Announcer: 00:00

Welcome to the Feed U Podcast, giving you the real scoop on raising your business to new heights, expert education, inspiration and motivation to fuel your purpose, your passion, and your profits. Here's your host, Alisa Conner.

Alisa Conner: 00:24

Hello, hello and welcome to the Feed U Podcast. I am so grateful you're here. I'm Alisa Conner and the host and uh, thank you for tuning in this week. If you're in new the podcast, thanks for finding me. And um, I have a little, I don't know what is going on if it's allergies or cough, but my voice is a little bit funny today, so bear with me if I, uh, have to clear my throat and things. Uh, during this episode this week, we are talking about the detriment of using inside language and we all do it. We all are experts in our arena, experts in what we do and sometimes we forget that we have people that are brand new, um, and have not been exposed to anything that we are very knowledgeable about and not being able to simplify what we're trying to do or what we're trying to sell. Um, or you know, sometimes we use insider language because it makes us feel really smart. But the opposite of that is that it makes someone else who's listening feel inadequate. And when people feel inadequate, they're not going to purchase from you. And so I'm going to encourage you and I have some tips and tricks in this episode on using simple language so that you can get greater, uh, people, greater conversion of people that come into your funnels and also, um, more subscribers and readers to any sort of content or lead magnetics, lead magnates or generation lead generation that you do. So [inaudible] um, let's see, it is fall. So why are we talking about language now? While a lot of times in the fall we start to kind of delve into, okay, what is happened in the last nine months of the year cause we're closing in on the end of fourth quarter. We are, as I'm recording this, we've got about two weeks left or the third quarter and you know, fourth quarter is going to zip by. Because if you will recall, which I'm sure most of you will, the holidays are abundant this time of year. And so that eats up a lot of time. So I'm going to ask you, you know, are you, where are you want to be with your goals? And if you're not, you may want to take a look at the message and the information that you're putting out there and ask yourself this simple question. You know, does this appeal to me and does it appeal to my ego because I'm really smart about this. And I think that people should catch up to where I am. Or are you just using insight or language because it's easy and harder. It is much harder. I will, I'm raising my hand really high right now because it is much harder to simplify your language when you have been immersed in a subject area for an extended period of time. It really isn't. It really has nothing to do with your audience not being intelligent enough to

understand what you're talking about or whatever that might be. Um, but we're going to get into that in a minute. So before we hop into the episode, before we dive into today's topic and I give you a lots of things not to do because I've done them. Uh, let's take a minute and hear from our sponsor.

Announcer: 03:36

One of the biggest frustrations I hear from business owners on a regular basis is I need more clients and I get it. Every business struggles with getting new clients until you know how to do it. The problem is, is you spend your time networking and going to events and making phone calls that don't go anywhere. You're out trying to attract people to you when there is a much easier way. Growing your email list is so important because it fills your list with potential clients who actually want to hear from you. And it gives you the ability to reach out to them on a regular basis and share what you have to offer to grow your email list. You've got to have a great free download. Sign up for a free newsletter isn't working anymore. You've got to create a download that piques their interest, gets them to take action and adds into your list. Sounds easy, right? Of course. It's not easy. That's exactly why I created my new free training. To help you create an awesome free download. You can sign up at Alisaconner.com/createmyfreebie. This free training is going to present the five easy steps that I've used with my clients to help them go from hot mess marketing to growing an email list that they consistently get sales from. So you don't want to miss this training. Head on over to Alisaconner.com/createmyfreebie and sign up today. I'll see you inside.

Alisa Conner: 05:10

So let's dive in. And this is a pretty deep well that we can dig ourselves into. I'm talking about insider language and when I talk about insider language, I mean the language that is really clear to you. So in the as for example, in the world of marketing, you know, we, we throw around ROI and sales funnels and um, social media terms and all these different engagement, all these different things that to a typical business owner may not make sense if they don't have a lot of background in marketing. They're not going to understand what those terms mean. They're not going to understand. Um, definitely they're not going to understand acronyms and different, uh, events that occur that are related to marketing. They're not, those aren't going to be familiar to them. Why? Because they're building a business that is in a different direction. Their knowledge is in a different space. So for example, I work with a lot of people in healthcare, either alternative or traditional medical, um, care and they have a lot of terms that they use and because they are very clinically focused, most of them, because you have to be very, uh, detailed clinically and research focused if you're in a

