



# WEIGHT LOSS FOR BUSY PHYSICIANS

— with Katrina Ubell, MD —

Katrina Ubell: Hey friend, how are you? Welcome to the podcast. So excited to have you here today, thank you so much for being here, how are you doing? I am awesome, it is a beautiful, sunny spring day here, which in Wisconsin, we are into that. It feels amazing, I love it so much. My oldest son, who is 13, is in Japan with my mother on a three week trip. They're almost a week into the trip, and he's having the best time. It's so fun to be able to just text back and forth. The time change is so big that we're just waking up, and they're going to bed, and all of that, but so fun to see all the pictures, and they're there during the cherry blossom time, which is just amazing.

And isn't it so fun when your kids get to have an opportunity that you're so excited for them about? Like, I wanna go too, but I'm so much more excited for him to have the experience, than for me to someday go. Yeah, sure, maybe someday I'll go, but for him I just know it's gonna be such a long lasting, lifetime experience for him, I just think it's so amazing. So, super excited for him.

All right, so I wanna talk to you today about how to get the most out of this podcast. And not only this podcast, but all of the information that you're taking in. So, I've had 116 episodes before this episode that you can listen to, and I know many of you have told me, "Oh my gosh I took a long road trip, and I just like binge listened to everything, and it's been amazing," and I think that is great. And we really can make some progress in our lives by doing that, but it's so easy to also zone out, or daydream, or not fully pay attention, when you think that what I'm talking about isn't applicable to you.

And this really, again, goes along the lines of anything that you're taking in. Whether it's my podcast, someone else's podcast, whether it's a book that you're reading, an audio book that you are listening to, any kind of documentary that you might be watching, or some sort of other YouTube video or something on some sort of personal growth topic. Even when you're doing your continuing medical education work. So often we think of it just as this slog that we have to get through, and what I'm about to talk to you about even applies to that.

So I want you to really pay attention today, and think about what I'm telling you, because when you have this many episodes under your belt, I really wanna make sure that you are getting the best possible results from listening to this that you possibly can. And I know that some of you think that certain topics that I talk about don't apply to you, or maybe that the examples I give don't apply to you, and you think, "Well, that's too basic, I've got real issues in my life." Or, the opposite, "Wow, that seems like a really heavy topic, the stuff I'm struggling with seems kind of dumb in comparison to that." None of that even matters.

I want you to have a different approach to listening to this podcast than the others that you listen to, so that you are getting what you need out of the podcast regardless of what examples are given. And I've seen this even in my own coaching groups, where a client is being coached by me, live, on a certain topic and other clients will think that they don't have that issue going on in their lives, and that it's not applicable to them. So for instance, maybe you have someone who is single, no kids, and then I'm coaching a client who's really struggling with her toddler who's having tantrums and isn't behaving well. It's very easy for that client to think, "Well, I don't even have kids," maybe they don't even want kids, and they're like, "Mm, how is this even gonna apply to me?"

But it totally does. Whatever someone is being coached on, or whatever I'm teaching you, will always apply to your life in some way, shape, or form. You just have to allow your brain to show it to you. So, that's what I'm going to be teaching you today, it's just a few short steps to help you to get the very most out of this. You're getting such amazing free content, why wouldn't you want to get the absolute best results you possibly could out of this, right? Totally makes sense.

So with a podcast, I just wanna say, or an audio book, or anything like that, sometimes you just wanna be entertained. And I do understand that, that is not a problem at all, I definitely listen to podcast for the purpose of entertainment, I'm not really looking for any kind of meaningful change, I just wanna listen to something entertaining. And if that is the way you're approaching this podcast, then totally fine, I'm not saying that's wrong or bad by any stretch. But I'm under the assumption that the vast majority of people listening to this podcast really do want to make a change. They really do want to improve some aspect of their lives, not even everybody I know, even wants to lose weight, and that's okay too, but regardless, even when I'm talking about weight loss, you can get something out of it, if you're setting your mind properly toward figuring out what that is.

So, if you really wanna make that real change in your life, I wanna suggest that the next steps that I'm gonna teach you would be very useful for you to approach this podcast. Okay, so the first thing I want you to do is to ask yourself, why am I choosing to listen to this podcast? Like, what am I wanting to get out of this? What is the purpose of me listening to this podcast? Why did I choose this one? And I think for a lot of you, the answer will be something along the lines of, I understand your specific struggles. I really get what your life is like when almost nobody else does, as a doctor. I know what's going on in your head, and I'm the one who knows how to help you to change that, so that it actually serves you. So that you're living that life that you want.

