

# Ministry for Dummies | S1E2 Cross-post

## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

camp, campgrounds, church, reunion, ministry, congregation, memories, community, kids, Christ, relationships

## SPEAKERS

Jacob Ross, Humberto Tinsman, Blake Smith

### Blake Smith 00:27

Hey Project Zion Podcast listeners. This is Blake Smith coming to you with a special episode. In February of this year, Robin Linkhart sat down with the creators of Ministry for Dummies, Humberto Tinsman, and Jacob Ross. And in that episode, we promised that we would be cross-posting some of their episodes here at Project Zion Podcast, so we can help increase their listenership as well. So without further ado, here is Ministry for Dummies.

### Humberto Tinsman 01:04

Welcome to Ministry for Dummies, the Community of Christ podcast hosted by the Community of Christ, Southern USA Mission Field. All are welcomed here. And the stories and opinions that are shared here are a part of our story, and do not necessarily reflect on the official position of the Community of Christ. Thank you for being here.

### Jacob Ross 01:24

Yeah, you're welcome.

### Humberto Tinsman 01:26

What is up what is up everybody? Episode Number two, we did not get canceled.

### Jacob Ross 01:31

I mean, not yet.

### Humberto Tinsman 01:33

Not yet. So I would say the podcast is still very young. Welcome. Welcome, everybody. And if you are joining us for our second episode, congrats for making it through with my terrible audio quality. I actually did go get a microphone after that first episode. So ...

### Jacob Ross 01:51

that's why they pass the plate.

### Humberto Tinsman 01:53

Exactly, exactly. Hopefully, it is better. And we are so appreciative of all those who have come back. But yeah, < or justust finding us > or just finding us exactly. Like I said, podcast is still young.

**Jacob Ross** 02:06

It is quite quite young. I mean, what else has been going on Bert I mean, besides besides getting a good mic and sparing everybody's ears I mean what what else is is going on?

**Humberto Tinsman** 02:20

Yeah, so the it's been a busy time in my life. So we had senior high camp for camp Cionito shout out to camp, Cionito really, really awesome camp. We took a couple of kids from New Mexico over we had a great, great time. I got very, very tan. It was like over 100 Almost every single day with a humidity of like 50 or 60% <relatable content> But yeah, it felt Oh, it felt terrible. It was awful. Yeah, exactly. The camp, the camp was awesome. And had a really, really great time. And then Emily, my wife and I we celebrated our one year wedding anniversary.

**Jacob Ross** 03:00

Congratulations.

**Humberto Tinsman** 03:01

Thank you. Thank you.

**Jacob Ross** 03:02

A year and a day from that, I got COVID.

**Humberto Tinsman** 03:05

I know. Honestly, yeah, so Jacob was one of my groomsmen in that wedding and we all got COVID Afterwards we were the super spreader of the church. Super fun. That's one of the words. Yeah, exactly. But I honestly wanted to text all the groomsmen it'd be like happy one year anniversary from having COVID get it again. But Emily did not find that funny so

**Jacob Ross** 03:28

I find it funny.

**Humberto Tinsman** 03:29

I like to joke about it but Emily's not there yet she

**Jacob Ross** 03:33

It's not a funny story yet.

**Humberto Tinsman** 03:35

It's not a funny story yet. She is a little bit better because her biggest fear was like what if someone died? She would have felt very guilty, which I completely understand. But

**Jacob Ross** 03:43

but they did also rock it so far.

**Humberto Tinsman** 03:46

Exactly. Everyone's fine. It was good. It's a good time. So yeah, no, it was a it was an awesome awesome time. I was glad I was able to make it back in time for our anniversary. Literally. I dropped off the kids the day of our anniversary. So cut that one kind of close, but it was a good time. But yeah, I know Jacob what's going on with you? What's what's going on your world?

