

[00:00:00] <Music>

Annie: Hi friends, welcome to another episode of That Sounds Fun. I'm your host Annie F. Downs. I'm so happy to be with you. Today we've got a great show in store. It's day two of the 2021 Christmas Party with 12 days in a row of Christmas coming your way. Just imagine that we're all like mingling around a lovely holiday soiree, taking in the beautiful decor, and pausing to have a chat with new friends here and there.

Speaking of friends, by the way, have you noticed on the last few episodes, and it'll happen the rest of this month, all year long, I've been sneakily asking every single guest what their favorite Christmas song is. And, so, all month you're going to hear them dropped in here and there, our guests from the year telling you their favorite Christmas song. Are we building a Spotify playlist with all these songs? Yes, we are. We'll share the link with you really soon. But that's what you're hearing all throughout the shows just kind of sprinkled in there, like the sprinkles on your favorite Christmas cookies. We get to hear from every guest from the entire year.

Hey if you missed day one of our Christmas Party yesterday with the guys from Deck the Hallmark, and my friends Jennie and Jamie. Where we did a deep dive into Hallmark Movies be sure to go back and check it out. We are dying at all the Hallmark Movies y'all are coming up with, absolutely dying. You can get the draft card off of my Instagram, off of the Deck the Hallmark guys Instagram, but we would love for you to continue to tell us the movie you would create.

The soundtrack of our little party today is "Little Drummer Boy" from for King and Country. It's from their album *A Drummer Boy Christmas*. You guys are going to love the whole album. I know you already do and grab it wherever you love to stream your music. And just a little reminder to follow the link in the show notes if you have any questions you'd like to ask Santa.

And before we dive in, I want to take a moment and share about one of our incredible partners, Christian Parenting and their Advent Devotional. Christian Parenting released an interactive Advent Devotional called *Read Ask Go*. It's the perfect way to focus your family on Jesus this and every Christmas season.

This devotional is super fun and, most of all, a meaningful way to gather as a family and celebrate Christ's coming each Advent season. Read Ask Go, includes 25 days of family fun like reading Scriptures, asking questions that prompt great conversations, and going to spread Christmas cheer throughout your home and

community. Even though we're already into the month of December, you can start on any day and finish it out through the rest of the month. Then pull it back out next Christmas season to experience it as a fun family tradition.

For our That Sounds Fun friends only you can download a one-day free sample to try out with your family and use the code TSF5OFF to get \$5 off your purchase today. So visit christianparenting.org/tsf to download your free sample and redeem this offer.

Today on the show you guys, I mean you guys, today on the show I get to talk with my new friend Porsha Williams. I mean y'all can't even know the level of excitement around here when Lillian asked if I wanted to talk with Porsha Williams for the podcast. I was like Porsha Williams from Real Housewives of Atlanta? Yes, please.

She has tons of amazing stuff going on, including running multiple companies; Go Naked Hair and Pampered by Porsha. And she just released her first book a memoir called *The Pursuit of Porsha*. Y'all she is not scared to really go there with honesty and tenacity, and such a personal glimpse into some really defining moments in her life. Y'all are going to love this book. In this conversation, listen, Porsha preaches, get ready Porsha preaches. And get cozy up on the couch and let's get to know our friend Porsha Williams.

[00:03:37] <Music>

Annie: Porsha, thank you so much for being on That Sounds Fun today.

Porsha: Oh, of course, and it sounded fun. Absolutely.

Annie: We are going to have fun Porsha, I can promise you that. For starters, I've got to tell you, I grew up in Atlanta. I'm Atlanta born and bred, Marietta girl. So you are a global celebrity, but you are a local celebrity to me as well. Okay.

Porsha: Oh, thank you. Oh, yes, we are very proud here from Atlanta.

Annie: Listen, tell me how you feel about those Braves though?

Porsha: Oh, you know what, I went to the game where they won the series.

Annie: No.

Porsha: Yeah, here in Atlanta. Remember, they played here first and then they went, I guess it was to L.A. I think?

Annie: Houston.

Porsha: Houston. Okay, then they went to Houston then I went out of town. And I was so excited, like, it was crazy. I was so mad because I went to the game with my best friend and she's the type like, "Let's go to the store, let's buy all of the World Series hats-"

Annie: Oh yeah.

Porsha: ...is that or whatever? I'm like, "I'm not waiting in line." So I get out of line and I go to get something to eat. And then they win. So now I'm trying to find the World Series like a hat or something, and of course I'm paying way more but I got to have it, now.

