



Sanlo Together- our very own podcast

Chris Wu, one of our elders, just wrapped up Season 1 of our very first podcast entitled usanLo Together." Since Chris hosts and asks the guests questions on the show, I (Jessica Pham) thought it'd be fun to turn the tables and be the one to ask him questions about the podcast. So here we go! {I had to abbreviate the conversation to fit into the allotted space.)

JP: Thanks for doing this Chris! /love podcasts especially since I don't have a lot of time to just sit and read or watch things. But perhaps not all of our readers even know what a podcast is. Can you explain what a podcast is?

CW: Yeah! So I think the easiest parallel is a radio program, especially if you're used to National Public Radio style stuff. But it's something you can listen to at your own pace, in your own time. Most podcasts have a host who welcomes in guests of various kinds to talk about a theme or hobby or story.

JP: How did you come up with the idea of a SanLo podcast?

CW: So the story is that I was talking with Pastor Josh after service a few months into the pandemic and was thinking out loud about a lot of things. The podcast was an idea I had been thinking about for a couple of months since I already liked listening to podcasts. They're a good forum to connect with people, teach and interact and it sort of made sense

to me as something that might be worth trying. The experiences, skill sets I was learning in seminary (e.g. asking good questions, delving deep into ideas/topics) and equipment I already had made me think we could do this. So I brought the idea before the board and they said, "Yeah, let's go for it!" Pastor Josh had already suggested using the hashtag #SanloTogether for announcements, e-mails and social media so when we were thinking about the show and it made sense to make the title and theme be "Sanlo Together." Things really came together after that. For example, I wanted to get good music and was shocked that Jenny and Tyler [professional musicians- you can google "Jenny & Tyler" and their music and videos will come up] were open to partnering with us to use their work. I thought it was a long shot just reaching out to them, but they were so friendly and great to work with. It blew me away and gave me a sense God was opening doors.

JP: Wow, that really is amazing! What has been some of your favorite parts of doing this podcast?

CW: Learning things about people that I had no idea about and quite honestly I never would've had a great excuse to know. People might see me leading worship or preaching and think I'm outgoing and that it's easy for me to have a conversation. But in real life I don't know how to broach conversations. I can be shy and sort of socially awkward. But on the podcast it's amazing because I can

ask personal questions and the guests are more comfortable talking about things in that setting. On the one hand, it's a casual conversation where it's just me and you talking. But on the other hand, there is an opportunity where I can produce it so folks have some confidence I won't embarrass them. But yeah, for sure the number one thing I love about the podcast is learning things about other people and getting to see a glimpse into their journey. I feel like I've learned things that they don't even necessarily share when they present their testimony in person. It's more interactive so I have the opportunity to ask questions and have some back and forth.

JP: Yeah, I know what you mean. I was personally surprised by Jeff's story. Normally you don't get to hear those kinds of things unless they're giving their testimony or you are at a memorial service.

CW: One hundred percent! There was so much to Jeff [Kataoka]'s story that I just did not know at all. Even though I spend all these hours in meetings with him, I just never knew his story. When would that opportunity have ever come up to ask him? There isn't really a natural time to dive into that stuff. It gave me such an appreciation - not that I didn't appreciate him before - but it gave me more of an appreciation for what God's brought him through to make him the person he is today. [To listen to Jeff's story, it aired on February 10, episode 10.]

JP: So I think our listeners want to know why there is a season finale/break?

CW: So that I can sleep! [Laughs] Honestly, I had no idea how this was going to go when we started. We decided 12 episodes on an every other week basis for the first season was a good modest goal, just to kind of try it out. I was tempted to keep the season going, but it's good to take a break to have some time to gather thoughts about what worked well and what didn't. It's also good to think about what is most beneficial for people and how this could grow. A lot of the the first season was getting to know the leaders. We heard little blips outside of that circle and I want to see more of that, but it's

going to take a little bit of time to think about the topics and to regroup and plan. Also, for now, it's a little too much of a one man show and I know there are lots of talented people out there that could help in producing, promoting, organizing the schedule, organizing the guests, etc. I just need some time to think and get that going.

JP: That makes sense. OK, last question! What do you hope for the future of the podcast and/or our community?

CW: Oh man, I don't want to make any promises! [Laughs] Very honestly, as cheesy as it sounds, I just want this to be another outlet for us to be able to walk together and grow together. Whatever ways we can do that through this, I'm all for it. Sometime down the line when we can all meet together in person it would be great to do a live recording for an episode, which would just be a lot of fun. I also want to keep touching on difficult subjects. I said earlier that it's nice to have an excuse to talk about things that are difficult and that's a great plus for the podcast format. I hope people saw a little bit of that in the first season. Topics such as sex, policing (briefly), race, and other things that are awkward to talk about in every day conversation came up. I think it's our job as a church to work through those hard things, not because we have some specific agenda, but because that's a natural part of what it means to walk and grow together. The podcast is a great avenue for that.



You can access SanLo Together on any computer or device and on any platform (Apple podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, etc.) you normally access podcasts.
<https://anchor.fm/sanlo-together>

Grow SanLo and Reopening Updates

The Elders and staff feel deeply humbled by your giving, especially during these challenging days. We have reached a significant point in our Grow SanLo campaign at 85% of our goal, and we have received the pre-approval for a building loan.

Please be in prayer as the Elders discern the next major steps forward and the timing of those steps.



We also recognize that you may have your own financial hardship during this trying time, so please do not feel obligated to give, and if you need assistance, please let us know as we have a crisis fund to serve those in need. **Thank you again for your faithful giving as we seek to be a gospel community of growth for every generation!**

COVID-19 Update: General Reopening - Safety First!



The Elders are excited that we began **general reopening in April**. We are limited to only 40 seats at a time while adhering to proper social distancing and mandatory mask wearing.

We will continue our online service in order to ensure that everyone can worship the Lord and hear the Word of God preached. We want you to know that we have vigilantly taken the necessary precautions to reopen, and we are

providing a meaningful worship and fellowship experience.

Please look for the worship registration on Monday mornings in the church email in order to sign up and to worship for the coming Sunday.

We can't wait to see you in person and worship the Lord together!

In His Care,
Pastor Eric on behalf of the Elders

Special Thanks!!

Thank you to our Mask Ministry team for making a second round of masks for our school teachers and students. The masks are greatly loved!

Thank you also to the anonymous donor who provided a more secure fence for our church property. It's greatly appreciated!

Pastor Eric on Sabbatical

We are thankful to belong to a church conference that cares about the spiritual, mental and physical health of our pastors. They mandate a two-month sabbatical every five years for each pastor. Due to the pandemic, Pastor Eric delayed his sabbatical by almost a year and is now taking it from April 21st - June 21st. Pastor Brian will take the lead during this time.

Sermon Series



We will continue in, and wrap up, our study of *Daniel: Uncompromising Faith* for the rest of the month.

05/02/21 (Pastor Brian)
Daniel 8 - A Vision of Ram and Goat

05/09/21 (Pastor Scott)
Daniel 9 - Daniel's Prayer

05/16/21 (Pastor Josh)
Daniel 10 - A Heavenly Conflict

05/23/21 (Pastor Brian)
Daniel 11 - A Vision of Earthly Conflicts

05/30/21 (Guest speaker: Greg Ng)
Daniel 12 - Looking to the End