**Jacob Ross** 04:05

Oh man. It's been I guess it's been two weeks since recorded because you're at camp. So in that time span, my fiance and I we signed up to volunteer at the Houston are authentically Harris County Animal Shelters. Were started volunteering there. So that's been been an interesting experience. What else happened? Ali's Ali's my fiancee so Ali's mom came to visit this past weekend so we had a we had a blast and see what did we do? We went to a waterpark that was tons of fun actually. Went to the waterpark went to church. Yeah, went to saw we saw wicked actually, that was the big thing we did. We saw wicked in Houston. It was phenomenal. And it was so good. It's a great show. If you can see it, your listener, you should just absolutely see it. I mean, it's just it's a fantastic show. Other than that, I have the sermon this upcoming Sunday at church. I have not started writing that sermon. I'm not sure if we're even doing a sermon because Ali is presiding, we may mix up our format and do a guided discussion.

**Humberto Tinsman** 05:15

Dang.

**Jacob Ross** 05:17

Just trying to keep it fresh.

**Humberto Tinsman** 05:18

Yeah, definitely keepin it real. I love that. I love that you both are involved like that. That's awesome.

**Jacob Ross** 05:24

We're very involved.

**Humberto Tinsman** 05:27

I got to meet I got to meet a lot of people from the Houston area and he's in congregation at camp. So that was really cool to meet people who knew Jacob. Shout out to all those folks. Yeah, that's really cool, man. Good stuff.

**Jacob Ross** 05:39

Yeah, it's I mean, as with most small congregations, we travel a lot. So it feels like every week that we're there, we're doing something right because I mean, I play the piano so like it's a 50% chance anyways. So

**Humberto Tinsman** 05:54

Yeah, definitely can be a blessing definitely can be a little bit tiring.

**Jacob Ross** 05:58

Double edged sword for sure.

**Humberto Tinsman** 06:00

Exactly. Exactly. I like being involved as well. This week is just got flown by. Because I did take Tuesday off for the for our anniversary to kind of celebrate and are not Tuesday, I took Monday off to celebrate our anniversary and we had a really fun time we went to go see the new Flash movie. It was awesome. I really really liked it

**Jacob Ross** 06:20

There's like five or six movies in theaters I need to see. I got to see the Spider Man movie too.

**Humberto Tinsman** 06:24

That is on my list to see when I come back from junior high camp. But I wanted to see the "Flash" movie because I'm a huge Batman fan if anyone who knows me and seeing Michael Keaton reprise the role as Batman was phenomenal. He dropped a couple lines that I was squeezing Emily's hand and she was dying. Laughing there is—the end scene of that movie is insane. I will not spoil it on this podcast, but it is they use, 'cause it as a PG 13 movie. So warning to all those who go to it in a PG 13 movie, you are allowed one F bomb and they used it in the most perfect way possible. And I absolutely loved it and died laughing but ya know, I thought it was really good. I'm not a huge fan of the person of the like the actual person of the actor of "Flash" because of things he has done. Yeah, like Yeah, sure enough said. But the movie was fantastic. Really, really enjoyed it so awesome. Well, that's a little update of our live our little small talk. But our kind of our topic today is camps. If you do not know if you're not remember the Community of Christ, our summers are almost always jam packed with youth camps with reunions with retreats. And Jacob and I we thought okay, it is that time and that season let's talk about camps and why are camps important. And you know why the Community of Christ puts such a special emphasis on camps, not just in the United States, not just in our field, but all across the world.

**Jacob Ross** 07:49

Yeah, And I mean, it's not even just like Community of Christ that does camp as a I don't want to say bonding experience, but a time of reflection, but it's a bonding experience is really what it is. Right. Like, a lot of...

**Humberto Tinsman** 08:03

Yeah, definitely a rich ministry.

**Jacob Ross** 08:05

Yeah, definitely a good ministry opportunity, like across sects. Right. So definitely, it's a tried and well, I've tried and true. It's a proven method.

**Humberto Tinsman** 08:17

Yeah, definitely. And for our church, it's really, really special. Not because of just all the things that Jacob said. But you know, for those who are brand new to the tradition of Community of Christ. Our first reunion, the very first reunion that was held, was held in like the 1800s, after the shattering (scattering) of all the different Latter Day Saint groups. And when our church was starting to be founded, we invited a lot of those groups to what we what was known as the first reunion. And it was very different than what we experienced now where they had preaching services from 6am to about sundown. And they were all in suits, and it was in Nauvoo, I think it was a Nauvoo, I could be wrong, someone in church history is definitely gonna fact check me and make me look like an idiot. But the main story is that, like, it became this way of coming back together after so much trauma, in rebuilding that sanctuary, rebuilding those relationships. And then from that this seed of Community of Christ camps has just spread all over the United States and over the world. And it all started there of hey, we have been in trauma. We've missed everyone. We've been scattered all across the US, let's come together, let's worship build that Dionic community. And now we have the modern camping system that we have, which is phenomenal in my opinion.

