

Claudia And David, Entrepreneurs to the Stars

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INTRO: A rollercoaster of financial ups and downs, taking professional risks to succeed, and a strong work ethic from their dining room table has kept this Memphis couple afloat. I think many people can say that in the wake of the working from home revolution!

Claudia and David Hurst Vasquez are no strangers to remote work.

Claudia, an in-class and online Spanish instructor for elementary aged kids, has adapted swimmingly amidst this global pandemic. After all, she has been doing this for eleven years.

David, entrepreneur and manager of his own staffing agency, doesn't have as many years under his belt as his wife, but his fierce drive and ambition are bar none.

I set down with this couple recently about the trials, tribulations, and triumphs of being your own boss. Also, what it is like to rely on entrepreneurial income and the risks and rewards that go along with that lifestyle.

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<<script and mixing instructions>>

[ACT 1] Even when he was working, he worked in sales, it wasn't like a super super steady income. So definitely there's risk, COVID showed us that, you know. But I think we've both been very good with our finances, like, we're very good at saving. We have our little back up plan. So, I guess we know we both know it can affect us, but we're too too stressed because we're kind of prepared for it just in case.

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[VO 1] Both entrepreneurs did this all on their own. They didn't rely on bank loans or investors, they risked it all to be able to do what they love.

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[ACT 2] We self-funded our business, financially speaking. We didn't get any loans, anything like that, so we were able to turn around the money-

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[ACT 1] Faster. So, we started seeing – you know...

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[VO 1] With bright ideas, long hours, and a teenage son their raising on the way, it can get kind of hectic at this house.

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[ACT 1] The most challenging thing has been like organizing our schedules around each other. Like when Adian was in school, you know, like making sure we were home to pick him up, making sure I was scheduling my classes around when he could be, so mostly it was around Adian. But when we homeschooled, it was a bit more scheduling around that.

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[VO 1] Claudia wishes to tell up and coming entrepreneurs to go for it, while David has another piece of advice to offer.

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[ACT 2] My advice would be that like anybody who would like to start their own business or any kind of entrepreneurship, or you know, dream that they may have. Follow something that they really feel they love, and you have passion for it. Not doing something that will just make you money, cause eventually we'll catch you and you're not going to be happy. You know so just make sure it's something that you want to do. All of the other things, you will learn. All the technicalities, you know, the what...kind of business entity you want to be, you know, about taxes and insurance, you will learn. Either someone will help you or you will learn it yourself. But what you'll be doing, you have to be passionate about it!

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