



Podcast Episode 200
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“FREEZE! What Do You Have Within Arm’s Reach Right This Moment?”

David Loy: Hi and welcome to *In the Loop* with Andy Andrews, I’m your host David Loy. And once again we are back here Andy in your office and I’m excited about today.

Andy Andrews: There was a bug.

David: You just killed a bug.

Andy: Yeah, I’m sorry.

David: That’s fine. That actually proves to people that we’re...

Andy: You’re not like anti-hunting are you?

David: Anti-hunting.

Andy: Not that I really hunted him but just kind of saw him.

David: I’m pro-hunting bugs. Ok, so we’ve been talking in previous episodes about the intentional design of your office and why you have created this environment.

Andy: No bugs, that’s one of my big things.

David: No bugs. And you're continuing to implement that strategy as we speak. But we've talked about all the different things you've chosen to surround yourself with, the ways that you choose to be influenced by your surroundings.

Andy: Right, I'm choosing my thinking.

David: Absolutely. And one of the most unique parts, I'm sitting here right next to your desk, we're sitting at a smaller desk but we're right next to the desk that you work at, that you write at. And you have it covered with different things. So I would love to get the stories behind why these items are on your desk and, well first of all.

Andy: Why don't you go around and talk about, and you tell me what you see?

David: Ok.

Andy: Because I'll bet you, you don't know what some of these stuff is.

David: Absolutely, I have no clue. But we'll start with the things that I do know. You've got two monitors here, that, I don't know why do you have two monitors?

Andy: I have two because that way I can keep, like I can.

David: You write on one and email on the other, or what?

Andy: Yeah, I do keep email on one of the monitors up but a lot of times I'll be writing on one and have research on the other.

David: Ok, gotcha. So that way you can do things simultaneously.

Andy: So I'm not having to go back and forth. And a lot of times I have my laptop up too, so I don't really have to

David: You've got the options, ok. Alright I also see, at the bottom of your primary monitor, you've got a picture of the family, of you and Polly and the boys. Is that just another constant reminder?

Andy: Yep, yeah, just main deal, right there in front of me.

David: And just to the right to that, you have a little 3 by 5 note card and I see that that has a verse on it, a Bible verse, is that a family verse, or is that your personal?

Andy: It's me, I mean, I wanted to be them too but they have to decide what theirs is. Mine is, you've heard it, it's the one from, I think it's from the 2nd Timothy, I can't remember all, but it's, for God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power, and love, and of a sound mind. And so to me, that says, that ok, if you're scared, if you're starting to get fear, that ain't from God. You know, because I get, oh gosh, I hope this doesn't happen. Ok, so if I'm experiencing fear, that is not from God, ok. Because God says, he has not given me a spirit of fear. What has he given me? Well he's given me, a spirit of power. Ok, so that means, I control, he's given me, he's given me free will. My thinking determines mine choices, but I can choose my thinking, I can choose what's in my office, I can choose what influence my thinking, I can choose where I go, who I'm with, what I say, what I don't say. I can choose it. And so God has given me a spirit of power and love. And so I have a spirit of love and love to me includes forgiveness and so I can, I have this spirit that has been given me, not of fear but of love. So I can love the people who, you know, may not understand, to may not agree, I have a spirit of love. And I have a

sound mind. God has given me a sound mind. That means, that that's just a reiteration that my thinking is critical.

David: Yes, absolutely.

Andy: So anyway, that's why I have that up there.

David: Ok, you've got picture of the family, you've got this verse, and again, we're doing this because obviously it is unique, it's interesting, it's kind of a behind the curtain so to speak, of how you've crafted your place to create and to work but a bigger picture here.

Andy: And we talked about why I have the office like I do, why things are in here. And you and I both know, we would be doing episodes for the rest of the year about this office, if we went item by item.

David: It's impossible.

Andy: So you said, why don't we just do the desk?

David: Because you're at the desk all the time, you've been intentional about what you put on the desk and Matt and I have learned that everything that you put on your desk, everything you put in your office, but definitely everything you put on your desk, has something of significance to you, has a story, has a lesson learned. And there's several things here that I have, I truly, I have no clue what a couple of these things are. So what you say, I was gonna

Andy: I know that you might know, you might look at the desk and you might not know why some of the things are there. But I would also imagine you look at the desk and you don't even know what some of those things are.

David: That's exactly right. So let's start with a couple of those things.