**Jacob Ross** 09:38

I mean, I agree with that, right? I mean, admittedly biased, right? Having grown up going to camp and stuff like that. And it is better, I say better. It's a more palatable format to me than you know, preaching from six to sundown. As you know, just natural evolution of the times but I think when I think about camps, I think about the camping opportunities, I think of how things have evolved over time. And it is a fascinating evolution.

**Humberto Tinsman** 10:12

Most definitely, most definitely. So I think that kind of segues us perfect now that we've kind of introduced camps, Jacob, what camp did you attend? Because every every I shouldn't say every state but like, every congregation goes to specific camps in the church. So Jacob, what camp did you attend growing up?

**Jacob Ross** 10:30

So I attended a ... , right, tempted, I attended a church campground called Temple Grove, which is in like, northwestern Pennsylvania. And I attended reunions when I was a kid. And then, you know, from third grade until 12th, grade various youth camps there as well. And, yeah, I mean, it was, it is remains a very special place to me because of that.

**Humberto Tinsman** 10:58

Awesome. So I attended camp Ozark or Racene or Wakanda. It's been gone through many names, because we love rebranding and our church, and it's gonna, it's close to the Joplin area. Joplin might sound familiar of because of that big tornado that happened a couple years ago. It actually was a couple years ago, but

**Jacob Ross** 11:18

Probably about a decade ago now, right

**Humberto Tinsman** 11:19

About a decade ago, which is crazy to think. But that's the campgrounds that I attended. Very, very special grounds to me. I Yeah, you know, I grew up there, you know, spent almost every single summer there that I can imagine. And then I ended up working for the campgrounds for four years as their lifeguard and grounds crew. And learned a lot not just about myself, but about about ministry, and I got to see a lot of camps that are not church affiliated at those grounds that definitely have ministry elements in them. But yeah, love that campgrounds. And, you know, I don't think we talked about this last episode, but I got to serve at Graceland, what's called a Graceland Rep. And that's a program that Graceland University offers where you go to different campgrounds and I've gotten to see a lot of different campgrounds through that and through some other travels with the church. And while they were each special, while I love Sacramento mount retreat, while I love can't see an lto those are the two grounds that I work with right now. Your campground that you grew up with as always kind of your home campground and that's led in there's lots of transplants you know, in this area who come to Albuquerque for work or who've moved to Texas for work Jacob you are one of these people definitely and when you think of camp I don't know if this is for you Jacob but that like that home campgrounds is always yours.

**Jacob Ross** 12:45

Absolutely, no that's exactly 100%.

**Humberto Tinsman** 12:47

Yeah, and that's what it did at any of the other facilities trust me Ozark I love camp Ozark it is not how, you know, I shouldn't say does have a nice facilities as great facilities. But I've been to camps that have, you know, you Camp Blue Water up in Michigan shout out to them. They have beachfront property on one of the great lakes, you can't meet that there's no swimming pool or dining hall that you can build that can that can beat watching an ocean liner, go across the Canadian US border. But still, when I think of my home campground that is the first one that pops in my mind. Yeah.

**Jacob Ross** 13:18

And I think, you know, as we talked about, like memories we have associated with those places, right, like, a lot of formulative memories, you know, and I think about now reflecting back opportunities to interact with people I'd never met before and form relationships with people from different areas. I think a lot of that happened at camp, you know, because when I was in third grade, all my friends are either from my school, from my church or like direct relatives. I mean, I think that's like a fair, you either grew up with them, or you were related to them at that age. And I didn't really have the opportunity to branch out. But I had the opportunity to go to camp and meet people from different areas and have to, you know, build relationships and learn how to do all of that, you know, social skills like that. Yeah,

**Humberto Tinsman** 14:09

Definitely. Yeah, for me camp was always my sanctuary very much, you know, we spent we sing a song called "Sanctuary" across the Community of Christ. And that was that was camp Ozark for me, you know, I don't want to get too hot and heavy there, you know, for just like an episode, but like, growing up, you know, I'm someone from Latin descent, I grew up in the Bible Belt, very, very conservative areas. And so, you know, you know, feeling that racism almost on a daily basis, camp was that one escape, because I knew everyone who was on those grounds was a person that loved me.