Annie: I mean, if I can tell you how many of my friends on Instagram went to a store, like a Dick's Sporting Goods, at midnight that night.

Porsha: Yes! Oh my God! And they were right there in front of me. Like all I can hear her saying was, "Girl just buy it. You may wear it one day." I was like, "Girl, I don't know if we're going to win." She looked like, and she bought it.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: So then the next day, when they won she posts this amazing picture of her, and her daughter, and her husband, matching World Series outfits. I'm like-

Annie: I mean, if only our Falcons could catch up, bless them.

Porsha: I know. But you know what, the last couple of games that my husband has gone to and I went to one, they won.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: So I don't know what that means, because I go to the games, but I don't have any idea pretty much what's happening unless they win.

Annie: Really? I mean, Porsha, football has been a part of your whole life and throughout your book, football is like such a theme.

Porsha: Oh, no way, look, oh my God! See, I'm talking about the Hawks. You're talking about the Falcons.

Annie: Oh, Hawks, sorry, sorry, sorry. Oh, listen, the Hawks games-

Porsha: Yeah.

Annie: The Hawks are fun to watch but basketball is beyond me. It just hates me, Porsha. If we're starting counting by twos and we've got to get to 100, I can't, I can't.

Porsha: It's too much, my ADHD doesn't work like that, sorry.

Annie: Listen, we need to sit together. Because that would be the entertaining, we would just entertain each other.

Porsha: Yes.

Annie: And that would be that.

Porsha: Yes.

Annie: There it is.

Porsha: You have to sit with someone who does not know what's going on like me to have fun. My husband, he's like, all into it and all that. I'm like, "Okay."

Annie: And I'm like, "Are you telling me we're at 32 and we're getting to 100?" I've got to get out of here, I can't.

Porsha: And, meanwhile, I'm sitting there like, "Where is the lady with more beer, and where is the lady with more popcorn, and where is that sound, who is performing?"

Annie: That's exactly right. That's exactly right.

Porsha: Yeah.

Annie: Okay, Porsha, your new book, *The Pursuit of Porsha*, I mean, you are so honest in this. Speaking of sports, you talk through all the sporting men that have been in your life, how that played into it.

Porsha: Yeah, mh-hmm.

Annie: I want you to back me up for just a minute. How did you even decide this was the right time to write such an honest book.

Porsha: You know what, I knew that when I eventually wrote the book it could be nothing but honest. Like, my full life, well, a lot of my life is already on television. I've lived a lot of the rawness in front of everybody. So I knew when it came to a book that could not be fluff, that had to go to a deeper level. And the purpose behind writing the book is really for it to be helpful to someone else.

Annie: Mh-hmm.

Porsha: So even in their dark time if they can remember who they are, keep moving forward, there's always a better day. You can always work towards being your better self. So I knew when I sat down to get this book together, I would have to be completely honest. So it really wasn't a fight. The fight was, "Are you ready to do it right now?"

Annie: Wow.

Porsha: And I decided yes. And I think, I want to say a lot of the time I was doing the book it was during quarantine.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: I thought about that just last night and during quarantine is when we all were really self-reflective.

Annie: Mh-hmm.

Porsha: So, yeah, I just knew it was going to be this heavy.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: If you read the book, I'm sure you'll say, "It's a heavy book."

Annie: Yes. Oh, I mean, I was reading it [**Crosstalk 00:08:16**] Yes. I mean, honestly, Porsha, I hope this comes across correctly. I've watched you for years. I've been a Housewives fan, I've been a Porsha fan, I've watched you for years.

Porsha: Yeah, thank you.

Annie: And you know some of the story because we lived it with you, right?

Porsha: Mh-hmm.

Annie: I mean we've lived some of that with you. But your life has been significantly harder than you've even let on the show.

Porsha: And that is what I think is going to be shocking to my supporters, is because they saw a Porsha that was a fragment of who I am.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: You know, they saw the fun, goofy side of me when you're introduced to me saying crazy things on the show. So that kind of developed into after the divorce, it was a little more you saw that side.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: But I think this is going to show you what's behind that smile, what's behind those yes.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: And why now when people see me they say, "Wow, you have a glow, you have had such a journey in such a way to glow."

Annie: You talk in the book, this one line mattered a ton to me. Where you talked about how your mother taught you what it was like to be a praying mother and how that mattered, and also a boss.

