts, which helps people but a lot I get called Maria a lot when I go to Target or Walmart and I just say I just say hey, back and keep going because it embarrasses people. It was fun when we were pregnant at the same time. And we walked through Target together. Yeah, people were really scared.

Eric Schumacher 06:06

I bet. And how big is your hometown?

Megan Lively 06:10

Um, the county has 80,000. But Wilson is around 50,000. So okay, we're about half a half an hour from Raleigh, east of Raleigh.

Eric Schumacher 06:22

Yeah. So there's a lot of people who probably know you sort of, to recognize you in Walmart. And, you know, it's not like a small town where they would

Megan Lively 06:30

Oh, no, everybody knows everybody in Winston.

Eric Schumacher 06:32

Okay.

Megan Lively 06:33

If you don't know somebody you know who they are. Or you know, their family. Yeah, it's kind of like the Steel Magnolias town.

Eric Schumacher 06:40

Okay,

Megan Lively 06:40

Who's your family?

Eric Schumacher 06:44

Yeah. Your family, yourself, your upbringing, how you came to faith in Jesus.

Megan Lively 06:52

Um, well, I my, um, I was raised in church. It was pretty much my second home. My mama played the piano, and daddy led the choir. And both of my parents were music majors. And so we were brought up with the love for music or Andrew Lloyd Webber all the way to. We watched a lot of musicals. We listened to a lot of classical music, Christian music. I know all the got a lot of gospel songs because we were constantly at church on Wednesday nights and Sunday nights after church was over for choir practice. My twin sister and I would explore pretty much every corner of the church building and got into a lot of trouble because we were unsupervised. But you know, but it's sacred church, you know. So, um, I came to know Jesus, who I thought I already knew, because I spent so much time at church when I was 16 years old. I didn't see my sin or my need for a savior up until that point. But it's one of those defining moments when everything in my life shifted. I became that character. I don't know if you've read or seen, read the book by Nicholas Sparks a while to remember seeing the movie. But Jamie Sullivan carries her Bible to school every day. And I became that girl that carried my Bible to school and read it at lunch and told everybody about Jesus and I was so excited. And I became active in FCA and was president my senior year of high school. But my church was my safe place. My favorite place. I love my church family and my youth group and my pastor, and they love me back. I love Sundays. And I often cried on Sunday evenings because Sunday was my favorite day of the week and it was over.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 08:47

So how many siblings did you have? It was you and your sister? And

Megan Lively 08:51

yes, and I have a brother that's five years younger than me.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 08:56

Okay, so

Eric Schumacher 08:57

what did you all end up doing musically?

Megan Lively 09:00

Um, the musical talent skipped me and my sister and went straight to my brother. He plays the drums and he's awesome at it. He plays guitar. He if you tell him go play such and such on the piano, he can just play about your. He's amazing.

Eric Schumacher 09:16

Wow.

Megan Lively 09:17

Mm hmm.

Eric Schumacher 09:19

There must be something with twins that that didn't make it into the gene pool. Yeah.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 09:25

Well, the genes were busy duplicating them.

Eric Schumacher 09:28

Yeah, yeah.

Megan Lively 09:29

But she is a pastor. My twin sister is a pastor's wife. So she does sing occasionally at church because that's what pastors wives do.

Eric Schumacher 09:35

She doesn't play the piano. How does she get this job? Jenny doesn't play either. Yeah.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 09:46

So you were in church, you were in youth group. I'm assuming you were there all the time. You really loved it. And so then you did you feel called to ministry and?

Megan Lively 10:00

Yes, yeah.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 10:01

Tell us about that. And so you pursued education for it, or

Megan Lively 10:07

I don't remember the exact moment that I felt called to ministry, it became present over time during high school. I didn't know what God was leading me to do. And I was okay with that. I was just excited. I was just excited that I felt God leading me on a pathway, on a journey, to ministry, to tell people about Jesus, to help people that were hurting, to have the ability to show the compassion of Christ through myself and and be that that bridge between the lost and him. And so I was just excited about ministry in general. And I didn't have a set calling, I didn't have a vision of what that looked like, I was just excited.

I wanted to study the Bible, and equip myself for whatever that might be. And I hoped to get married one day and have children. And I wanted to be equipped to teach scripture to them as well. So I had a church that nurtured that very, very well like this tiny little plant, and they took care of it, 24/7. Looking back today, it's a really beautiful thing as a woman to say that, because oftentimes, you don't get that reaction in a southern baptist church. They never discouraged my love for Jesus, they never assumed I felt a call to preach, or took it upon themselves to tell me I couldn't preach because I'm a woman. Ironically, I was a member of a Southern Baptist Church and my pastor went to Southern seminary. There was an excitement among my church family, and it was a thing to be celebrated. I still remember when I overheard an older Deacon tell another man in our church "Megan wants to use the gifts God gave her to share the good news of Jesus".