And that was something that was so special a community that I could never truly articulate to my friends that never understood. Why are you going to camp why? Why do you spend literally all of your time there and I was like, you know, when you when you when you create that community, or when you are part of that community, you desperately want to not just be you know, really a part of it, but you want to share it with people. And, you know, I have so many special memories of kind of finding myself dealing with a lot of stuff that I went through throughout the school year. And camp really, really helped me battle through those things, which was, which was really, really helpful, especially for my future because it learned it taught me how to take care of my own mental health how to take care of my spiritual health. And yeah, yeah, definitely, definitely some amazing ministry and memories from from those times.

**Jacob Ross** 15:40

Winner.

**Humberto Tinsman** 15:42

That's, that's the other thing. Okay, I'm going to reveal behind the scenes, Jacob has this amazing soundboard. And it sounds fantastic when I listen to the recording. I can't hear it though. So Jacob literally couldn't be doing all these things in the background. We'll never know it until post and I look forward to hearing it. So

**Jacob Ross** 15:57

You'll never know it. I will know it. Because I hear all these sound effects queued up. I, I have some I have some good ones on here, mostly sports related, but anyways, I mean, I agreed that I think it was, it's always, to me it holds a special place because admittedly I am biased, and it is a good ministry opportunity. Because I grew up in that. And I, you know, we talk about how we how we do things as a as a church, I think it's harder and harder. For people like me, for example, I have unlimited PTO, and I have to choose when to use it. And I don't have enough right now to reasonably go to camp and take it because I live away from my family. So I take PTO to see them for the holidays or, or other occasions. So it's hard to hard to do that. Certainly. You know, it is it is harder and harder to do that. And, I mean, there's not much much else to say there. I think, you know, it's just a general point.

**Humberto Tinsman** 16:59

No, and I think, you know, especially as we kind of look as an organization, the both the Community of Christ, and then, you know, a broader view, looking at Christianity, that's increasingly becoming a huge issue. And I shouldn't in and I hate the word issue, because it sounds like we're immediately combative. But you know, like you said, you have to determine where your PTO is, you know, where that ranking is. And you know, I'm not going to I don't want to brag on Emily. But yeah, she can't stay for all of our union, because, you know, hey, I only have so many days of PTO. We're using them here, here and here. For family. You know, again, Jacob and I, we both live away from our families. And so that's hard. And I know there's a lot of people a lot, a lot of young adults who are in our kind of shoes that if they could be at camp, their home campgrounds or their local campgrounds, they would do it in a heartbeat. So it is, yeah, it is a financial and PTO expense. And I'm not saying that, that's just always how it is, things definitely get better. And you know, Jacob and I work on in the position of life where we're still learning how to balance that. And our families are definitely still learning that, you know, but I know that



is not a unique experience at all. And especially when you're kind of in you know, you know, in our shoes, you know, Camp Cienito for us as a tet or n hour drive. That's a lot. You know, we broke it up in two days for the kids. And if I didn't work for the church, I definitely couldn't do that. You know, take 10 days off, you know, twice. Yeah, that's, that's 20 days right then in there. Yeah. And I mean, Jacob lives in Houston. How long? How long is the drive from Houston to Cienito?

**Jacob Ross** 18:40

Man, I mean, I've I've never actually been to Cienito. So thanks for exposing me, but from what I've heard, it's about six hours. Yeah.

**Humberto Tinsman** 18:52

Six hours. That's a lot. That's a lot of 12 hours there back. You know?