Andy: Why don't you do this, why don't you tell me what you see, just run through it all.

David: All of it at once.

Andy: All of it. And then we'll go back and do, because I'm very curious to hear what you're seeing.

David: Ok, then we'll start on this left side here. I see two orange books, I see a feather hook, that looks like it's sticking out of the corner of your computer. I see a chunk of wood with a strap on it that's lying next to a brush. I also see something that is taped to the front of your desk.

Andy: Yeah, what is that?

David: That looks like a, this has to be from, I don't even know what that is but it looks sharp at the end, it's curved, it looks like a hanger actually to me. It looks like a hanger.

Andy: Does it look old or new?

David: Looked very old and very rugged, it looks like it's a nature's hanger. It's from the forest. Than above that, I see two glass looking or green looking large

objects, circular objects around and they've got rope around both of them, that's very. I have no, like if you were to tell me, if I had a hundred guess to what those were, I have no clue what that is. I see two books, both appear to say, Words of Wisdom on them, they look like the exact same book, different colors but they look like they're the same book. I see a very colorful plate, has a lot of faces on it, that's a very unique and large plate.

Andy: What's the plate made of?

David: I have no clue. Is it made of wood?

Andy: Yeah, it is.

David: It is, ok. Then I see, there's something else, I don't even know how to describe what's on top of your other monitor. From here, it just looks like, it's got some string attached to both ends of it, and the middle, there's a hook at the end of it as well. Why are you putting hooks in your computer, this is very strange to me? Do you know that metal does not go well with technology, I don't know if..

Andy: Really? Then tell me that.

David: Ok, we'll talk about that afterwards. Below that is, golly, see this is where I just don't even know how to describe it, it looks like a washboard size object. You know, wood planks and then something in the middle, but it's got like twine or rope kind of wrapped around, instead of where the board is, it's just got a big, it's like a spool, I don't know, whatever. Then there's a little box with looks like nails or screws sticking out of it. Looks like it's wooden but I'm not sure. It looks like it could open but I don't know if it should, next to that three little balls or pellets of some type.

Andy: How big are they?

David: It's like marble size, maybe just bigger than a standard marble, maybe gumball size. And they're different colors.

Andy: It's a good description.

David: And lastly, this thing has a giant hook on it, metal hook but attached, is a huge piece of wood with some interesting shapes. And it looks like, there's holes in the wood and then additional metal inside the holes. And it looks like something spins or rotates but for the life of me, I just can't figure out. And that looks like it's very heavy to me. Looks like would weigh a lot, 50 pounds plus, to me.

Andy: Well that's.

David: Are you picking it up. He's picking it up, oh my gosh, you're carrying it over here. Is it heavy as it looks? Oh it is heavy. Maybe not 50 pounds but that's pretty heavy. And I'm holding this and you can tell that change in my voice because wow. So ok, that's everything that I see on your desk. And now this is in my lap.

Andy: Ok, do you want me to tell you, let me tell you what's in your lap first so that you can put it down.

David: That would be fantastic.

Andy: Ok. See the metal plate there?

David: I do, on top.

Andy: What can you read on it, what do you see?

David: Oh top it says, Boston, it says Boston on it, and there's a star.

Andy: Ok, that is, it's over 200 years old and that is, that is the block and tackle, that it the very top of a three masted schooner from Boston harbor, back at the time of the American revolution. And that big monster thing is what would be at the top of the center mast, and that is what the sails would be raised with.

David: Oh, that's what spins in the middle.

Andy: Yeah, see the things there, that's where the ropes go through all that and makes it where man could actually pull that.

David: Pull the ropes through the system and so this would hang.

Andy: Right.

David: Gotcha. Why do you have this?

Andy: I have it there for several reasons. One is to remind me of the history of our country. A big part of it though is to remind me that there are things that seem impossible, there are things that if you look at it, it would seem impossible. It would seem, certainly at some point seemed impossible that there could be ships with sails that big, ok. And then once they said, ok, if we're going to have a ship this big, we need to have a sail this big. It must have seemed impossible to people to say, how in the world, I mean, how would we hang a sail that high? How would

we get it up there? Do you not understand, just that piece of cloth weighs like 400 pounds? Are you expecting us to like tie it to our back and climb up there and hook it on to something? I mean, there are things that seem impossible and yet with the right thought process, with an idea, impossible things can be made simple. And so that is just an answer from physics. You know, how many different pulleys can you put through there? And a couple of guys would pull it up now.