Eric Schumacher 12:06

Mm hmm.

Megan Lively 12:07

Which, um, I think I wrote that down somewhere on a journal, but my church was very supportive. There was never a negative reaction. And everyone in my church knew it was that I wanted to go into the ministry one day, and again, I didn't know what that looked like at the time.

Eric Schumacher 12:29

hmm

Megan Lively 12:31

No, but I was comfortable with that I was at, it was Hebrews 11, and Jeremiah 29:11. All those verses that I knew God had a plan for my life, and I was comfortable not knowing.

Eric Schumacher 12:42

Yeah

Megan Lively 12:42

what was down the road. So I just started looking at colleges and ways to prepare myself to learn the Bible better.

Eric Schumacher 12:51

I think that's so interesting that your church was okay with it being sort of an open ended call. And you were too

Megan Lively 12:58

Yes

Eric Schumacher 12:58

I think there could be

Elyse Fitzpatrick 12:59

About what time, about what year was that?

Megan Lively 13:05

We're getting into age now.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 13:08

I'm just trying to figure out

Megan Lively 13:09

this was

Elyse Fitzpatrick 13:09

Yeah. How did it how that happened?

Megan Lively 13:11

1995 to 1997.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 13:15

Okay.

Eric Schumacher 13:16

Yeah. And you will were what age?

Megan Lively 13:17

, Pastor? Yeah, the pastor at the time was 1995. We had many different pastors. But the one that nurtured it was was him and he was only at our church a short time, but I would say 95 to know

Eric Schumacher 13:32

97 started specifically did your pastor, like nurture that? What did he do? Um,

Megan Lively 13:41

he he made it a joyous thing and exciting thing. We never talked about preaching. I never also never told him I felt called to preach. But he, we started looking at schools together. And I told him that I did have an interest in going to seminary. So he encouraged me to go to a different university first, because I didn't need two degrees from the same school. And I'm glad that he did that.

Eric Schumacher 14:07

It's good.

Megan Lively 14:09

Yeah, that's good. And so Originally, I was gonna do Communications at Campbell, which had a good communications department. I really wanted to get to Carolina, but my SAT scores weren't high enough to get in. And I can say that now since I graduated from college. But I married a UNC grad, so that's good. Because we're big UNC folks.

Eric Schumacher 14:29

Okay. Yeah, that's, that's interesting. And I think encouraging how your pastor nurtured that, because I think so often with women who say, Hey, I'm called the ministry. Sometimes they're sort of put in a lane like, Oh, you must be called the missions, because where else would a woman do ministry? And just to leave it open ended and say, go get a theological education and see what God does with it. I think it's so wise. So what type of education did you end up pursuing and what informed your decisions about where to go?

Megan Lively 15:06

So I went to Campbell University, and it was the best four years of my life up until I had until I got married and had children of course, because that's the right answer, but I loved college. I loved I loved my professors. I loved my classes. I loved I loved everything about Campbell. It's a really good school. I had some of the best friends I have today, um, are the friendships that I made at Campbell. And I took I was a Religion, I think it was, the actual word was Religion and Christian Ministries, was my major. So I took all kinds of classes from Greek to philosophy to the leadership of Jesus, which was a really fun class and got the opportunity to work for the head of the religion department the entire time I was in college, so that was fun. I learned a lot from him about I remember one day there was a Muslim praying on campus. And I saw him praying. And, you know, in college, you know everything about everything. You're never smarter than you are as a college student. And so I marched right up to his office, and went in there and told him, I said, look out your window, there is a Muslim out there praying, and we're supposed to be a Christian school. And he smiled very patiently, he said, Megan, sit down. And I said, Yes, sir. And he explained to me that if we don't extend religious freedom to all, why should we expect that for ourselves?

Eric Schumacher 16:45

Hmm.

Megan Lively 16:46

And I'm trying to teach my children that today about that. That really had an impact on my life. And so religious freedom, I think, looks different for a lot of people. But it's not just for Christians.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 17:04

Yeah.

Megan Lively 17:04

If, if we want that for ourselves, we must extend it to all and love our neighbor.

Eric Schumacher 17:13

So how were you received as a woman in college with a Religion and Christian Ministry degree?