**Jacob Ross** 18:55

That's a I mean, if assuming you left after work on a normal day, you get there at like, 11:00-11 30. Yeah, pending his driving. Yeah,

**Humberto Tinsman** 19:05

But people still do it. You know, I do and this and this is hyping up. This is hyping up definitely Coastal Bend Mission Center. You know, because so the way that campgrounds work in the Community of Christ, a lot of times it's only one campground per state, sometimes we'll have two or three, Missouri has a lot, because that's the, you know, the headquarters of the church, they have a lot more church population. But see nietos the only campgrounds for Texas for my understanding it is right, and so everyone has to funnel there, everyone has to go there. And it's awesome, because everyone has that commonality. I know reunion is going on right now as we speak. And I think there's 200 people there, which is fantastic. That's awesome. And yeah, that's a lot of community that's being built people learning how to live together and I think for me, that was always the coolest part of reunion because you're living with complete strangers a lot of times for an entire week. And you meet people you get you get you get deep in relationships, but there's also that factor of If you only have a bathhouse of six showers and you have 200 people you got to figure out that system you know there's no way of trying to you know, be isolated you are living in community and I think you know that's why I you know, I definitely have that personal bias you know my my top three camps to go to reunion, senior high camp, Spectacular and they always shift of where they fall in. But you know, I love reunion because it's all families I love senior high camp because that's high school age and so those kids are asking a lot of important questions and are kind of going through you know, the those building blocks of life. Love Spectacular. Spectacular is the national Community of Christ camp. That's where all kids from all the United States comes to Graceland University and Canada, I don't want to forget our Canadian friends. So you know it is an international camp. And when our when we were going to spec it was like 1000 kids there. Those numbers obviously dip because COVID Because, you know, it was a COVID year and there were still questions about vaccines and things like that, thankfully, you know, we're hoping that more and more kids will come, I think we're gonna have around five from New Mexico. So that's great for us. So yeah, it's, uh, you know, Spec is awesome. You know, Jacob, if you want to talk about Spec, please do. It's an amazing experience.



**Jacob Ross** 21:17

Yeah, it's a good opportunity to, you know, meet people from all around the country. And I mean, the experience itself bonding with the people you're there with, it's definitely a really a positive experience. At least it was for me. I'm not going to speak for everybody. I know, people have had varied experiences there. But I think it's a great opportunity to, to just build relationships with people, you know, I mean, that's, that's what it all boils down to the end at the end of it, right. I mean, I definitely I don't know if you want to jump into this now. But in while we're there, right. Like, our question of the day here is do camps matter? Or like, are they worth it financially? Is the reward you reap whether that spiritually or interpersonally? Is it worth what we do for them?

**Humberto Tinsman** 22:02

Yeah. My very, very biased answer. 100%. Yes, I see. I see the I see, especially the financial side of the camps working for the church. Spectacular this year, cost \$650 per camper, that's a lot of money. That's a lot of funds. And a lot of our campers are on scholarship, which means the congregation or mission centers have to eat those funds. But here's the deal. And here's what I'll say about camp as I knock off my microphone off my desk because I speak with my hands. We I took three kids to senior high camp this year. And I'm not going to share their names for privacy. But you know, one of those kids shared with me, they have never experienced that type of love before in their entire life. Another kid who was not ours who was at the camp, you know, said, You know, we talk about shalom, which is, you know, this God's community, and I never really got it until I was at this camp, because I feel complete. And if you can do that for a kid, if you can show them that vulnerability of God's love of a communal love, you've changed their entire world perspective. Because now the question becomes, why don't I feel that in my school? Why don't I feel that in my church? How can I feel that in my community in my church, and I think we, and that and that was my ending message to them at the end of camp, don't let this momentum slip away. If you have felt love here, go and spread that love it is possible to live with complete strangers and do so in a way that bliss and loves. So from my I'm very, very biased standpoint. 100% Yes, it is worth all the frustrations, all the headaches of the planning of the financial aspects. Because running camps are very expensive. But you know, the insurance alone it is it is insane how much we have to pay for insurance. Getting kids to camp is very expensive. While they're there, we have to feed them, you know, yeah, there are all those things. But those people who have been through camp and have that spiritual experience, now have a connection with the church and with their spirituality, that is impossible to recreate in any other format, in my opinion. But that is definitely a very, very biased outlook. And I should also mention, I met Emily at Spectacular so like, my life has just been so impacted greatly by camping programs of the Community of Christ that, yes, I'm always going to sing their praises, even when they get tough. But yeah, that's that's my opinion, Jacob, what is yours? Yeah. Especially from the financial side. I would love to hear your thoughts on this.

