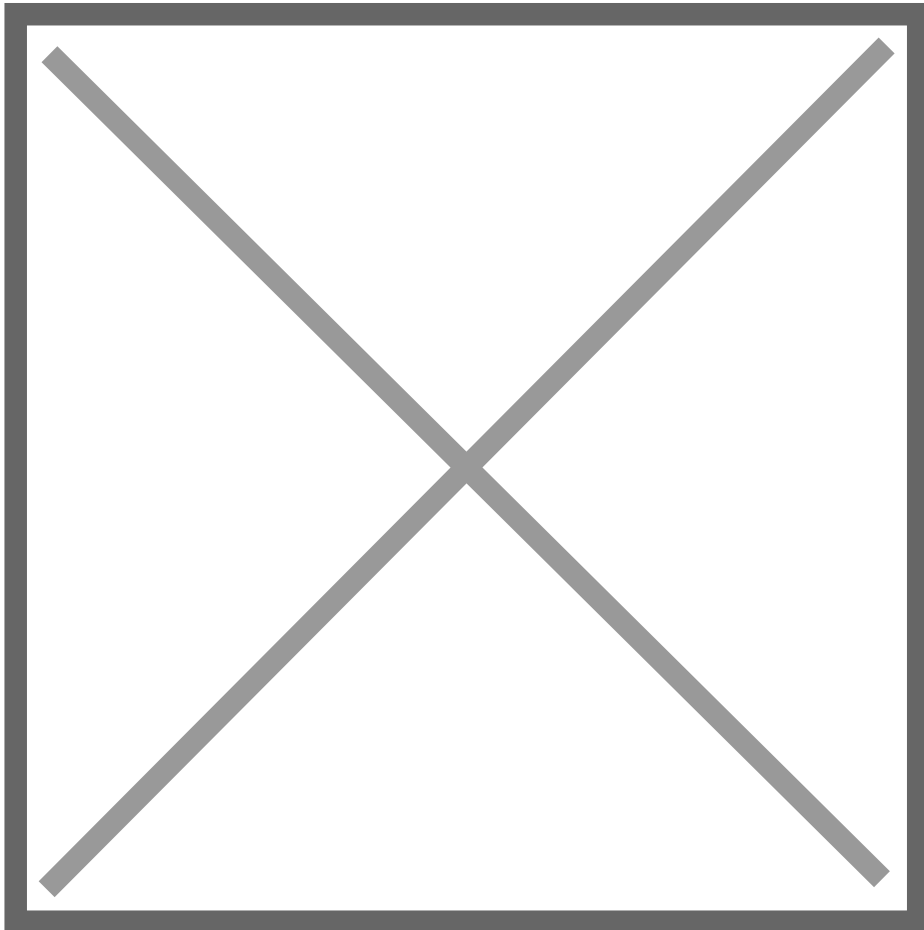


Episode 52: Brandan Robertson, influencer and author of *Filled to Be Emptied*

A conversation with Brandan Robertson about privilege, discipleship, kenosis, and more.

September 18, 2025



Welcome to Madang.

Madang is the outdoor living room of the world. Here, we invite you to sit and tune into unreserved, remarkable conversations with renowned authors, leaders, public figures, and scholars on religion, culture, and everything in between.

This is the 52nd episode, featuring Brandan Robertson, a noted author, activist, and public theologian who works at the intersections of spirituality, sexuality, and social renewal. An ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, he serves as the pastor of Sunnyside Reformed Church in New York City and is founder and executive director of DevOUT, a non-profit organization challenging far-right religious narratives in both digital and traditional media. He's widely known as the TikTok Pastor, with a vast digital reach of nearly 300,000 followers and 10 million viewers engaging his inclusive theological content across social media. He is pursuing a Ph.D. in New Testament at Drew University. On this episode of Madang, Robertson and I talk about his book [*Filled to Be*](#)

Emptied: The Path to Liberation for Privileged People. We discuss privilege, Philippians 2, discipleship, kenosis, fear, love, hope and much more.

I am grateful to [Homebrewed Christianity?](#), [Central Seminary?](#), and [Westminster John Knox Press?](#) for sponsoring this episode. Please join Homebrewed Christianity's [Theology Beer Camp](#) hosted by [Tripp Fuller?](#) this October. [Theology Beer Camp?](#) is a unique three-day conference that brings together theology nerds and craft beer for a blend of intellectual engagement, community building, and fun. This episode is presented by [Central Seminary?](#)—a historic and accredited seminary leading with the values of community, empathy, growth, and tenacity. Central offer numerous graduate degrees and certificates including a Doctor of Ministry degree in Creative Leadership which is now offered 100 percent online. The next Doctor of Ministry cohort begins in January 2026. [Westminster John Knox Press?](#) publishes scholarly and popular books in religious studies, advancing scholarship, stimulating conversation about today's issues, and inspiring faithful living. Check out all their books now at [wjkbbooks.com](#).

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