

Engage360 | 2 - Meet the Provost: Dr. Lynn Cohick

Introduction: Welcome to Engage360, Denver Seminary's podcast. Join us as we explore the redemptive power of the gospel and the life-changing truth of Scripture at work in our culture today.

Dr. Don Payne: Hi, I'm Don Payne. I'm glad to be your host for Engage360. We are here to probe around for what it looks like to engage our culture, and engage the needs of the world with the redemptive power of the gospel and the life-changing truth of Scripture, and then let that mess with us in all the best kinds of ways. So our guest this week, I'm really excited about, but I'm going to first give you a pop quiz. When I was in school I hated, hated, hated pop quizzes. So now I'm going to give one. So here for you listeners, this is the pop quiz. What do the following have in common? The country of Kenya, early Christian literature from the Greco Roman period, and the sweatshirt that a guy at my gym constantly wears, that says black and gold till I'm dead and cold. What did those four things have in common? The country of Kenya, horses, early Christian literature from the Greco Roman period, and the guy at the gym who wears the sweatshirt, black and gold till I'm dead and cold. What they have in common, here's the answer, is the affections of our guest this week, who is our provost and dean, Dr. Lynn Cohick. And I've learned that, that for her common affections for those four things, she's almost easily manipulated because if you're ever in a serious conversation and you want to derail or just bring up any one of those four things, and it'll be just like putting a quarter in a machine and you get exactly the reaction she wants. So at some point in our conversation, I want her to tell me whether she's ever administered a doctoral defense, and somebody has been shrewd enough to notice about her and derail the conversation with one of these. But anyway, Dr. Lynn Cohick our provost and dean, welcome Lynn to the podcast.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Well, thank you for that I think, that introduction, but it's, it's true. Don. Yup. We lived in Kenya for three years and loved it. It is the case that I love horses, grew up with horses. My children and I went riding for most of their junior high and high school years. So I absolutely love that. I grew up riding horses as well and, yeah, I was born in Pittsburgh and you know what, that, that not everybody can be. And I know you're someone that wasn't born in Pittsburgh and I just feel bad for you.

Dr. Don Payne: I know you feel bad for me.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: For that and other reasons but.

Dr. Don Payne: There's plenty of material for you to feel bad for me about.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: That's right. But you know what, I am super excited to be here. I'm in the Don and Rob sound booth. Just try to paint the picture here a little bit for people. We're in a dark black, I don't know. What are these like, little panels of stick tiles, acoustic tiles. There you go.

Dr. Don Payne: You have to have the technical language for all this, like I do, being a professional, you know.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Well, clearly, clearly. And the reason I know you're professional is that I can't see the duct tape that is holding all this together cause I think that's on the side is that right?

Dr. Don Payne: It is, but only a professional would be able to hide the duct tape. With which, I put this together.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: There you go. And there's no ceiling on this, perhaps because of the hot air that is generated in this small room.

Dr. Don Payne: Okay. You can just pump the brakes now.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: So glad to have this conversation.

Dr. Don Payne: Well, welcome to the podcast again, I think. No truly, we were glad. Really glad to have Lynn visit with us this week. Let me tell you a little bit more about her, Lynn has a BA from Messiah College, PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. Is currently the president of the Institute for Biblical Research, did I get that right? The IBR.

Dr. Don Payne: The IBR yes.

Dr. Don Payne: After that, was a professor for what, about 18 years, 16 years? A professor of New Testament at Wheaton College, came here from Wheaton College, has also taught at Messiah College. And then as she alluded to, in Kenya, what is now Africa International University. We have some common friends there and stayed there for, I think three years. Lynn is the author of quite a number of books, author and coauthor of several books. I'll tell you a few of them. She's authored *Women in the World of the Earliest Christians*, commentaries on Ephesians and Philippians, I mentioned several coauthored works. And my favorite title is *The Peri Pascha Attributed to Melito of Sardis*. That had to be a seller.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Oh yeah. It kind of, you know, I just, I try not to brag.

Dr. Don Payne: Was that your dissertation?