**Jacob Ross** 24:44

I think from maybe a more practical side. I think it's a necessity. At this point. I can't speak for you, Bert. But like, Well, I'm gonna ask you like, how many kids did you grew up going to camp with? Or going to church with on a weekly basis?

**Humberto Tinsman** 24:59

Yeah, on a weekly basis. If we had if we had like four kids, we had like four bein kids that always kind of showed up. And then we had like other kids who would like they would show up like once a month, like maybe like 10, 10, 10 kids a total but all different age ranges.

**Jacob Ross** 25:14

Yeah. So I mean, I grew up with four to six, like, depending on the week. And I mean, that's only shrunk. So I think realistically, in terms of youth outreach. I got that's it. I mean, for our congregation in Houston. We have like, sometimes we have a family with four girls that shows up on a week, right, like and they're there, but as far as kids go, but like there's not a youth group, as far as opportunities for kids to network with other kids in the church and to build a connection like that. I mean, just from like a long term future view. I think it's a necessity, like how are you building relationships with people in the church? You're not doing it at the congregation level, like at least for us. I mean, And our average age is 60 plus, right? You're not if you're a kid, you're not building relationships with your peers at your congregation. And that's just that's, that's nationwide. I mean, it's just, it's just a fact. I mean, I've been to church in five different states. I can say all of them are the same. Yeah, except independence. And even then it's pretty, it's pretty darn close to getting that. Yeah. Yeah. So I think you have to like in terms of building a base for the church and establishing, you know, a feeling of belonging, a feeling of shalom in that in that kind of community. That's it, you're not getting that on a week to week basis in Sunday school, or or doing youth events with your congregation? Likely, I mean, at least not right now in most places. So no matter what the cost is, it's worth it. You're building that you're building that community for people.

**Humberto Tinsman** 26:48

Definitely. And I love what you talk about a networking because, yeah, like those relationships last. Yeah, you know, my best man is was Jake Matlock, at my wedding. And we met at camp, you know, and that relationship started at camp and continued to grow. And it's still a relationship I have. And, you know, I, you know, that there are some who, who questioned like, oh, well, doesn't really last and we see them as kids and they drop off. But here's the deal. They come back, like, you know, I was on with the staff that we were on every single person that was there on staff and there was about, I think, like, 20 staff members in total at that camp. They were all campers at one point. And you know, the majority of them were young adults my age, which was awesome to see. So I really hope they're listening to this podcast, Hello. But yeah, like, like, that's why I'm saying like camp is not just a flyby affair. It is planting the seed of a relationship. It is up to the congregation's then to take up that seed. And to make sure that it doesn't just be a Oh, yeah, that was really cool. I went to camp when I was 18. Like, no, this is where we plant the seed. We need we now need to foster it. So it becomes a actual relationship.

**Jacob Ross** 28:02

Yeah, I'm with you. 100% there. I mean, it is what it is. I mean, I'm sure we'll get into this more. It's a frustrating situation. You know, in terms of our base, but a lot of people's ministry is camp. Right. A lot of people. That's that's what they feel called to do. That's like I had this formulative experience at camp. I want to return that and pay that forward.

**Humberto Tinsman** 28:02

Yeah, definitely.

**Jacob Ross** 28:34

Of course, as most ministry, right. You want to pay for it? You should want to pay it forward, in my opinion, but