Megan Lively 17:23

So Campbell is a more of a moderate school. So I got a nice balance as far as education and religion. So I was received well, I was. It was a very positive experience. And oftentimes, I was asked why I

wasn't preaching. And so I just my response was always I don't feel God calling me to preach and I never have. So that was my response.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 17:56

And so then after you went to Campbell, then you went to seminary?

Megan Lively 18:03

That's right. Yeah. I did.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 18:05

Do you want to talk about that? How you ended up there? And

Megan Lively 18:08

Sure, yeah, after graduating, I went straight in to seminary. And while it was a different setting, I enjoyed my classes enough, that after a semester, I began praying about pursuing a PhD in systematic theology after I graduated. And that was the plan all along. I loved my classes, and I loved learning. And I was, at the time I was pursuing a Master of Divinity and Women's Studies, so my focus was on gender roles, biblical manhood and womanhood, and the history of how the feminist movement infiltrated the church. So yeah, it was it was a very interesting mix of, of classes, especially that time period, because it was 2000 to 2005.

19:07

But I loved my classes. I love studying the history of gender roles in the church. And I got class credit to visit Israel, so that was a fun thing. Yeah,

Eric Schumacher 19:19

As you were studying the history of gender roles in the church, what's maybe the most favorite thing that you learned? Or most surprising thing you learned?

Megan Lively 19:31

It wasn't in seminary. It was the first chapter of your book about Phoebe. Hmm, in worthy.

Eric Schumacher 19:39

Yeah.

Megan Lively 19:40

I mean, I, I read that and found it so interesting. I called my sister. I didn't text my sister. I called my sister and I read her, I think, two or three pages. Was it the first chapter or was the intro when you're talking about Phoebe?

Eric Schumacher 19:56

Intro

Megan Lively 19:57

Oh, my goodness. It blew me away. And I was like, why didn't I know this already? I mean, I went to school for this kind of stuff. I should know these things. But I didn't know that. And it made me feel better because my sister was a Religion major at a small school, Free Will Bible School in North Carolina. And so was her husband, and neither one of them knew it either. So, honestly, it wasn't in seminary, it was recently.

Eric Schumacher 20:22

Oh.

Megan Lively 20:22

So yeah. So that's a little plug for your book right there that

Elyse Fitzpatrick 20:26

well

Megan Lively 20:26

that grabbed my attention immediately.

Eric Schumacher 20:28

Mm hmm. Well, thanks for reading. Yeah. Yes. How did you feel reading through Worthy as someone who had studied gender roles in church history.

Megan Lively 20:41

I cried. I wept. Some were tears of joy and some more tears of, I wish I had this in 2002. It was something that I had a message I had never heard before. Because I was getting ready to transition into how seminary started to change, because I was just sharing about some of the things I loved about seminary. But almost overnight, I learned my classes and my, the setting that I was in, became more about what I couldn't do than what I could. And I heard this message daily, in classes and in Chapel sermons. And so your book was so refreshing, because it only focused on what I could do as a woman. So I went from this sip. And again, it's been years ago, and people are different, administration is different like that. I think many seminaries have changed in the time that's passed. But to hear a message that was so affirming about me and who I am, it was refreshing. It was like walking out on the first spring day of the year, when there's low humidity, and you can smell honeysuckles, or that flower for the very first time because I had never, and I've read everything, read everything about women, that that was possible. And so when I read this book, I had never heard or read a message that was so affirming, and made me genuinely happy to be a woman in the church.

Eric Schumacher 22:48

Hmm. Can could you unpack? You know, you mentioned that seminary sermons and the classes were all focused on what you couldn't do. What did that sound like? Can you help our listeners explain, understand what you mean? What you mean by that?

Megan Lively 23:12

Yes, I can. I was no longer that young girl at my home church that was loved and encouraged, and equipped, and nurtured as just as a 16 year old. Overnight, I realized being a woman on a seminary campus made me less than and not equal to my male peers. I sat at the back of the room in most of my classes, unless it was full of women. I felt incomplete. I felt like I needed to be fixed. Marriage

Eric Schumacher 23:47

Yeah.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 23:47

Start stop there. Stop there for a second. When you say you felt like you needed to be fixed. I want you as much as you can to fill that out. What do you mean by that? Because I know a lot of women feel that way.

Eric Schumacher 24:02

Yeah.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 24:03

But I want you to, I want you to talk about that. I think a lot of men don't understand. Yeah What that means and how we make women feel that way.

Megan Lively 24:15

Okay, so I felt the only way that I could be fixed was marriage. And only then could God use me.

Eric Schumacher 24:28

Why is that?