Dr. Lynn Cohick: It was actually my dissertation. Yes. And okay, so here's a fun fact and just really, really awesome. So Brown Judaic Studies -

Dr. Don Payne: I'll be the judge of that, but go ahead.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: No, I am pleading with the listeners right now just straight over, straight over you to them. So they are digitizing some of the Brown Judaic Studies, which is the series that this is in. And I got the nicest email two days ago from the fellow who is doing that. And he just indicated how much he's enjoying reading that. I just can't tell you how great that made me feel, because most of us, we get the dissertation done and we think, if I never see it again, that would be too soon.

Dr. Don Payne: That would be many good days.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yes.

Dr. Don Payne: Every day I don't have to look at it, is a really good day.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah. One of the things that I did in the dissertation that he pointed out in the, in this little note was that I looked at how Jews and Christians, tried to work things out or not, and how the early Christians in the second century thought about themselves, and kind of argued with themselves and sometimes used tropes from the Old Testament to kind of describe each other in negative terms. Kind of like today, sometimes an intra Christian argument we might call each other Pharisees, you know, well, it's actually a Jewish, describes a Jewish sect from the first century, but we're actually not talking about that at all. We're talking about our current day interlockers that we don't like and, and that I think has been going on for a long time. So any way that shows for a long, long time, I've been interested in how early Christians have related to each other.

Dr. Don Payne: Okay. And you just proved my point that all I have to do is say something about early Christian literature and off you go.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah. Galloping, galloping, yes.

Dr. Don Payne: Galloping, Yup. Yeah. Everything is going to come back to those four things. Wow. So you have moved from a career as a teacher scholar in academia, and that arena of academia into the role a little over a year ago of provost and dean. So what exactly does a provost and dean do, or restated, what goes on in that big office of yours?

Dr. Lynn Cohick: My big office that periodically you're called to.

Dr. Don Payne: Yeah, that office. The same.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: That has a window. I have a window, so that's, that's awesome. Yeah, the, I think my life is a series of meetings which, can sound awful until you think about, well, what are the meetings for? And it's the content of those meetings that makes my job really enjoyable. I get to work with great faculty, your self included.

Dr. Don Payne: Yeah. You have to say that now.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Cause I mean it, I'm sincere. I'm authentic. That's what Steeler fans are.

Dr. Don Payne: Oh, yeah, I've always known that to be true.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Exactly. Anyway. But looking at how to best create a curriculum that's dynamic and of excellent quality delivered well and then how to, how to allow colleagues and faculty to thrive, to push themselves in good ways in exploring their scholarship in their pedagogy. So a lot of my meetings are, revolve around that and it's just another aspect of the whole college seminary scene that I've been a part of for a long, long time.

Dr. Don Payne: Okay. In a very rare, serious moment for me. I genuinely do appreciate that. That is a great perspective audience. Now I'm done.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah. Okay. Back to the -

Dr. Don Payne: If we can roll the clock back a bit, tell us a bit about your growth into a vocation as a scholar. How did that, how did that happen and, how did you come to realize that's what you wanted to be?

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah, I think when I came to know the Lord in eighth or ninth grade, really fell in love with reading Scripture. And I also loved history. I loved reading. I think I always wanted to be a teacher. My parents say, you know, I, I'm the oldest of three and so I kind of, I had ready subjects for students.

Dr. Don Payne: You're a first born?

Dr. Lynn Cohick: I am a first born, yeah doesn't that answer everything.

Dr. Don Payne: That, well because I am as well. Yes, it says a lot.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah, chips are falling into place.