**Humberto Tinsman** 28:39

Yeah, oh, 100% 100% Yes. You know, and, yeah, we've kind of gone down that rabbit hole, but I want to make sure we land it of we were told something, Jake, Jacob when we were in house presidents together. And that is 90%. I, Nate would told told me this one time and I think you were there for this conversation. 90% of what we do is done in the aftercare. And I think that is so applicable to congregation ministry and Camping Ministry because you don't want to lose that momentum. Because yeah, you you've had a spiritual experience. Don't just say cool, and then walk away. You know, chase after that, like, you know, that is a state of being you can live in sustainably. The the issue is, do you choose to live in it sustainably? Do you have the people around you who are pushing you to live it sustainably? And and I think when we don't have that aftercare, that's when camps become the question mark, you know, but if we are doing our jobs as ministers, and as congregation leaders of making sure like, Hey, I know, you know, Billy and Tommy or whatever, you know, went to camp, let me give them a phone call, or let me give their parents a text and say like, Hey, I know that went to camp. I know camp can sometimes be a vulnerable experience. Tell me how it was, you know, and that's what I've been doing. I called the parent and told them like, how, how much fun their, their kid had. And it was awesome. Like, it was a great conversation of like, yeah, like I can tell like they are changed because of that. So yeah, just making sure that seed is planted and then is watered and nurtured as we go. I agree with that. It's just it's important to capitalize on that next kind of opportunities. That sounds really, really cold. But maybe that's just where I am in terms of how I feel. I was gonna say, Well, this has been a very serious conversation. I want to I want to end it lighthearted because camps are fun.

**Jacob Ross** 30:37

They are fun. And you're right, like networking is important. Like when this is you know, just a church story, but I grew up going to camp, my best friend at camp and one of my best friends to this day. His name is Zach Coots. He's from Cleveland, Ohio. I would have never ever met him in my life if for not for Community of Christ camp. And I went to Iowa State out of college and I ended up going to Graceland middle of the year, in January. And when I got to Graceland, the relationship I had with Zack, the relationship I had from people I met at Spectacular. It allowed me to land on my feet. And it's because of opportunities like that, that I have a job today, which is a connection through an alum or Well, a Graceland related person, right. So it is important to, you know, just a networking opportunity. Yeah, that

**Humberto Tinsman** 31:29

Definitely, definitely,

**Jacob Ross** 31:30

Yeah. Anyways, back to the lighthearted stuff.

**Humberto Tinsman** 31:32

I was gonna say like because let's get like we've talked all about logistics. This is not on our cheat, but I just wanted to ask it. What is your best funny memory of camp? Like what is your what is your just like, every time I think of it, I smile. You know, what is that memory for you?

**Jacob Ross** 31:47

Man, I got like a sick memory one of the one of the funnier things that happened at camp was we did messy games every year, which is like mud or, you know, get sprayed with condiments, like everything, right? Everything you can imagine just Twister with paint, stuff like that. And it was supposed to be scheduled for Thursday. But there was a camper who had not showered so they moved it up until Wednesday. Because everybody and this was this was a camper who was like swimming in the lake at Temple Grove. Temple Grove has a lake right? So they were like swimming in the lake. And you know, we're doing activities outside or sweating and they had not showered the whole week. They changed it to Wednesday so that this camper will be forced to shower. I can't every time I think of that I just I laugh just brings a smile to my face because like I have other like really wholesome memories with you know, cousins right because I went to camp with my cousins so it's really positive memories of of time spent with them. And people who I would consider just like cousins, I mean, I I can think of one time it was super, super rainy. And normally you just walk from the dining hall back to the cabins, but my cousin was one of the counselors and we drove in his car and he drifted his car in the in the in the grass on the way back because it was slick so he just did some donuts outside our cabin. Like just in there were it was a Mitsubishi Lancer and there were six campers plus a driver and this little Mitsubishi Lancer is great memories. What about you?

**Humberto Tinsman** 33:21

I will say world church. Remember that? We're all cool. We're all friend's here man don't shut us out.

**Jacob Ross** 33:25

If it happen.. theoretically if that had happened, what are your positive memories for people.