That life that you always dreamed of when you were doing your training, and now that you're out in attending life, you're like, "I don't know, this isn't as good as I thought it was gonna be." I know what it's like to be a doctor, which is why I can help you lose weight. Or maybe there's some other reason. Maybe you're choosing to listen to this podcast because your doctor told you to listen to it. Maybe your friend is a doctor, or a family member's a doctor, and said, "Hey, I love this podcast, you should really listen to it too." But more so than that, what are you hoping to get out of it?

Be really clear on that. What you're doing is, you're creating your intention before you start listening, rather than just like, "Oh, I thought I would just put something on." Why are you putting me on? Why is this podcast on, or any other podcast, or audio book? Then, number two, how does this topic apply to me? How is this exact thing showing up in my life? Now, you might need to listen for a time, or to the whole episode, before you have the answer to that. But while you're even listening to it, I want you to think about how that topic is showing up in your life. How is the exact thing that I'm talking about an issue for you? How does it apply to you?

Even if the examples that I give have nothing to do with you and your life, even if you're like, "I don't even know what she's talking about," you can still be thinking, "How can I apply this topic to myself? Where is this showing up?" You don't have to wait until I describe your situation perfectly for you to get something really meaningful out of each episode, and if you can't see it playing out in your life at all, see if you can think of someone you know who's got that issue going on. And think about how what I'm teaching you would apply to them.

Now, I am not saying that you should think about that and then go talk to them, and tell them what you came up with, and try to coach them. We never wanna coach anybody against their own will, without them asking us first, but sometimes we hear something, if we can see it playing out in someone else's life first, then it's that much easier for us to see it playing out in our own lives. I know for myself, I sometimes watch somebody being coached on a specific issue multiple, multiple times, and I didn't think it applied to me, and I didn't think it applied to me. And then one day, somehow it was slightly different in the way that I heard it, and boom, I was like, oh my gosh. I totally do that too. I could not see it before.

But the only way you're gonna even have that opportunity is if you open your mind up to, how does this apply to me? How does this exact same thing show up in my life? And I see this happening in my coaching groups too, where clients have told me that they're listening to somebody else being coached, and they're like, "That just is not applicable to me." But when we really dig in, they're like, "Yeah, it totally is applicable to me, I was blocking my brain from even seeing how it applied to me, because I made the assumption, that quick judgment, that there was nothing in this coaching discussion that would be helpful for me."

And when you start being really distracted, and kind of half listening, then your brain starts thinking, this is how I just approach all of the coaching. Like if it's not me on the hot seat actually being coached, then eh, I can kind of like, use this other stuff as entertainment.

And you can do that, but you will just limit the progress you are making so much, because you're not actually staying focused and really paying attention. It's kind of like if you went into a classroom setting, and you're back in medical school or something, and you were just totally distracted. I'm so glad I didn't have a smartphone back in those days. It would've been so easy, when it felt boring, to just distract myself with Facebook, or Instagram, or emailing people or whatever. Texting people back and forth, making comments.

I mean it was hard enough to stay focused some times, and so what happens then when you're not focused is, "Well shoot, I didn't get what the instructor was wanting to teach, so are there some notes that I can get, can I borrow someone else's notes, is there something in our textbook that I can read, or some other resource?" Like, you make the process so much more difficult and longer for yourself, because you're not actually just paying attention the first time.

Then number three. Once you see how it's showing up in your life, I want you to think about how you can take actionable steps moving forward in your life on this issue. So what we do is, we're gonna be like, "Oh, my gosh, yeah, I totally do that too. I totally do that too. Oh, yes I can see that. Oh I definitely wanna fix that." And then we just basically don't do anything. I was actually just coaching a client last night about it, and she was like, "I totally just vow to make a change, and then the next day I'm doing the same thing." And I was telling her that the vow was just basically an expression of dissatisfaction with what she's doing. But then she's not actually making a plan. She's not creating actionable steps, she's not actually learning from what happened, so that moving forward she can do something different and try to figure out a solution for herself.

So once you've listened to this, don't immediately go to the next episode, don't immediately switch to a different podcast, don't immediately turn on the radio, or an audio book. Take a moment and think, "How will I show up differently now?" So many of you listen in the car I know, so you're not gonna be able to like, talk, but even if something really impactful comes to your mind, you can just, on your phone, do the voice memo app, and just talk to yourself. And you can write it down later if you need to. But whatever breakthroughs you're having, you can still record those for yourself even if you're driving.

So, how will you show up differently, where do you need to spend some more time thinking about this further? Sometimes we need a moment, like it doesn't come to us immediately. We need to kind of hash things out, so are you going to work through this on your own? How are you going to take those steps? So, turn off the external input, and really think about it. Like, maybe if you usually listen to a podcast while you're cleaning up the kitchen or something like that, don't immediately go into the next podcast, spend another five or ten minutes completing your task, and also think about this.