Megan Lively 24:29

I don't know. It's something that was never discussed among women. It's the few single female friends that I had. We, we didn't talk about it because we lived in this bubble. And we did as we were told, but a lot of my friends got married very quickly because they felt that pressure and I didn't. I wanted to focus on studying the Bible, and my passion for for Christ and stay focused on that. Plus the male students around me didn't love Jesus as much as I wanted my future husband to love Jesus. And I was, um, although I wasn't encouraged to feel this way, I was somewhat comfortable in my own skin to remain single as a seminary student.

Eric Schumacher 25:37

So , oh, man, I have several questions there. That what you're saying there is so important. My first question, I guess is, do you think that was, was it communicated whether rather, you know, through whether it's through culture or through words that like the best thing a woman could be would be a wife and mom? What was that?

Megan Lively 26:05

Yes.

Eric Schumacher 26:05

Okay.

Megan Lively 26:06

Yes. And she had to play the piano and if you couldn't play the piano on the first date, not saying this happened with me, but on the first date if the male students found out that you couldn't play the piano there wasn't a second date. It's really a joke. I'm trying to be funny. But

Eric Schumacher 26:23

Yeah

Megan Lively 26:24

It's actually true at the same time.

Eric Schumacher 26:26

Yeah. So you said, you made the comment that the male students, I have several questions about how male students reacted to you, as a strong woman. comfortable being single. Who came in knowing Greek?

Megan Lively 26:44

Yeah. Funny story there.

Eric Schumacher 26:48

Yeah. So tell me how did the men respond to you, as an outspoken woman?

Megan Lively 26:55

Oh, I wasn't outspoken. I told you some stories. For example, one day I was in a library, and overheard some male students having a conversation about the new Greek words that they learned. And it piqued my interest. And I kind of looked over at them because I wanted to be included in the conversation. I had taken three semesters of Greek in undergrad. But they never looked my way. They never thought that I could bring any value to that conversation. So I sat quietly and listened. And they got the words wrong.

Eric Schumacher 27:39

Hmm.

Megan Lively 27:41

But I knew in my, because I was Southern Baptist, and I was brought up Southern Baptist. And I had learned, I had been in seminary long enough to know that I couldn't speak up and tell them that

Eric Schumacher 27:54

Hmm.

Megan Lively 27:55

So I chuckled inwardly and just kept right on going.

Eric Schumacher 27:59

It might have been good choice. For those who haven't been to seminary, you don't know what it would be a matter of pride it is how good you are at Greek and Hebrew. I was in a Hebrew class in seminary, where one student got his answer wrong when the professor called him, and another student behind him laughed at him. And the student literally challenged him to a fistfight after class, because he insulted his Hebrew skills. And then he was talking up later, well, like I could, I could run circles around this guy in Greek. And I'm just like, what on earth, like? So that kind of leads me to something you said earlier about, you said, none of the men there, at least the students you were around love Jesus the way that you wanted your husband to love Jesus. This is a seminary where I assume men are training to be professors

Megan Lively 29:05

Pastors

Eric Schumacher 29:06

or pastors or missionaries. What do you mean that they didn't love Jesus? At least the way you wanted them to? So what did they love?

Megan Lively 29:17

They. And again, this was my own personal experience. I'm not speaking for the whole or the current, the current student bodies at our, our seminary,

Eric Schumacher 29:28

and I point out that this at that seminary has had a leadership and culture change.

Megan Lively 29:34

Yes

Eric Schumacher 29:35

Between that time and today,

Megan Lively 29:37

very much so but the male students that I knew didn't share the passion for Jesus that I did. So I kept that inside. The men that I knew were there to get a degree and get that mega church and that status. To share my zeal for Christ would take something away from the men around me. And I learned very quickly, I was not to take any attention away from men. His gifts were elevated and more important than mine.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 30:19

Megan, let me ask you, because the kinds of things that you're saying, it's like, you should play piano because basically what you would be, would be a useful appendage to a man in ministry. So women are, were viewed perhaps, and you correct me if I'm wrong, as a possible useful appendage. And then,

otherwise, you're invisible. In what you think you're not, you're not invited into the conversation, I'm going to tell you a minute, I'm going to share a personal story of my own. I have, I have the privilege from time to time to attend Seminary in Southern California. And, I mean, I am a woman, you know, just to pick up a class here and there. I'm a woman who has published two dozen books. Okay. And I'm treated, I'm invisible. I mean, I'm invisible. And when I would take a class, I've had a professor have to kind of apologize for the fact that there is a woman there taking this class. Um, so I mean, I know that that's been an experience I have had, I don't think until we got more involved with talking to people after they've read Worthy and stuff like that, that that's basically something women at seminaries seem like they experience across the board. And that not only are they invisible, but they're also looked at with suspicion. Because you, I guess, you wouldn't, you're treated as though you wouldn't be in seminary, unless you were A - trying to tempt some guy, or B - trying to usurp authority. I mean, would you say that that was your experience? Or, I mean, you can say no, if it wasn't.