**Humberto Tinsman** 33:30

Theoretically? Let me think okay, I have a ton of memories. Like Jacob said, Let me think one of my favorites. I was leading a campfire song and it is the Austrian Went Yodeling. So for that <classic>. And so for that song, you get a lot of volunteers and you do specific motions and one of them is camp counselor. You know "An Austrian went yodeling when a when a when a (jfdsklsdkgl) came by and along came a camp counselor who interrupted his cry, and the camp counselor yells to the audience. "Please Shut up." you know, saying like, do your campers please be quiet and I was leaving that I think with Jake. And like, if you know me, I get into it. campfire songs like I want to be energetic. I use my body a lot. And so what I was doing is like I was bending my knees and shaking my hands like please shut up. And when I did that, on the very last go around, blew out my pants ripped my pants in front of this entire senior high camp. And like I had to like I had to like like it was like, like "Humberto is gonna lead this next song and I was like, "I'm actually I have a lifeguard emergency the pool needs more chlorine." And like I had to go to the director and be like, okay, hey, I'm gonna be real with you. I gotta leave. I just blew out my pants and they died laughing so I had it. So that's a very fun memory. Another one that I have. So like I said, I worked grounds crew for my campgrounds. And I've many very fond memories with Kevin Nesbitt. Shout out to him. His nickname for me it was Wild Bill. Yeah, he was an

old the old Kansas dude and I loved him. But one time, we had just had our large reunion. So like 200 person reunion come down. And all the RV camper slots were taken up. And so someone had shoved some PVC pipe down that drainage where all the sewage goes through. So we had to dig out the top of the of the septic tank. And he had to play roto rooter and drill that piece of PVC pipe out. And my job was to make sure it didn't drop into the into the septic tank because it was the actual cap because you need those caps to make sure. This is only going one way. Exactly, exactly. So I'm at the end of it and you know a little bit of water's coming out and some other material from a 200 person camp because it all flowed it all, all flows into that septic tank. So the lodge on the top of the hill, RV spots are on the bottom and it all flows downhill, literally. And so he's playing roto rooter man and I see the the pipe the the piece of the pipe, and I go Kevin, I see it. And he's like, grab it. So I grabbed it with a pair of you know, those like dog or trash picker, upper, you know, Robo pluckers, I grabbed it, there was back pressure, because you know, it acted like a gun. And I got sprayed, head to toe of stuff.

**Jacob Ross** 36:29

I am shuddering and you guys can't see this on..I'm visibly shuddering. Oh no, oh no.

**Humberto Tinsman** 37:02

And I and you know, everything you know, and then everything also comes up because it's that smell. And that was the only day that Kevin gave me a full day off. He took one look at me. And he was like, oh, you know, I think you get the rest of the day off for that. And I tell you what, I spent three hours like I literally no joke. No exaggeration, I spent three hours showering. And still to this day, I can just I can just like I can go back and unfortunately smell that smell. That was not the in fun fact, that wasn't the worst smell I ever had to smell at that campgrounds. But that was just memorable. Because like a director, could a director from a movie couldn't script that better of like, "I see it!" <spray sound> Head Head to toe.

**Jacob Ross** 37:33

Yeah, it's like a comedy. And that's like that's legit happened in comedy movies.

**Humberto Tinsman** 37:40

Yeah, it was it was disgusting. It was it was truly one of the worst moments of my life. But also I still laugh because like, that is such a campground story of like, a slew of errors all being made.

**Jacob Ross** 37:40

Yeah.

**Humberto Tinsman** 37:40

And yeah, it literally rolling downhill. So yes, that Yeah, awesome. Awesome. Awesome. Oh, give me a soundbite Jacob.

**Jacob Ross** 37:40

Let's see. I think I got one.

**Humberto Tinsman** 37:46

I want to hear it.

**Jacob Ross** 37:47

Appropriate.

**Humberto Tinsman** 37:54

Very nice. Very nice. Very nice. All righty. Well, we are getting to the end of our conversation here tonight or the morning or whenever you're listening to this podcast. And we would usually and our time with answering your questions or comments that we have. But we don't have any because none of you have visited our website yet. So if you would please head over to [ministryfordummies.org](http://ministryfordummies.org). The link will be on the podcast. Because for some reason Google is giving us issues with it. Fill out the question form because we want to hear your questions and we want to be able to respond to them and talk about them. So yeah, I think Jacob that leads us to the outro

**Jacob Ross** 38:34

Yeah, absolutely. Thank you all for listening. We look forward to getting to share with you once again. And you know Berto will, will be thinking of you while you're at camp this week. So good luck. Alright guys, we'll see you next time.

**Humberto Tinsman** 38:49

We'll see you next time.

**Blake Smith** 39:01

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