Porsha: Yes.

Annie: So like deep in her faith and also deep in her entrepreneurship.

Porsha: Absolutely.

Annie: Will, you talk a little bit about that? How is prayer, a lot of our friends listening are faith people, not everybody but a lot of our friends listening are faith people.

Porsha: Mh-hmm.

Annie: And I would love for you to... we talk about prayer a lot around here. Will you talk about how your mother's prayer life has affected you?

Porsha: My mother's prayer life affected me because when I got married, I was first, I married my husband and I married tradition, second.

Annie: Wow.

Porsha: So the tradition of it all was the type of wife that I felt that I had to be for him.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: I mean a lot of the tradition was wrapped up in my religion.

Annie: Mh-hmm.

Porsha: My faith is separate. Now, in my life, I have my faith and my spirituality separated from religion. But at the time-

Annie: Oh, Porsha, we got to talk about that. We got to talk about that.

Porsha: Yeah.

Annie: Keep going, we are coming back to that.

Porsha: Yeah, at the time, it was all one thing.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: So, for me, it really was what I had to live up to as opposed to what my marriage should have looked like for me, and what I could have been in my marriage just as Porsha.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: So I became this wife figure like in my home. And my mother, I think she knew it. I talk in the book about how she felt earlier on about the relationship and different things like that. And when we started going through hard times, no

matter whether she knew it was my doing and or his doing, she knew it wasn't our undoing.

Annie: Right.

Porsha: She knew that I needed to get on my knees and pray my way through.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: We eventually didn't work out but that doesn't matter. It's the practice of it all, it's what I was doing in those hard times and that was praying.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: And she always told me, she'd say, "Listen, your covenant is with you, God, and your husband. Right now your husband is letting you down. You don't like him whatever, but your covenant is still with God and you need to be a true wife." And so I prayed my way through that situation. I prayed for him, I prayed for me, and ultimately I was the one who had to be saved out of that relationship.

Annie: Wow.

Porsha: And as it comes to business, my mother, I have seen her faith work.

Annie: Really?

Porsha: I've seen her faith work. I have literally seen my mom not have any money and walk into a car dealership and say, "I want that Lincoln Navigator right there." And then a couple of weeks she would be driving it off the line. I've seen her walk into a business and tell them that she wants to lease the building now for \$10,000 a month okay-

Annie: I mean, faith.

Porsha: No money, I mean, listen, we had no money, I don't even know if we had lights on. I have seen her walk in there and give her spiel, and let them know they can see. That's the thing when you pray and then you put faith with it and then your works, people can see that on you.

Annie: Porsha, you better preach that. You better preach that.

Porsha: Listen, she used to be sitting in that chair as a young girl I saw her tell them, "This is what I'm going to do with this building. This is my plan. I don't have this right now but I have all these other qualities and things to make this work." And I saw her open a business no more than six months later. So I have seen her faith walk and her prayer work in her life and that's truly affected me

Annie: Yes.

[00:12:55] <Music>

Annie: Hey friends, just interrupting this conversation real quick to share about another one of our incredible partners, Olive & June. Now I know you and I are both making sure our nails look good before we go to a Christmas party. But here is the thing doing my own nails is just not my thing, y'all, it's just not my thing.

The sloppiness when I paint with my non-dominant hand it's brutal. The chipping after a couple of days, no thank you. But I'm also not into paying an arm and a leg for something I should be able to handle at my house and on my own time.

The solution, Olive & June's Mani System. This system comes with every tool you need to do a salon-quality manicure in the comfort of your own home. It's only five steps including gorgeous polish colors and a top coat that makes it shiny and long-lasting, like lasts a whole week, you guys. Hand to heaven a whole week.

The patented brush handle they send you, the Poppy, makes it easy to paint with both hands and the results are smooth, and dare I say nearly perfect, and I did it myself. My nails have never looked so good you guys. You know when I find something this high-quality, that's so affordable I have to tell you guys.

Olive & June's Mani System with six polishes breaks down to only \$2 per manicure. That is a significant savings compared to salon manicures. I love their color options too, the winter collection, you guys, the winter collection. It's got some gorgeous shades including three metallics okay, they will have your hands ready for any holiday get together.

The Olive & June Mani System is the secret behind salon-perfect nails at home all-in-one no guessing, no messy nails, no salon price tag. And now you can get 20% off your first Mani System with my code THATSOUNDSFUN. Your new nail life is here. Get 20% off your first Mani System when you use the promo

code THATSOUNDSFUN at oliveandjune.com. We are done with expensive bad manicures. This is the new us, okay, let's do this.