Dr. Don Payne: Yes, they are.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: But anyway, the, so I've, I love the idea of teaching. And, at first when I was in college, I was in an early childhood education degree until I worked with children. Let's just say the world is a better place because I shipped out of that. I am not, my hat is off to all those who live in that world, but it really, it was not mine. So I decided, let me, let me go a little bit older and think about college. So I went on to get my PhD so that I could teach in college and my degree in New Testament and Early Christian Studies is trying to get at that social world, that cultural world of early Judaism and the Greco Roman period. So that's, that's what I've really enjoyed. But it, while I was doing my dissertation, you know, I was so focused on very specific kinds of questions like everyone is in the

dissertation, but it wasn't until a couple of years after I finished the dissertation that I really began thinking about what is scholarship. Because I kind of had thought, look, I just got to get through this hoop of getting the dissertation done and then I'll be able to teach. And that's all there is. And it was being in a, a group of colleagues that I had at Wheaton College, but certainly you would find it here as well, that just encouraged me to take some risks and pursue writing with more diligence. So kind of develop a, if you will, a theology of scholarship that, that looked at what, what you did as being obedient to God, pursuing the kinds of questions with carefulness and rigor that God was asking you to do and take the risks of putting those ideas out there for others to interact with.

Dr. Don Payne: So along the way in your development as a scholar and a professor, what were some of the biggest challenges you had to overcome, and maybe alongside that, some of your defining moments?

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah, I think one of the defining moments, when I was working with some colleagues on projects, was in my trying to get a rhythm or trying to develop my own writing style. Everybody has their own way of writing. It's very individualistic, I think in terms of how, how you can maintain a pace of writing and your confidence in writing. And I remember kind of hitting a low point and one of my colleagues saying to me as they read, read what was clearly substandard work. And they said, you know, I don't hear Lynn in this. And wow, that was stunning to me. And I thought, yeah, you know what, I need to know what I want to say and then I need to put that down. And it may take me a little while to do that. So don't worry about producing things fast, worry about what Lynn wants to say. Later when I was doing something for IBR, they have them at the annual meeting, at the Institute of local research, they have this public presentation, kind of like, they model it kind of like a Ted talk. And as I was developing that, I was like nervous, you know, as you have to memorize, you know, 17 minutes what you're going to say and all of that. So I was working with a theater prof at Wheaton about that and he said something very similar to me about, you have something to say, which I don't always feel that I do, but there are times I think when, and this gets back to theology of scholarship, right? Where in obedience the Lord provides opportunities and then you just kind of have to step up. And, and for me it was really helpful to have certain colleagues say at these key moments you have something to say, you, you know, what are your thoughts? That was really helpful.

Dr. Don Payne: Tell us about some of your current writing projects.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Just finished a draft for an Ephesians Commentary with the NICNT Commentary Series. And so that, that'll be returned to me with presumably lots of red ink.

Dr. Don Payne: Oh, by the way on that, I assume, because you already have an Ephesians Commentary out there.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: That's right. New Covenant Commentary.

Dr. Don Payne: And you may not know this, but I have referenced you and quoted you in a manuscript I just submitted. So you better not have changed your mind on anything.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: No, I never changed my mind. That's part of scholarship right? Once in time.

Dr. Don Payne: You never back, never say you're wrong.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Or at least not this week. That's right. That's the beauty of scholarship, right? You can just keep going back and rethinking things and seeing things from a different angle. And I love, the scholarship community where you just get to try ideas and see how they work.

Dr. Don Payne: Then take shots at each other.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah. Sometimes. Sometimes that happens. It does. And you know, it'll, it'll come back to haunt you. I think if you end up really swinging hard, most of the time people I think are gracious, in their comments, even if they strongly disagree, they keep to the issues and that's really helpful.

Dr. Don Payne: You're right, that is the case, most of the time.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Most of the time.

Dr. Don Payne: Yeah. But I interrupted you, go ahead and go with the other works that you're working. You're writing.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah. There's another work that I just finished, it'll be coming out soon in the second edition of *Faces of New Testament Studies*, although it's going to be titled *The State of New Testament Studies*, and that's coming out soon. And the chapter that I was invited to contribute, dealt with the work of women in the last several decades in New Testament studies. It's a new chapter. So that kind of tells you something from 15 or so years ago when the book was first put together, there really wasn't, that wasn't on the radar. But it was so fun to write that chapter because it was kind of like my history also when I started in, at Penn, it was in the early eighties, and that's when things were really starting to generate some energy. And so I've tracked my scholarly career, my teaching career has paralleled the development of feminist studies, study of women in this in historical periods. And yeah. So at that was really fun to just give the history of where we've been these last couple of decades.

