

Kirt Jacobs: Welcome to MoxieTalk with Kirt Jacobs. This is an archived edition when our program was called Leadership Landscape TV.

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Kirt Jacobs: Welcome to a new partnership between Metro T.V. And Y-Pal the young professional association of Louisville called Leadership Landscape where we go inside the minds of local community leaders and allow them a chance to offer some keen insights into how they see themselves and most importantly explore just what makes them tick. I'm Kirt Jacobs a current Y-Pal board member and today our guest is Christopher 2X. For those of you who don't know of Christopher 2X, Allow me to give you some of his bio.

Christopher 2X is the founder of the war zone, young adults for positive change, and the ceremonial healing group. Born Christopher Anthony Bryant in Jeffersonville Indiana in 1960. He was a troubled teen who never finished high school, he was convicted on cocaine trafficking he did seven years in prison but released in 1999, Bryant a Methodist, became 2X of the Nation of Islam. This new name gave this man a new direction and focus in November 2004 he received the key to the city of Louisville by Mary Abramson and today is a voice for victims of violent crime in Louisville. He does all of this receiving no pay for his services and many call this a true sacrifice. Welcome Christopher 2X to Leadership Landscape. Thank you Christopher thank you for joining us tonight you. Our first question is, what drives you to do all of this?

Christopher 2X: I would say that my gravitational pull that makes me do what I do every day is to try to understand more in depth the plight of the poor and to try to show the poor that their infrastructure is not going to actually change overnight. But if they can change that impoverished mindset that

they've been accustomed to there well on their way to a new lifestyle change like I started to feel want to change and that can a man.

Kirt Jacobs: Who do you credit most influential in your life if you had to name one person who could be more than one?

Christopher 2X: I pondered over there and I thought there were many influences in my life who added to my lifestyle change and not only that early on influence that actually helped me see artificial life. So I would say there are influences too. But as I thought about it I said more and more and I had to look real deep into the into wish myself and I said my father has to be the most powerful influence in my life and I know him better because he died August 1998 he died of lung cancer and as I reflect on the life that we had together in the interaction and the dialogue. He is the most powerful influence in my life because he always talked about positive change every conversation I had with him.

Kirt Jacobs: What do you feel was the most defining moment of your life?

Christopher 2X: I would absolutely have to say to the present point September 29, 2004 was the night that the McKinsey Manley verdict came in. And the reason I point to that situation is, is that was my new birth into community involvement at another level. And I felt I had to make a quick and defining decision that night how I treated that verdict and how I would convey a message in behalf of the young people who were enraged with that verdict and how I had to deal with people within the judicial system and how I had to understand that verdict couldn't tear the city apart and how could I be a part of the mending process to show that sometimes when these verdicts come in where we may be on the losing side but we can't lose our sanity and we can be overcome with enraged emotions. We have to learn how to master those motions so it was my defining moment.

Kirt Jacobs: You know it was an interesting evening in Louisville.

Christopher 2X: Absolutely.

Kirt Jacobs: That September evening. What is your biggest professional regret in other words is there something you would have done differently?

Christopher 2X: I think that night again I'm a go back to that verdict. I had a clear cut decision I had to make once I came out of the judicial center and those young ones came upon that judicial center. To try to show that they were unhappy with that verdict and they were ready to act in the way of violence. An act in a way that this could cause more problems within a family structure because the first thing I had to think about right being and was were they up against overwhelming force if they were to act in a way and just try to do bodily harm to people that never, you know, brought any on to them I said to myself I want to use all my influence to try to change a situation. So if there's anything I could've did better that night and I thought I was blessed tonight to get those young ones to see my point of view that violence was not the way that night, not the way that day.

We had to change this whole situation on this one powerful verdict to say that yes these are some of the roughest young men and women in the city but they actually did an about face and left a courthouse and went back and assessed the situation and and to the present to the day they feel that they did the right thing and I had influence in their life so I don't see anything that I could have been different, could have did different in regards to that issue than.

Kirt Jacobs: On the flipside of that what is your biggest professional triumph?