[00:14:45] <Music>

Annie: All right, here are Fives Jason and Candy. Let's talk about how y'all feel about Christmas?

Candy: It's really hard, Annie.

Annie: Why?

Candy: Because I am Christmas. There is no one song that is who I am.

Jason: See I actually hate all Christmas songs. I don't hate them, but it's just so hard
[Crosstalk 00:15:08] I think I approach it from such a scrooge, like when I hear it the day after Thanksgiving I'm not prepared. I'm not interested in hearing it.

Candy: No, I've been listening since October.

Jason: But that might be me being kind of cynical and wanting it to all go away, and then once I come around to like accepting that it's here and I have to deal with it. It's not going away then I'll ease in.

Annie: Okay, Candy, tell me your favorite song?

Candy: Okay. To say my favorite Christmas artist is Harry Connick Jr. all of his stuff, I'm sorry.

Annie: Thank you, I must agree.

Candy: Yes. But my favorite song is a song that he did with Kim Burrell on his record *What A Night*, I think that was the name of it called "Song For The Hopeful".

Annie: Why? What happened on that one?

Candy: Well, the two of them singing together just like makes me hurt in all of the best ways just like that. Because both of their voices but there's a line that says, "Nothing can shake a seasoned soul. It's all the loss that makes it whole. This is a song for the hopeful may God hear it sung." And I just it's a very different kind of Christmas song. It's more like a lament or a reflection song. But that line in

particular, like, "Oh, I just so I feel it, I identify with it, and I love playing that one every year.

Annie: Jason? Scrooge?

Jason: Ironically enough, I like "Rocking Around the Christmas Tree" because it's fun. So that's like the whole spectrum, it's like, I hate this and then it's like well, I love this let's have a party.

Annie: You're like, "I will be Kevin McAllister, in Home Alone" Or don't talk to me about Christmas.

Jason: Yeah, that's right. We're either here or we're not. We are in or we ain't.

Candy: Amazing.

Jason: There's an old Elvis version that I love.

Annie: Oh, great,

Jason: I think it's the 50s or 60s maybe Elvis, man, that's right, he's the best.

Lisa: I'm Lisa Whittle, author of *The Hard Good* and my favorite Christmas song is "Last Christmas", but only the Wham! version. Favorite, favorite, favorite of all time.

Annie: And now back to my conversation with Porsha.

[00:17:16] <Music>

Annie: And also, you are preaching and I love it, this is what we're here for. I don't know if you've read Mike Todd's book, *Crazy Faith*, but I think you would love it. Have you read it yet?

Porsha: Oh, no let me write it down.

Annie: Listen, Porsha, his whole thing is, "It's only crazy until it happens." I mean, I've got goosebumps listening to you, because you're like, "Yes, I mean, 'Faith without works is dead.' And sometimes that works is prayer."

Porsha: That's right.

Annie: Right?

Porsha: Because you need to repeat it to yourself.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: And you need to hear yourself ask for it and then as you ask for it, you start believing it.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: And it becomes very real to you and that's how real faith is. That's what faith is, it's you can't see it, there's no way but you believe that it can happen.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: You believe that it is there.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: It's like an actual thing to you and that's why it's only your faith, it's your faith walk.

Annie: Yes. That's right. Okay, and praying on your knees that's really a practice you have?

Porsha: Absolutely not. I have a two-year old I do not pray on my knees anymore. Let me tell you how I pray.

Annie: I love you so much.

Porsha: I pray in the shower, I pray in the bathtub. I pray in the middle of doing my makeup. I pray on the go.

Annie: Yeah, yeah.

Porsha: But I do take time and pray and when I pray the most is when I know I need self-care self-time.

Annie: Mh-hmm. Yeah.

Porsha: And then in those times when I'm steaming my face and stuff like that I get a little more time. But on a daily basis, no, it definitely happens in the shower.

Annie: Pjs too much everywhere, everywhere.

Porsha: Yeah, it is. I'm gone, I'm on the road.

Annie: I love it. I love it. Okay, let's back up. I wrote down that sentence you said faith and spirituality separated from religion. Now I mean, you grew up in a family that everyone from Atlanta knows.