Dr. Don Payne: Well, on that note it makes you look at the history more, I suppose the recent, but maybe also less recent history of women and scholarship. What encouraged you? I know, I know there are, and that's not to the mask or ignore the many challenges that still exist, but what encourages you?

Dr. Lynn Cohick: What encourages me, I think are even this sort of endeavor that we're doing now as a podcast or the online venue because it is a kind of an unregulated medium that allows women to speak directly and not go through a series of like peer reviews, sorts of things. My name is Lynn. It has no E on it. And so sometimes if you just see that in print, you could think I'm a man. I'm grateful that when people meet me, they don't make that assumption but that's for another day. That topic. I could see you laughing here. Dying to bring that up. But we are, you're going to pass.

Dr. Don Payne: I'm holding my tongue.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: There you go. Yes, exactly. Well, I think at times, being confused for a man in this field has provided me with opportunities. Another, New Testament scholar, AJ Levine, she is at Vanderbilt and her name is Amy Jill. And when she and her classmates were going through their PhD, the male classmates were getting published all over the place. She'd send in her articles and they wouldn't get, wouldn't get published. So someone mentioned her, just use your initials. And almost instantly her stuff became published. So yeah, now, you know, that's a couple new, newer younger women's scholars aren't necessarily facing those sorts of things. And so I'm grateful for that. I'm seeing that change. But I also think there's just a democratization of information that is available now with new technology. And so we're more used to women's voices. And I have to say something as, I don't know, seemingly innocent as like the title nine sorts of things, or is it, I forget now what it is, but when for women's sports in high school, where you, you have, boys and girls growing up, and young boys just kind of assuming now that certain girls, if they're interested in it, will become athletes. And so women are doing things that in the past just were what boys and then young men did. And that I think is, it just changes the landscape. It expands the imagination of what is okay for women and men to do. And so I think that, that's a good trajectory.

Dr. Don Payne: That's, that's very interesting. And you triggered a thought from my own upbringing. I never realized that we never, even though we did have girls basketball, I never even realized that we did not even think that the girls would become athletes.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Right. Because they often didn't. Nope. That's right.

Dr. Don Payne: Well, yeah, in many cases they did not. And could be why we didn't think that, but that never occurred to me. Thanks for bringing that up.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: But you know, you mentioned horses at the beginning and I, yeah. Well, and that's a great equalizer, right? That is great equalizer. So is like having fighter jets for example, that once, once brute strength is not the key factor in whatever you're doing, that really allows men and women participate equally. So, the equestrian team, the Olympic equestrian team is made up of women and men. And I think that is the only sport where women and men compete equally because their, the strength factor really isn't a factor there, it's the horse

that's doing everything. And it's all about, I mean, you have to stay on the horse, but that doesn't really require the brute strength, the way basketball or football, something like that where size and strengths would, would matter. And you know, parenthetically here, I think one of the ways that women's sports is going to play a key role in the future of our discussions is in establishing, and this for Christian, as a Christian I'm very concerned about this, that we continue to maintain the goodness of male and female as God created male and female and not erase that. And in our current culture where we have gender identity that is chosen. And one of the ways this is coming up is in the transgender conversation. And you have young boys or young boys. I mean, I'm revealing my age here. This is boys that are in high school, who are transitioning to be girls, but they've already gone into puberty. And so in certain States, for example, you have these transgender women who have had two or three years of testosterone as boys, who are just winning all the races in their track meets. And so now you have girls through.

Dr. Don Payne: Yeah, I saw something online this morning, how controversial that very sort of thing is.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: That's right. That's right. And, and it, it highlights, I think in a, in a way the point that I was earlier making about how important women's sports are for women to, for at least some women, to develop who and what they want to be and gain confidence. Sports, we know, gains helps you gain confidence in the rest of your life. So I don't know what's going to happen. Maybe they'll have, a category of transgender that can compete with each other. And so the, quote unquote, playing field would be level and maybe that would be a good way forward. But I think that that conversation is raising good questions for our broader secular culture to ask about what it means to be male and female.