I will do this often when I'm in the shower, or when I'm getting ready, my brain'll be like, "I wanna be entertained, let's turn something on!" But I know I've got something that I want to work through, and so then I refuse to basically buffer with more information. That's what a lot of you are doing.

You're basically neutralizing your negative emotions by going like, "Oh, yeah, I've got that too, this is so amazing. What's the next amazing thing? Let me listen to something else that's gonna be amazing." But you're not actually doing the hard work of applying it to your life.

So let your brain wrestle with itself to come up with solutions, 'cause sometimes that's seriously what happens. That's happened to me sometimes, where my brain's like, "No, there's no possible way. There just isn't a way!" And I'm like, "No, you gotta keep thinking about it. Stay focused on solutions. What is the solution here? There's no solution? No, I'm gonna keep thinking about it." And then boom, I get it. I get that solution, because I allowed myself to stay within the wrestle, and not immediately want to just neutralize it by listening to something else or avoiding it.

So keep your brain focused on the solutions. Don't accept from your brain, "I don't know," or, "There's no way," or, "I have an exception in my life." Ask yourself these questions. Turn it around. "But if there was a way. If I did know. If someone else were in this situation, what might they do?" Sometimes we can think about it for someone else, like you can think about with me. "If I were Katrina, what might she do," to be able to come up with what that solution is. What would the next thing be that you could try?

And then, once you've worked through this on your own, and you've done some work on it, this is step number four, listen to the episode again. Re-listening is gonna be way better and more impactful for you than trying to find another podcast to supplement. I've heard that often with my clients, they're like, "What other podcasts can I listen to? I listened to all of your episodes." Now, I'm not saying you can't listen to other podcasts. What I'm saying is, just make sure that you're not abandoning the work that you've just started by just starting some other work with someone else. Like, make sure that you're spending the time really getting deep and getting out of this what you can.

'Cause otherwise all you're doing is just looking for another dopamine hit from the newness of the new material from another podcast. So you're going to go back, listen to the episode again, and think about, now, from a different place where you've done more work on this, how does it apply now? Is there some other area in your life where you actually could be applying the same work? Was there something that I said that didn't quite resonate the first time, or maybe you didn't even hear it 'cause you were a little distracted changing lanes or something for that one moment. Just don't underestimate how powerful it is to listen again and again.

You don't have to do that with every single episode necessarily, but definitely on certain ones that you know you have a problem with that issue, and you wanna make progress on it. 'Cause otherwise if you're just spending this time hopping from episode, to episode, to episode, and not doing this work on yourself, you're really not going deep with yourself. And knowing how to do that, developing that skill, is so important. If you just stay very shallow and surface level with yourself, you're just scratching the surface of what this work can do for you.

I find this all the time with my clients, where they're like, "I know you always say that we have to do this, and now I think I'm finally getting it." I love it when they tell me they're like, "I kind of was doubtful. I didn't think it really made sense. But now that I'm actually doing it, I see what you're saying. You're actually right. Sometimes I'm like, "Listen, you have to trust me to know what you need, okay?" 'Cause I get what that's like, where like, "I don't know," you know, us skeptical doctors. We're really just like, "I don't know, is this worth my time? Is this really worth doing it?" But I want to suggest that you just try it with one episode, and ask yourself, why am I choosing to listen to this podcast? What am I gonna get out of this? What do I want to get out of this? What is my intention in listening to this podcast?

Then start listening. "How does this topic apply to me? How is this exact thing that Katrina's talking about showing up in my life? Where am I struggling with this? Where is this something that, even if it's not like a child that I'm dealing with, and she's talking about children, well, but I get that because I have employees that I deal with."

Or, "Sometimes I take care of my nieces and nephews." Or, "I sometimes find myself acting like a child and having that same tantrum that she's talking about." Think about how it's really playing out in your life.

Then, number three, once you see how it's playing out in your life, think about what the actionable steps are that you're going to take moving forward. What is your plan to move forward on this issue, and start implementing it? And then, depending on the work and how much progress you're making, consider even doing number four again. Listen to the episode again, and every time it gets deeper and deeper. I know this for a fact, because people will often say to me, "Oh, yeah, yeah, I know the model already, I know the model." That thought model that I teach. And I always tell them, "Listen, I am years into this, and I am still learning the model, so you cannot sit there and think to yourself, yeah, yeah, yeah, I already know it, I already know the model."

When I'm teaching you these concepts, this is the exact same thing. It's not like, "Oh, yeah, yeah, I heard that already, she already talked about that, I already know about that." There's so much more that you can apply to your life, and I don't want you to miss out on that opportunity, which is why I created this whole podcast to help you to learn how to get the absolute most that you possibly can out of this podcast.

I will talk to you next week. Have a great one you guys! Take care, bye-bye.