Porsha: Yes,

Annie: I mean, we all know Reverend Hosea Williams. We all know your legacy that you're born into, and faith and religion is probably part of that. So how have you made that personal and been able to separate the religion you grew up in with this personal faith that has me wanting to like clap and stand up right now?

Porsha: Because, unfortunately or fortunately, for me as a child, what you're reading the book and that's why I start so early.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: I developed certain habits that weren't healthy for that particular mindset for me, for me. And I only saw myself through other people's eyes. I didn't value myself unless someone else said I was valuable. I wasn't pretty until someone told me I was pretty. I wasn't smart until someone told me. So if you bring all of that into now religion your only identity is what that religion says.

Annie: Wow.

Porsha: So anything outside of that you've completely beat yourself up. There's no other way to live, there's no other way to be and you feel like a total complete failure.

Annie: Mh-hmm. Well, I couldn't live under that, knowing that I had to have a divorce and knowing that, as far as I had known, God hated divorce. So I had to separate myself from that in order to be able to stand alone.

One thing I did know then whether I disappointed God or not and got a divorce. Whether I cursed or whatever it was I had done, in a simple way, I knew that I was still God's child. I knew that He still loved me and that's what really, truly turned into my personal spirituality and what strengthened my personal relationship with God. So that's kind of where it had to break for me.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: Some people, it can work like that because they don't have the past that I had, which ended up being pretty abusive.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: In letting other people tell me who I was instead of letting God tell me who I was but for me, that's what I had to personally do.

Annie: I mean, when you're going back and writing these stories, I mean, some of the abusive ones really, Porsha, are very hard to read. Were you walking with like a counselor or a pastor? Like, how are you emotionally caring for yourself as you were writing this and going back to those memories?

Porsha: You know what, until you just said that, just now, I didn't even realize that that was an option. I did it hardcore. I literally thought through writing this book. I started writing the book, we got to some of the tensor moments and I stopped for about four months or so and then I came back to it. Because I wanted to finish what I had started.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: And I wanted to fulfill the purpose of the book, which was to lay all of it out there in testimony and help someone else. So I knew I had to fight my way through those different dark moments.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: And you tell "Okay, well, why did you have to put all that in the book?" Because that's how I got to the pursuit of Porsha. That's how I got to where I am today.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: And I don't regret any of it, I hate I had to live some of those things. But you have to go through some hardships in order to build your character and build your faith. And so where I am now, it's because of all those different things. But hopefully, hopefully, when people, some young person reads this book or some older person reads this book, they can see these traps in their patterns, these traps in their journey that are patterns, and they can stop it prior to some of these situations happening for them, hopefully.

Annie: I mean, one of my big takeaways, as I was reading, and I'd love for you to talk about this. There was this thing in me that happened, where I thought Porsha is teaching me how to value me. It was this like there are all these stories where by the end of the story Porsha has learned, "I'm worth more than that."

Porsha: Absolutely.

Annie: Yes. So now where you sit, where you've started these companies. You're starting your own show on Bravo, Porsha's Family Matters, is that what it's called?

Porsha: Yes. Yes.

Annie: Great title, I love it. I will watch every bit of it. How can you see a difference, let's talk to our friends who are like feeling some insecurity about who they are, aren't totally sure what they're worth. How different is it once you believe that God made you on purpose and you're really going after who you are?

Porsha: Okay, so first of all, in the beginning, the confidence that you seek, the assurance, the affirmations, everything that you are looking for, God literally is telling you is already in you. So you are born affirmed, in my belief.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: I used to say it, all the time, there was a part of my life where I didn't and I'm back to it. You were born affirmed. You were born with all the talents, every little thing you need possible in life, all those gifts are already in you when you are born. Life has obstacles that are going to come into your way and then you have to pause, you have to ask God to help you through. You have to believe that there's a way through.

Annie: Mh-hmm.

Porsha: If you deal with depression, like I did, learn about what self-care is. Take a moment, you may need to take a beat in your life, some people can just go on through. Me now, since I know that I have dealt with depression in my life, when I feel those moments that are going to stop me and stomp me down. I have to take a beat and stop everything and deal with just Porsha.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: So besides that, if you are going through life, just know that there will be a brighter day, your destiny is already written. It's not just in you that you just believe, "Oh, I know that I'm going to be successful." Or "I know I'm going to be a great mom." Or "I'm going to be a great dad." Or "When I get another I'm going to be a great friend." No, it's not just something that's in your mind, it's because it is true.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: It is already written. So you just have to survive and push through these hardships and make it to the other side. And a lot of times, I think, we get stomped down because we're hopeless and that was a big part of my depression is just I would just my world would get so small and I will feel so hopeless, that I could not see anything for my future.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: And I hate that and I would not want that for anyone. So just understand your world is way bigger than what you see. You are bigger than your circumstances, you are bigger than all of that, and it's very much possible for you to become the you want to be.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: Just like I became the Porsha that I want to be and I'm still working on her, because she's still kind of crazy. You can become, you can be on that deeper level of working on yourself like me. We can all progress.