Dr. Don Payne: Well, and that's going to be something we'll have to increasingly tackle as a Christian community. Particularly as we try to think faithfully and redemptively about that. What does it mean to engage a world like that? That is, that is in fact a very, very new and different world.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: That's right.

Dr. Don Payne: Let me run the clock back forward again after a really illustrious career in scholarship. And it was.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Oh, that's so nice.

Dr. Don Payne: You don't have to roll your eyes. Well, it's probably the last nice thing I'll say today, but I had to get it under the, get it behind me.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Thank you. That's right.

Dr. Don Payne: I got it behind me now.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Okay, good.

Dr. Don Payne: You transitioned into administrative, administration and what made you want to do that? Other than you knew you'd have the opportunity to be on this Podcast, but other than that.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: You know, and actually I didn't know that. It's one of those graces that God gives, you know, each and every day.

Dr. Don Payne: Serendipity.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Exactly, exactly. Well, yes. And as a Methodist, as an Armenian, I can say it's serendipitous, but I think our, you know, our reformed friends might, you know, say, hey, this was, it was going to happen. Whether I want it to or not. Okay. Yeah. Well, I think part of my answer is that I still want to keep my hand in. I really enjoy research and writing. I like the, quiet space that I have control over. Not that the rest of my week is out of control, but when you deal with faculty, Don, you know, it's, yeah, unpredictable. So I actually, and I, and I like staying abreast of the conversations as much as I can. So the, perhaps the amount that I do or the size of the projects will be smaller, but I hope to continue doing that and I'd like to be able to continue to teach, even if it's an intensive in the summer to keep my hand in there because I enjoy both of those, both of those things. But becoming a provost/dean has, just, it's different challenges. It helps me think differently about this enterprise that I've been doing for the last two decades.

Dr. Don Payne: How so? Follow up on that one will you? How are you thinking differently about it?

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah. How, did it come that I shifted to the dark side as I like to [inaudible] stuff?

Dr. Don Payne: Those are your words, not mine.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: I know, it's words that I thought, you know, five or seven years ago, like how could somebody do this? I think the, it's because I kind of wanted to engage at a strategic thinking level, at how this operation is done. And so I think being on a leadership team that thinks about the whole package of an institution like a Seminary and how it delivers, I've learned a lot about what it means to be a registrar. How does a library function? And of course, as a faculty member, I engaged a bit with those areas, but I, I'd never had direct responsibility with them. And so it's, it's been fun to see different angles of the educational enterprise.

Dr. Don Payne: Okay. So you're coming from primarily an undergraduate environment into graduate environment, a seminary, lots of common ground, some distinctives as well. But as you've kind of acclimated to this, not only seminary culture, but this

seminary culture at Denver Seminary and our mission. Speaking from both of your experiences as a Christian, your experience as a scholar and a teacher, and as an administrator and provost, what counsel do you give to those who are in seminary or considering seminary for what it is like to live and think redemptively via seminary education. I'm not saying very well, but how does seminary education help us live redemptively and help us keep our hearts alive to God?

Dr. Lynn Cohick:

Yeah. Yeah. I think the, you know, I love education, that's been my life. But I think it's, what I love about education is how it can expand our imagination. And I don't mean imagination in like a Sci-Fi kind of way or fantasy kind of way. I think of it more as broadening what it means to be human and an understanding other humans, how other humans have organized themselves and culture what they think is important and how I might better than be a human made in the image of God. And use God's gifting of me to further, his glory and his work. So I see a Seminary, it is an institution, but it is also a community, a learning community. Back several hundred years, learning communities were monasteries, nunneries, where men and women committed to study and worship, hand in glove that there wasn't a distinction. Today I think Denver Seminary tries to capture at least the ethos of that ancient way of learning that connects deeply one's life of faithful service, whatever, that whatever those details are with the broad questions that Christians and others have been asking about, who is God, what is a good life? How do I help my fellow humans? Those are the kinds of questions that Denver Seminary is asking as well. That's what undergirds what we do, right? And so learning Greek or Hebrew is not an end in itself, but it's a way to become proficient in reading word. And studying God's word and theological ideas is not so that we can master the text or master our opponent, but rather so that we have tools to be able to engage more deeply with the questions that the world has. And also for our own holiness, right. That we would be more faithfully representative of this good news of the gospel.