David: This is insane.

Andy: It reminds me that, things are impossible, have an answer. That so many times, people, they'll have something in front of them, well this can't be done. Well that is what stops most people, is that thinking. And to specifically think, to try myself to think, that there is an answer. Ok, and in fact, it's probably a simple answer. And that is to remind me of that.

David: Ok, alright what's next?

Andy: You want to put it down?

David: Yeah, I'm going to put it back on your desk if that's ok.

Andy: No, don't put it on the desk, just.

David: Just put it on the ground.

Andy: Just put it down. Ok. I don't trust you walking around with the big sharp objects. So there you go. What next?

David: Ok, what is, what I terribly described as a washboard with twine on it, what is that?

Andy: That, you remember Hemingway's The Old Man and the Sea?

David: Yes.

Andy: That is basically what that old man caught that marlin with.

David: No way.

Andy: If you see, there's several hundred yards of very thick waxed cord, that's wound around this washboard type thing. And then up above, that is a weight that is designed for a person to be able to paddle through the water and that weight will not twist, it won't twist the line, that weight will kind of dragged through the water at a certain depth and will just maintain its stability, it won't twist. Because when line like this, or any line actually, when it twist, at certain point it weakens it dramatically, right. And then at the end of that, is that hook. And so this is what?

David: The one you put into your computer.

Andy: Right. This is what people used to fish with for big fish. And this is what cod fisherman and halibut fisherman, you know for years, this is what commercial fisherman used before they even knew about rods and rails. And so you know, a lot of this stuff is up here, obviously I think it's cool.

David: Well and you're a fisherman.

Andy: Yeah, and I'm a fisherman. But what this does, is again, it reminds me of ingenuity, it reminds me that at some point somebody was, you know, they would see this big fish but how do you catch these things? And how in a world would I ever get it to the boat? And so, it has it's own kind of little drag system, because you're able to kind of let that line out and it has a weight. Somewhere along the line somebody said, this line is twisting and now it's useless. And so there are so many things here, but it also, it reminds me that, that would still work today.

David: It could, yeah, absolutely.

Andy: You could still use that today. And so without the resources that anybody has, I mean, that, I mean, that cost nothing, really. I mean, people go after marlin today and they go after marlin with million dollar boats and with rails that costs thousands of dollars. And rods that costs thousands of dollars. And fighting chairs and straps, and all these kind of stuff. But if I was starting something today, so many people, I see so many people that are stopped, they say, well I don't have, you got to have this, you got to have that. And I'm not talking about fishing, I'm talking about everything. I see people, they won't start their own business, they won't step out and do something because well, I don't have a computer, I don't have this. Hey the world actually turned before computers.

David: Before technology, absolutely.

Andy: You know, people actually caught marlin before you know, Viking Express boats and before Buddy Davis's and before Hatteras. And so no matter where you are and no matter what you're, and this is a reminder to me, ok, because I am always tempted with the same thinking, and so I'm always tempted to say, well I can't do this until I have that. Oh yeah you can.

David: You sure can.

Andy: That's what that for. That's to remind me.

David: Ok, what about the three, is it three or four little ball things, that are next to pellet looking things?

Andy: Ok, isn't that cool? Those are marbles, you're right.

David: They are marbles.

Andy: They are marbles. And

David: Should we take pictures of any of these things?

Andy: Sure you can take picture, because people wouldn't, I guess, necessarily know what they looking. So just include them with the podcast. But these, when the Summer Olympics in Atlanta were held years ago and they were building the infrastructure for the Olympics, some of the bulldozing work they did hit into hundreds and thousands of these little things and nobody knew what they were. And you can, hear them clicking in my hand? Because they appear to be made of stone or something. One of them is red, one of them is kind of greenish, those are kind of grey modeled. And with the research they found, that years and years ago, there had been a marble factory there. And so these were actual marbles. I say a factory, it was some little store that made and manufactured, made and sold marbles. And so this is there to remind me of permanents. You know, this is such a simple little thing and it's something that people still do today. You go in store and buy marbles. And while things have changed and the manufacturing process has changed, you could play with these marbles just like you can play with any

marbles. I mean, kids could use these marbles just like they used any marbles. And so there is permanence to what we do. Things last even if they're covered up, even if they're buried.

David: Uh that's good.