Annie: That's right. It makes me think of when Jesus gets baptized, it's before He's done anything like ministry wise, right?

Porsha: Mh-hmm.

Annie: And that's when God says, "This is my son who I'm so pleased with." Right?

Porsha: Yeah.

Annie: And, so, you're really teaching us that idea of before you've done anything, God is pleased with you.

Porsha: Before you've done anything He's already pleased with you.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: In that way you don't have to look to the world to be pleasing to, you don't have to be pleasing to them. Just you being in your walk and you being a good person. Doing what you're supposed to do and being kind, and giving to others and just having a beautiful heart and practicing positivity. That in itself will bring the right people in your life.

Annie: Yeah.

[00:26:39] <Music>

Annie: Hey friends, just interrupting this conversation real quick to share about another one of our incredible partners, Mercy Project. Most of us know that human trafficking is a big problem around the world but not all trafficking is the same. In Ghana, Africa, for example, thousands of children are trapped in labor trafficking in the fishing trade for 12-long hours a day.

These children come from families who, as a result of the financial desperation they've experienced, they've sold their child to a fisherman in the hopes that the child could live another day. Sadly, many of the fishermen were actually once trafficked children themselves.

Our partner Mercy Project started addressing the issue of child trafficking in creative ways almost 11 years ago, and it is working. Here's how they do it. They form village partnerships with the fishermen to literally teach a better way to fish that makes them more money and replaces the need for child labor. This allows the children to be voluntarily released and reunited with their families. Over the last decade, more than 200 kids have gone home to live with their families and this is a small but mighty nonprofit. That's creating generational transformation in Ghana.

But that's where they need our help. There are currently 50 formerly trafficked children needing a sponsor. For \$45 a month you can empower a formerly trafficked child to receive education and experience freedom. And this month Mercy Project will randomly select a new child sponsor to travel to Ghana with their team in 2022, that's so cool, all expenses paid. You get to meet your sponsor child and their family. See the project firsthand and experience the beauty of Ghana.

Let's help all 50 of these kids start 2022 With hope, you guys. Simply text THATSOUNDSFUN to 74121 to help today. Imagine how much this gift will transform communities for good. Text THATSOUNDSFUN to 74121 or visit mercyproject.net/THATSOUNDSFUN.

[00:28:34] <Music>

Annie: All right friends, we're here with our expert for this year's EnneaSummer2021, Haley Watkins, from Haley Watkins Enneagram Coaching. Haley, we're asking all of our friends who are on the show based on their number what their favorite Christmas song is. So I want to ask you as well what is your favorite Christmas song?

Haley: Okay, I don't know, I'm trying to think how I can make this work with my type.

Annie: It doesn't have to be.

Haley: I think "Oh, Holy Night". Oh Holy Night is favorite really the Celine like when the big singers doing Oh, Holy Night, there's no like getting around that.

Annie: Right.

Haley: That's the moment. That's the moment for sure. I don't know, let's see how can I connect that to my enneagram number?

Annie: Do you want me tell you what the male nine said his favorite song was? Oh Holy Night. So you did it.

Haley: Weird.

Annie: You did it. To be fair, the male one said it as well.

Haley: Why did we like it, I wonder?

Annie: Why do you like it?

Haley: It makes me feel something.

Annie: Oh, wow.

Haley: You know, like when Celine sings Oh Holy Night, you're like, "Well, I'm done."

Annie: Yeah.

Haley: That's all I need.

Annie: Yeah.

Haley: And maybe that's what it is. That it's just is like that moment was everything.

Annie: Yeah.

Michael W.: Hi, I'm Michael Wear. I authored *Reclaiming Hope*. And my favorite Christmas song is "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire." It just flips me in the Christmas mood.

Annie: And now back to finish up our conversation with Porsha Williams.

[00:30:18] <Music>

Annie: Will you talk about the power of perseverance for a minute? How has that, even on your worst days, how has that served you to not give up?