Christopher 2X: It is still incomplete at this point and I think the trial for me so far is gaining a rapport with the most impoverished and disenfranchised people in this community. And the caring factor that they see me trying to convey to them and they give it back in the most simplistic way there's letting me know that they back me one hundred percent. In most neighborhoods I travel when I try to get them to understand why do I come to interviews like this. I try to

get them to understand why do I interact with the chief of police. Why do I interact with some Judicial Court judges lawyers people in metro council because I want to be a liaison to actually convey their pain to them but I want to do it with a new style too. I want to show the most impoverished youth. That if you come with dignity, if you come with intelligence people least at some level willing to listen to your suffering and pain and that's what I think we want to do we want to raise young leaders for positive change and that's when working so hard at that.

Kirt Jacobs: What do you find exciting out of all of your endeavors?

Christopher 2X: For me Kirt what is exciting is to let go in a clear cut way that. They have a destiny for greatness and destiny is defined as a pre-determined event. But they can change the pre-determined event by following the trap set off followed early on in life and not being a good listener. And not being one who wants to set up a mechanism within for discipline and understanding. There is powers that are in this world that you can affect through rage and anger. So what is the task at hand for me, it is to shell better minds in this young community of impoverished and disenfranchised youth that they have the ability to do great things than Christopher 2X and a lot while the individuals, but how do we get there? Do we get there by crying file every five minutes so do we work on self-improvement from within and then adults Shannon out said and then people will be willing to listen to opposition. Because it's obvious to me that. If this building was formed by a great mathematical equations. You're not going tear down by just coming down here and and huffing and puffing and blowing and trying to knock the house down. We have to do it through dialogue and if and be effective through our dialogue to effective speaking skills and we have a chance to do that I think a generation really is on the verge of doing it if they're good listen.

Kirt Jacobs: What would you consider to be your favorite word?

Christopher 2X: Healing, healing. Healing is the word for me for because there's a word I convey to most people are coming contact

with. They had this is a time of information. It's a time for young blacks especially to understand that the best plight for us in my humble opinion is through out the method of healing. How do we show those that we feel are maybe quote "suppressing us" that this is the wrong thing to be doing. We do it through healing, any good doctor goes to the operating room or operating room table and he knows that he's dealing with a chaotic situation. He's dealing with suffering and pain and he doesn't get all unraveled he goes to work on that situation and he makes that situation better. So that's the cry that I'm trying to convey to young blacks and those who are listening in government and the judicial system and in business.

Kirt Jacobs: To follow up on that can you define leadership in one word?

Christopher 2X: Leadership to me is a good listen. OK listen. And when you listen assess the situation and then convey the message in the way you feel. You feel that you're really going to be a part of the solution and not a part of the problem. That's good leadership how can you be a part of the solution to a problem. Not trying to actually aggravate the situation on making inflammatory.

Kirt Jacobs: When the great day comes Christopher 2X, How do you want to be remembered?

Christopher 2X: One thing I would love for everybody to understand about me that they feel that there's a certain skepticism that they have to you know keep all of you know from Byron and that's fine I understand all this stuff but I need to understand that my sole mission is a healing mission. I was born to do what I am what I'm doing and a little quote that I can of grabs and I'm holding on to is a quote from a Native American Indian. And it's basically about healers that talks about how healers are the example for the whole of humanity and they embody the unused potential in every one of us. So if I am to be remembered for anything I'd like to quote to be attached to it but not only that the spirit picked me and made me what I am and I think it's the best quote that I could go to my graveyard with the spirit picked him and made him.

Kirt Jacobs: Christopher 2X, Thank you the great note to end on. Thank you for being on of Y-Pal's Leadership Landscape. I'm Kirt Jacobs and thank you for joining us today on Leadership Landscape.

Christopher 2X: Thanks a lot.

Kirt Jacobs: Until next time I'm Kirt Jacobs on Leadership Landscape. Thank you.

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Kirt Jacobs: Thank you for listening to MoxieTalk with Kirt Jacobs. This episode was archival audio from when we were known as Leadership Landscape TV. If you have any feedback, general comments, or a recommendation for a suitable guest feel free to email me at kirt@moxietalk.com or catch us on Facebook under MoxieTalk with Kirt Jacobs, or on Twitter under [@kirtjacobs](https://twitter.com/kirtjacobs) or our extensive website at www.moxietalk.com