Andy: They last. And so obviously if someone had seen great value in these, they would not have been buried or covered up or put away in the first place. And so since things last anyway, we need to make sure that the work that we do is of great value. And the things that we build are of great value. And the things that we ride and that we create and that we discover and the things that we teach, the things that we learn are of great value because it's permanent.

David: Wow, ok, that's amazing. What about the little box that has the nails or something coming out of it?

Andy: Ok, the little box, you're right, it does open, and it is made to open. Let me see if I can open it. Do you see inside, what does that appear to be, when I open it?

David: It looks like a castor, like a molding?

Andy: It's a molding. You see that, on the edge, a little shiny? It is a lead mold. Ok, this is what, a hundred and fifty years ago, it was one of the very first molds that was created for somebody to make fishing leads, ok, you know, sinkers.

David: Yes.

Andy: Alright. And so you see the little area there that they would heat the lead and pour it into that and then cool it over and over. And there is a fishing lead, alright. And so this is there to remind me that while things are permanent, they can be shaped. You know, there are a few things more permanent in the universe than a hunk of metal, ok. I mean, that just seem it's been there for billion years and be there for a gazillion years more. But even things that appear to be, you know, well that's just it. What do people say, it is what it is. Well it ain't always is what it is. You know, because you can shape it. Even things that appear to be permanent, even relationships that appear to be permanent, even financial situations that appear to be permanent. Even opinions that appear to be permanent, can be shaped.

David: It can still be shaped.

Andy: They can still be shaped.

David: That is very unique. This is exciting. We're moving on down the line. I feel like I'm about to get a lesson in something here. What are the two large circular, green glass objects with rope around them? Are they boonies, are they?

Andy: In a way. In a way they are. These are floats for Asian long lines. That years ago, you know, if you look at some of the Asian countries, if you look at Japan, if you look at Japan on a map, or if you know anything about Japan's geography, this is a country, that there's very few natural resources. And it's kind of a piece of rock and there's a ton of people living on them. So as they became more and more populated, to find a way to feed this many people, right, and a big part of their diet is fish. And so just going out with a hook and line wasn't doing it. Now, today, they have become so effective at it that it has been banned in many parts of the world. But this would allow literally one boat to put out a line of hooks that

was five miles long. I mean, miles of hooks. And so these floats would be placed at intervals and as you can see, these are fairly ancient. I mean, because these are not modern plastics, this is glass. This is blown glass that is very thick, not like a Christmas ornament or anything, but this is blown glass with rope that has been woven around it. And some people collect these things. It's not extremely rare. In fact, on the West Coast, you know the Pacific is a waste ocean, and there are people who have collections of these things because occasionally they are still washing up on the West Coast. Especially up in the Washington, Oregon, Vancouver, you know they're still washing up. And so.

David: So why do you have these, what's the significance?

Andy: I have these to once again, one of the biggest things that I believe people fight against, one of the biggest things that I fight against, is the thought process that it can't be done. Or that that's not the way it's done or that's been tried before. Whatever. I fight against that and I see people all the time stopped by it can't be done. And I truly believe, I believe God has put his finger on my nose and said, Andy, there is always a way.

David: There's always a way.

Andy: There's always a way. And you are to find a way where there is no way. And so, or where other people say, there is no way. And so to feed a people you could not, with the technology, you know, was available at that time, you could not put enough hooks in the water to feed all those people, they were gonna starve. And so somebody figured out, that they could suspend these hooks by doing this and lengthen these lines. And so it's there to remind me that there's always a way. There's always a way that you can figure something out. And they also remind me of permanents. You know, something so beautiful, something

made of glass, something in his violent environment as the tsunamis and typhoons and hurricanes and the years and years of hazards in the Pacific, that something so beautiful, can overcome all that violence and still wash up on the shore in it's original form, made of glass, it's not broken. And it floats, it brings things to the surface. I like the idea that it brings things to the surface.

David: Andy this is amazing so far and I'm excited to hear the rest of the items be described by you that are on your desk. But gosh we're already 20 or whatever minutes into this and we're gonna make this part one and then we will come back and do part two to hear you describe the rest of those things. So I know that everybody's excited. There's so many lessons to be learned. Again this is just something that blows my mind but everything that's on your desk has this amazing story and history to it. And I'm excited to hear the description of everything else. But we'll come back and do part two of that. But thanks again so much for doing this and we'll be right back.

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Would you like to run something by Andy? Contact us and your question might be featured on the show!

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