Porsha: Because I'm here. I'm here doing an interview with you. I remember when I hit that brick wall, before when I hit it before. I've hit it a couple times and I realized it was the wall. I remember when I hit it I wasn't going to survive.

Annie: Right.

Porsha: I was meant to do something that could not be returned.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: So just me being able to sit here right now and have written a book, and put all these things that tried to break me in it to help someone else feels like a success to me.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: It feels like a part of my purpose and that's why I say I had to go back to the book.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: I don't really care how much I make from the book, to be honest with you. When I found out how much I was going to make, I was like, "Oh, that's not enough for what..."

Annie: For what I wanted to write.

Porsha: Yes. I was like, "Are you kidding me?" But again, it's not about the money at this point. This is very purposeful and intentional how this book was written and I really feel like it's going to bless someone and be received well.

Annie: Yeah, I think this is a great time to release it too. Because what a joyous, as this episode we're on it's part of our 12 Days of Christmas. So we're doing 12 shows in a row. This is such a good gifting book to hand to people, because you're kind of doing a thing we call around here, where we call it sneaky Jesus. Where anybody who loves Real Housewives is going to pick up this book, but they don't know, they're about to run into some gospel truth on the inside of that.

Porsha: Hallelujah! Listen, that is what being on this platform is about. That's why God chooses certain people to elevate them on these platforms. Because eventually, when we come out of our mess, we're going to use it for what it's meant for.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: So I got all these eyes and ears looking at me and hopefully if they hear a little bit about this book it'll bless them.

Annie: Yes, yes, I think so too. And I think one of the beautiful things I hope I do this in my work and I know you do it in your work. Because I've read the book and watched your show, is you're okay not being perfect. But you're also very proud of how loved you are by God, like it's both of those things.

Porsha: Yes.

Annie: I mean, there have been times where, especially on the show, where you have just gotten ripped to shreds by the public.

Porsha: Mh-hmm.

Annie: How do you recover from that? Or do you?

Porsha: You don't.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: I used to think that I was recovering from it.

Annie: Mh-hmm.

Porsha: But what happened was, I was taking what happened to me as a child in this book, when you guys read it, of beginning to wear a mask. I was starting to I could feel myself picking it back up. I had not put it on yet, so I had not put it back on my face. But I could feel myself picking it back up and that's when I knew you know what, "Mm-mm, mm-mm, you need to step away and you need to take some time for yourself. And you need to understand that it's not what anybody has spoken on you, anybody has to say about you are a child of God, period."

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: You are meant to shine period. When all you need to do is walk in your purpose.

Annie: Mh-hmm.

Porsha: And so I decided I wanted to start doing things that felt good to my soul, good to my spirit.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: And I'm doing some of those. One of them is the book and another one of them is just really focusing more on family and focusing more on my personal future. But I really had to, when I felt myself living in the world, living through the world's eyes and what they felt to me and this is the second, the third. And I thought, like I said, I thought I was getting over but then I realized, "Oh, no, it's been affecting

me. It's been actually affecting me." And that is not what's going to help me be the best person I can be, Christian I can be, period. And, so, at this point in my life, I don't compromise my walk.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: I guess that's what it is and I guess we don't get to talk about this enough because people don't like to talk about God, I love to. But I don't let anybody compromise that. I don't let anybody take me out of my character. I don't let anybody do any of that. I only want positivity and what's going to be aligned with my spirit happening for me now.

Annie: Yes. And, so, let's talk about the holiday season. What does that look like for you this Christmas? Like, when you're thinking about being with your family and when you're thinking about releasing this book at the same time. What are the rhythms and traditions in the month of December that are going to tie you down to who you really are?

Porsha: Well, first of all, I love Christmas. I'm like little Mariah Carey without the voice.

Annie: But you could try. You could try.

Porsha: Oh, listen, nobody, I'm admitting that to you but I will not admit that in my house, because I walk around singing Mariah Carey's Christmas songs all day.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: So every Christmas, every holiday season, I normally go ahead and put on my tree before Thanksgiving. But we just bought a home and we should be, we may be in it before Christmas.

Annie: Oh my gosh.

Porsha: So I had to decide whether I was going to put the tree up here, put the tree up over there. So I just decided to go ahead and just decorate here.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: So we're going to put up-

Annie: Both.