Dr. Don Payne:

So as a second part of that convoluted question, as a scholar and as a career scholar, how have you kept your own heart alive to God in the tedium of academic research about the faith?

Dr. Lynn Cohick:

In my own personal experience is that writing is very humbling. That is, I have appreciated my colleagues. I usually show my colleagues, I have a couple who I rely on to take a look at a draft and offer me suggestions, they do so with great kindness. So that's very helpful. But I think that the, it hasn't, scholarship for me has been a struggle in terms of being, you know, trying to do it well and then getting feedback that indicates there's still more to do. And so I think from that standpoint, there's been, it's been humbling. Secondly, I would say that I try to think about, this is an act of obedience to God first and foremost. So sometimes if I'm just struggling with something, how to either express it or what angle to take on something, to just pause and say, Lord, you know, all the time that you give me is your gift. Help me to use it wisely. And, may this be used for your glory. So if my scholarship is in obedience to God, then it all will matter because

he will use in some way in his time. When I finished my dissertation, that was in '96, right after that, we went to Kenya. And I like to say that, although we were not at the edge of the world, you could see the edges of the world from where we were outside of Nairobi and it, it did not play to either my strengths or my husband's natural strengths. We felt like we were in perpetual camping mode and we are not campers, to us as you know, holiday with the black and white TV.

Dr. Don Payne: Or the black and gold TV, as the case may be.

New Speaker: Well there you go. Nicely done. Nice slip right in there. Yeah. Thank you. And so the, so God called us to go over there and I hadn't at that point, known whether I would be teaching at NEGST at that time, Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology, which is now AIU. And so I remember thinking, wow, Lord, I have spent years, years and years and years trying to get the PhD finished. I finally have it done. I'm ready now to kind of go out and say, here I am world. Hire me and you're taking me to the edge of the world where there are no teaching opportunities. There's no worldwide web that I can clue in on to write. I know that I missed at least one writing opportunity because nobody could find me. And they were doing a collection of essays and you know, later I learned about it and they're like, Oh yeah, well, we just know where you were. And, you know, but I realized when I was writing the, when I was working on the dissertation, I kept saying to God, this is yours to use as you wish. I hadn't realized that, like you putting it in the closet or what it felt like to me like to put it on a shelf. And in point of fact, he hadn't, he did open up doors once we, once we arrived in Kenya, but I needed to be able to say to him, this truly is all yours. And, you know, the Lord is so gracious. He provided opportunities that I never would have imagined. And for all of us, you know, we are being shaped into the image of the son, our Lord Jesus, for which we're all so grateful. And so that, that was a good learning experience for me about just, you know, how to hold this idea of scholarship. I think you hold it lightly, but with all seriousness too, as you are working for the Lord.

Dr. Don Payne: I really appreciate the way you said that. Partially because that is almost identical to some of the prayers that I prayed when I was finishing my own word. And it has been uncanny how you just hold it up to the Lord and this, this is yours. You gave me the opportunity to do this. I have no clue what you're going to do with it, but just please do something with it. And then it's a quite an adventure to see what the Lord does in fact, turn those things into.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Amen. Yup.

Dr. Don Payne: Okay. So if you were not doing what you're doing, which you clearly love.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: I do love. Yes.

Dr. Don Payne: If you could, if you were doing anything else, what would you be doing? Would you be like a forest ranger or a - ?

Dr. Lynn Cohick: No camping.

Dr. Don Payne: No camping. Okay. What would you do?

Dr. Lynn Cohick: I think I would have a horse farm.

Dr. Don Payne: I was going to bet that it was in the equestrian wheelhouse somewhere.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah, I think that's what I would do.

Dr. Don Payne: A horse farm, okay.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah. But I love what I'm doing now. I wish there were more hours in the day and that I didn't tier so quickly. But other than that, very good.

