



EPISODE THIRTEEN Grassroots American Unity

WITH DAVID & ERIN LEAVERTON

Like a lot of Americans, Dave and Erin Leaverton struggled with the political divisions they saw and felt after the 2016 elections. From Facebook fights to coffee shop arguments, they couldn't stop wondering, "What would it take to bring unity to America?" Instead of just talking about this question or adding to social media echo chambers, they quit their jobs, put their three kids in an RV, and set out on a year-long journey across the country to search for an answer. Their year on the road is a story of challenge, hope, pain, change, and, of course, a big ol' pile of disruption.



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THEMES & INSIGHTS

1. Healing is a process. You can't skip the uncomfortable steps if you want to solve the root problem.
2. Changing perspectives is challenging but necessary. Get out of your own ZIP code and see how others navigate the world differently than you do.
3. You can't understand other people until you understand yourself, even the challenging parts that bias your worldview and perception of others.

COMBUSTION QUOTES



"Well, if we're going to bring unity to America, we need to understand the vision. And we very quickly began to realize we don't understand the vision. We didn't know that it had to do with our skin color, and our religious background, and all of these sorts of features of our lives, but we knew that we were missing something."



"I liken [the journey] to a fish swimming in water not knowing that it's wet. We began to discover that the water that had kept us healthy and swimming all our lives has caused other people to get sick and die, and it removed all the things that they needed in order to thrive. And we really begin to realize the America we know is not the only America there is."



"There are millions of Americans who have never seen how broken we are and are waking up to a country that they feel is hopelessly broken. And I think that's a really wonderful time to have change."

RESOURCES

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