Porsha: ...the tree as usual. Yeah, just do both. So we're going to do the tree, everything here and I'm going to have family come over. And listen, this year more than ever I want to keep the tradition of family come because this show is coming out, Porsha's Family Matters on Sunday.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: And I know that everybody who is showing out and carrying on. So I want to make sure that we still feel that togetherness of tradition, of having Thanksgiving dinner together, and then coming back and having Christmas dinner together the day after Christmas.

Annie: How different does Porsha's Family Matters feel from Real Housewives of Atlanta?

Porsha: Oh, wow. It's not much difference actually because most of my family members are housewives.

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: That's what they act like when they get into their confessional. I'm telling you, oh, my God, listen, first of all, I'm thinking, okay, we're going to do a family retreat. My sister is a spiritual guidance counselor, she's heavy in meditation. She's going to teach us this new way to vibrate. And so I'm like, "Okay, we're going to get together." My aunt, some cousins and we're going to do this little family retreat. Okay, honey, it turned into a whole family spiritual healing session, whole family spiritual healing show.

Annie: Wow.

Porsha: And I later found out like, I think, a couple weeks into filming, I was like, "Oh, I'm not filming like all day, like, why am I not filming all day?" You're thinking like, "Okay, it's your show, you're going to promote it."

Annie: Yeah.

Porsha: Listen, that's because my cousins, my sister, everybody else was doing their own scenes. These people, oh my God. I guess they had a lot to say about me and about everything. And I literally they have made this show, honestly, people are going to think, oh my god, just it's all about Porsha. No, this show is all about my

family both sides, my father's side, my mother's side. And us trying to blend that and then also me trying to blend with my daughter's father Dennis and my fiancé Simon and Pilar is just this little sweet being that is holding it all together.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: So, it's crazy, it's crazy fun.

Annie: Oh, I can't wait. Listen, Porsha, thank you so much for making time today. Anytime you want to preach you just come back here.

Porsha: Okay, I will-

Annie: Listen, we didn't talk about fasting yet. We didn't talk about, I mean, there's a lot we got to talk about Sabbath rest and there's a lot of spiritual things that you and I still got to cover.

Porsha: Yeah.

Annie: So just know you are welcome back here. Hey, we ask one last question every time on the show. The question is, because the show is called That Sounds Fun, tell me what sounds fun to you?

Porsha: You know what? It sounds fun to come back to the show, number one. I will definitely be back.

Annie: Yes.

Porsha: And what also sounds fun is just enjoying life every single minute. I've got a toddler and when I tell you I try to just soak up every second and that sounds fun to me.

Annie: Oh, that's amazing, lovely answer. Merry Christmas to you and your people.

Porsha: Same to you Happy Holidays to you and your family too, eat everything.

Annie: Eat everything, eat everything, that's right.

[00:39:00] <Music>

Annie: Oh, you guys don't you love her? Isn't she the best? I mean, she brought it. I mean, I've loved her from a distance for years, we all have, Real Housewives of

Atlanta. But this was awesome, just amazing. You want to check out her book, again, it is called *The Pursuit of Porsha*. Go follow Porsha tell her thanks for being on the show.

If you need anything else from me, you know I'm embarrassingly easy to find, especially right now, you can find me every day. I'm Annie F. Downs on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), all the places you may need me that's how you can find me. And I think that's it from me today, friends, go out or stay home and do something that sounds fun to you, I'll do the same.

Today, what sounds fun to me is I would like some Thai food for dinner, that sounds fun to me. Y'all have a great day. We'll see you back here tomorrow, on Saturday, yeah, on Saturday for day three of the 12 days of Christmas with an amazing decorator, Keatyn Klaus, y'all are going to love this we'll see y'all tomorrow.

[00:39:57] <Music>

Michael S.: Hey everybody, I'm Michael W. Smith, author of *The Way of The Father*. And my favorite Christmas song is which is really hard, "Oh, Holy Night".

Shane E.: Hey, Shane, here.

Shane B.: And Shane. Check out our new record *Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs*. Yeah, and if you like Christmas music, "Oh, Holy Night" is the jam. It is my favorite of all time.

Shane E.: It's the jam.

Annie: Y'all have the same favorite Christmas song?

Shane and Shane: Yeah, "Oh, Holy Night" Yeah.

Annie: That works out great, I guess for performing it, huh? There you go.

Danny: Hey, what's up guys. My name is Danny Gokey and my favorite Christmas song is, "Mary Did You Know."

[00:40:45] <Music>