Megan Lively 33:07

Yes, I would, I would agree with that statement.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 33:12

So you walk into a class, and it's majority male. And you sit in the back? And do you raise your hand? Do you try to engage in conversation? Are there

Megan Lively 33:27

No, I, I tried to stay. I tried to keep a low profile. I kept my hair long, and I used it to cover my face, and I would look down a lot, wore long skirts, and flat boots that went up to my knees to keep my legs from being visible. Shame was, it was very present from day one. And there was an unspoken heaviness that none of the women talked about.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 33:55

So when you say shame, and I want you to, you know, it's like I i in sometimes in those spaces. And I'm gonna say this again. Not just at that seminary, but in at churches where I have been asked to be a platform speaker, and perhaps I'm the only female platform speaker. It's like, I feel this shame in the way that I'm treated even by let's say the sound guys.

Megan Lively 34:28

Hmm.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 34:29

Right?

Megan Lively 34:30

It was very real.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 34:33

You're, you're a woman, and I don't know why you're here. But I'm and I don't want to say that that happens to me everywhere because it certainly does not. But there are certain contexts, certain, let's

say very male-heavy. Um, places where it's I'm it's people are suspicious of me. And denigrate the fact that I am there and sharing a stage with the men that they venerate across the board. Now, again, I don't want to say that's everywhere, because I do get treated nicely. Just Yeah.

Megan Lively 35:31

Yeah, it's not everybody, but those few are the ones that stick with you and stay in your mind and the ones you remember. And that shame is very heavy. Yeah. And it's not of the Lord.

Eric Schumacher 35:44

I hope that pastors listening will just up and think about what they do and how they speak, and how they include or exclude women. I think, I think that culture can be sort of like water to a fish, that we don't feel it. And we don't even get, we're doing it sometimes, when we naturally just assume the other men are going to be the theologically bright ones. And so that's who we're going to talk to. Or we're scared of a woman, you know, correcting us, in our theology, or our Hebrew and

Megan Lively 36:37

or your Greek,

Eric Schumacher 36:38

or your Greek. Yeah, which we're not going to talk about, because I took five semesters of both, and I can't remember much, so we're just gonna avoid that. Any parsing in this in this episode? I'm wondering, did the seminary at that time have anything directed at training women? And what did that kind of training look like?

Megan Lively 37:10

There was a Master of Divinity in Women's Studies, this was what was offered and most of the women did that or they did a Master of Divinity, or a Master of Arts in Counseling.

Eric Schumacher 37:21

Okay. Okay.

Megan Lively 37:25

I think that's the underlying issue with men is there is, not with all men. But there's this level of insecurity, that if a woman knows more, or is on the same level with me intellectually about the Bible, I'm somehow less than. Yeah, but we're all the body of Christ and God uses all our gifts as the body of Christ. And so I've never been able to understand that other than assuming it's an insecurity or a need for power. And that may come from a man's something that's happened in his past, I don't know. But there, I saw a lot of insecurity that was masked by power, and the need to belittle me as a woman.

Elyse Fitzpatrick 38:29

Thank you for joining us today on the worthy podcast with our dear friend, Megan. And what's what I'm sorry about is that you can't see her smile. She's got the most absolutely beautiful smile. And I, as I was listening to her talk, I thought about her being a 16 year old or an 18 year old or 20 year old woman with this beautiful smile, that loves Jesus and wants to serve Him. And came then face to face with the

opportunity to learn and to grow in her knowledge of the Bible. And came face to face also with the shame of what it means to be a woman. And so thank you for tuning in with us. This is part one of a two part podcast that we're going to do. So please tune in again next week when we talk with Megan about situations that happened to her at seminary and how different things were handled but want you to remember that if the worthy podcast is important to you, if you would, please remember to rate, review and subscribe for us. The more you review us, the better it is, that other people can find out about this podcast. And then also, if this podcast is meaningful to you, we do have a Patreon page where you can sign up to help us and if all you give us is \$5 a month, that's one part of a cup of coffee. And, and it would really be helpful to Eric and I as we produce this. And so thanks for stopping by. Please tune in next week.