Dr. Don Payne: All right, last question. And this is a test.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: So long as there's no math, we're okay.

Dr. Don Payne: No, I don't think there's any math for this.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: That's fine then. Go ahead.

Dr. Don Payne: Do you know how to drive a stick shift?

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Oh, absolutely. Not only that, but I know how to drive a British made car Stick-shift.

Dr. Don Payne: You can drive left-handed stick?

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Oh yes, I did for three years in Kenya. Oh yeah. Land Rover Discovery. Oh yeah. Well, Mm-hm.

Dr. Don Payne: Well, the reason I ask and the reason that was a test is because I've always suspected, not always. I've suspected for some time now that you deep down want to drive my old Toyota pickup, the Frankentruck. But we're just, I mean, I've never known you to lack courage.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: That's true.

Dr. Don Payne: But I was, I suspected you were probably afraid to ask, but really want to drive my truck and, but I had to know if you know how to drive stick first.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Well, I absolutely do. I learned on a column, Hey, wait a minute. I grew up on a farm, right? I learned on a column, and here's how it happened. My dad needed to take one of the other cars to the dealer to get it repaired. That dealer was about 40 minutes away, including some driving on the turnpike, I'm from Pennsylvania.

Dr. Don Payne: Yeah, you made not of that.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: I'm from Pennsylvania. So anyway, so he, we had a little lane near where we lived and we were out. This is what I remember anyway for about 10 minutes, as he showed me, here's how you shift, here's how you shift. And I don't know, I was like 16 or 17. I mean, I was legally able to drive, you know. There were times when I was driving on the farm before, but just driving on farm land, you know, 14, 15. So I had driven trucks before but not column sticks. So, as I remember it was, we finished, which was a victory. However, I think I stalled at all five of the red lights. Left quite a bit of tread. I could be, but you know what, I got there and that's, that's sort of my, that could be my life story.

Dr. Don Payne: Is that a metaphor for your entire life.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: She stalls but, and leaves a lot of tread. But you know, when she gets to the next one.

Dr. Don Payne: She got there.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: That's it. Yup. There you go.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Thank you for painting my life so beautifully, Don.

Dr. Don Payne: Well, you're welcome.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: And for like the public too. Thank you. Yeah.

Dr. Don Payne: Well yeah.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: And then I do want to drive the Franken truck. I have had a chance to drive in your little Miata. You picked me up.

Dr. Don Payne: Yeah, but you know, sports cars are a dime a dozen.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Well and your gym bag was on my lap, for that distance. And I have to say that was.

Dr. Don Payne: This is a story that probably needs explanation from another, at another time.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah, I had to park the car further away than the parking lot. And then you drove by and very nicely let me drive in your little sports car. But since it was

either putting me on the roof or your gym bag on the roof, I nicely said go ahead put it on my lap. Yeah.

Dr. Don Payne: Yeah. That would've been some fun.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Well, but you were a good Samaritan. You were good Samaritan and not speeding by me and waving like, see you later.

Dr. Don Payne: Well, but you know when it's your boss, what are you going to do?

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Some strategic thinking there, some strategic kindness.

Dr. Don Payne: I'm not getting any moral points for that. Okay. But what really needs to be on your bucket list is the Frankentruck. Dude, the sports cars are everywhere.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Oh, okay.

Dr. Don Payne: Yeah. So yeah.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Well you know what, whenever you're ready. I am like, totally ready.

Dr. Don Payne: Okay. All right. Well we've been visiting with a one in a long line of people from Pennsylvania who have run my life, including my previous boss and my wife. And so I'm learning too after, that has been a 40 year run now. And I'm learning to appreciate many of the things that come from that fine state.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah. But grudge.

Dr. Don Payne: Except. Well, you know, grudgingly or not appreciation is appreciation.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: Yeah. That's true.

Dr. Don Payne: There are sports teams still, you know, I'm still, that's another question. That's another question.

Dr. Lynn Cohick: You've got to just move on.

Dr. Don Payne: That's another question. Okay. This has been Engage360. I'm Don Payne, and we thank you for listening. We hope you'll check us out for another conversation next week. Take care.