



## Known For It

Andy Stanley

*Note: The following content is a raw transcript and has not been edited for grammar, punctuation, and word usage.*

**0:00:00.0 Andy Stanley:** So here's something we all have in common. This is not a church thing, Christian thing, or religious thing. This is just a human thing. Something we all have in common, we all want to be known for something. Now, you may not have given much thought as to what this is, but if somebody were to say to you, "Hey, what do you wanna be known for?" Something would come to mind. Some adjectives would come to mind, some adjectives would come to mind that you hope come to other people's mind when and if you come to mind, and I certainly have some adjectives. I have adjectives in terms of what I want my kids to think about me or what I wanna be known for with my kids, certainly in my marriage, with the people I work with. I have something I wanna be known for, for all of you, and these are the kinds of things that determine what we post on social media, or if we post at all on social media, especially it would seem Instagram. So here, let me just pose the question to you. It would be interesting to turn and talk about it, but I'd never get your attention again.

**0:00:50.1 AS:** But what do you want to be known for? Just think for a minute, what do you wanna be known for? And there's concentric circles, like with my family, with my friend, but what do you wanna be known for? I'll for transparency, 'cause I'm gonna ask you to be transparent, I'll tell you what I wanna be known for, and this is comes from a place of insecurity. I wanna be known for being smart. And the reason that's important to me, I finally figured out years ago, is because when I was... I never did well in school. I struggled, struggled, struggled. Everybody else seemed to already know it before they got there. I felt like everybody's already had this class, but me, especially in college, I'm like, "Have you all... How do you know..." And then I went to graduate school and it was even worse. I barely got into graduate school. So I've just never felt smart. I always felt like I was behind. So I think there's that, the insecurities, like, "I wanna appear... Well I wanna be known for being smart," 'cause I don't think I am. I've struggled. No sympathy sounds there. Okay, anyway. [laughter]

**0:01:43.0 AS:** Also, I wanna be known for being a really hard worker, I wanna be known for being a good leader, I wanna be known for being a great father and a great husband, and as I get older, to just be honest, I wanna be known for that I still I've got what it takes, you know, as you get older, you wonder "Do I still got what it takes?" Bill, you, thank you Bill. Okay, anyway, Bill thinks so. So here now it's your turn, what you think, what about you? What do you wanna be known for? And then there's this, okay? Then there's this, what do you do when you realize you aren't measuring up to you? What do you do when you realize, "Uh-oh, this is what I wanna be known for, but I'm falling behind. Not in terms of what other people think, 'cause I'm not sure what they think, but I'm falling behind in terms of what I want other people to think."

**0:02:26.3 AS:** And I would tell you what I do when I feel like I'm not measuring up to me, but I don't need to tell you what I do, because I do the same thing you do: I pretend, and sometimes I make excuses and I try to manage my image and the problem with managing our image is simply this, managing our image makes us imaginary. It does, it's like I'm not even... I've got an image out there, but that's not really me, so I become the imaginary me, and we've all experienced this with other people, even if you don't think you're doing it yourself, you've met people and initially you thought, "Wow." Then you got to know them and it was like, "Wow." [laughter] It's like wow, that first impression that wasn't