field of medicine, regardless if it's alternative or traditional. And so to sometimes to simplify that language is very difficult for them. And it's not just in that field. But specifically I, I work a lot with people in that field. But even in real estate, I mean real estate has terms that a typical non real estate, uh, individual, I mean, they may not be familiar with the generalities of real estate because they bought or sold a home. But all of the intricacies of how to go through a deal or get a mortgage and all the other terms of um, the industry are not going to be familiar to their audience because it's not really their job to be familiar with those. And the same goes with the doctors that have patients. Their patients are like, you know what their concern is is their pain. They're like do you get that? II have a pain here. Um, and so when we're talking about messaging, we're looking at it from that perspective. We're looking at it from the perspective of Yes we are definitely experts and authorities in what we do. And we sometimes assume that the people that we are trying to get in front of and converting into customers are as clear about what we do as we are and that can be detrimental. So the number one tip I have for you is to simplify everything you can. My recommendation that I give to others and that I am going to also give to you is that if you can create messaging or content that a third grader can understand, you are doing well. And I have said it before and it is not my line, I borrowed it from Don Miller. But marketing is really an exercise in memorization. And if you look about, if you look at how big companies market and advertise their companies, they don't have long and extended taglines, they don't have long in extended, um, confusing commercials. And if they do, they fail. And so, you know, I was just talking, um, to somebody at lunch about, you know, how, uh, different taglines stick in your brain and like they just play the same commercial over and over and over again, and you finally just memorize it because you're repatterning your reign. And so when you're using, you notice that Coca-Cola doesn't go into the manufacturing process of how they may coke. They just say, you know, have a coconut smile. So I don't know if they say that anymore, but that's what they used to say. So we're going with it. But you get the idea is they make it really simple and they make an appeal to people and they make it easy for them to remember. So I want you to think about how you can apply that in your own business and to your own messaging and how like the less words you can throw into your messaging and your marketing and content that you create, the better and an exercise to do this. Something that I, um, do myself and I also recommend to clients is that, you know, start by opening up a blank piece of paper or a blank document and just type type or write your heart out and then you're going to read through it and you're going to cross out

about half of it anyway, you know, tweak it here and we get there a little bit. But any extraneous words that you have that don't really need to be there, just pitch them because all you're doing is confusing what you're trying to get your audience to do. So that, you know, I kind of touched on this, on the intro in the intro, but a lot of times we will, we will get really stuck with industry in Latin language because it feeds our ego and our ego really has no place in business. It really doesn't because when you're stuck in your ego mind and like having to kind of pump your chest and be like Tarzan, you know, look at me, look at me. It's, it becomes about you and not your customer. And really if you want to succeed in business, it needs to be all about your customer. And the more you focus on that, uh, the easier it's going to be for you to convert people into subscribers, fans, and then eventually into customers. And it, it can go very quickly through those three stages. But ultimately people are going to make a decision because the people that really late to them on a one on one basis that they can connect with and emotionally feel safe and making a decision to move forward with them or the people that are going to succeed. So leave your ego at the door, leave your big, you know, I always call it your \$5 words at the door and start to tune into what your audience says, the words they use. Um, I love when I, so I started to do this, oh, I don't know. It's been a little while, but I've become very cognizant of it in the last probably six months. Just being aware of words that people say and they almost are like trigger words for me now. Um, I had a conversation with a potential client this morning and, uh, the were, he, he kept it, um, saying I fear this. I fear that. And those are really important things for you to take note of because when someone repeatedly says, I'm really afraid of Blah, blah, blah, when you can address that fear with, you know, some sort of ability to meet that objection, that's, you know, that takes away the fear from them. It's almost impossible to eliminate all fear. But if you can release and help that fear relax a little bit by giving them some opportunity to see the possibility the quicker they're going to convert into our customer. And so, um, that's just a language thing. But let's get into kind of the, there is some brain science behind this. And so I want to talk about that a little bit. So your brain, the um, frontal lobe of your brain really has, you know, from prehistoric times or what am I trying to say? Like the times of cavemen, um, really had two functions to keep you alive and to store energy because you are trying to stay warm and um, you know, you had to save up your energy cause you had to go out and find food and all these different things. So your brain is still programmed to do those two things. And as humans, even though we have so many distractions now, you know, we have social media, we have television, we have our phones, we have

kids, we have whatever it is. We have tons of distractions. Our brain is really subconsciously programmed to do those two things. So any habit you have, any belief you hold is really based on one of those two things to keep you alive or to store energy so that you have it for later to keep you alive. So when you create messaging that's super confusing and it, it makes like your reader has to stop and go, what are they saying? And some of that can be not necessarily that you're using really, um, heavy language or industry language. Yes, it comes from that. But some of it can be that you just use too many words. So I have an example. I um, I'm 97% sure nobody from the band organization that I volunteer at, um, is going to listen to this. So I'm going to Kinda just talk about it cause it's a really good example. But I have three kids in marching band and we, and I'm part of the board. I've been part of the board, this is my year, fourth year, and I'm, one of our biggest issues in marching band is that we have an internal communication issue, which spills into an external communication issue. And so there are emails, and this is not necessarily throwing a certain person under the bus because this has been the problem at all for years and it's been a different person all four years. So there is a tendency to send out emails that just are like a novel. They're just like, it takes, you have to scroll three, four or five times on your phone to get through it. And the problem is, is that you're trying to reach an audience that is super busy, super distracted, and is just like don't need one more thing. And so the recommendation was made that we simplify those emails to just what needs to happen in the next 48 hours. And, um, but this is a perfect example because when you have these emails, and I know I get him all the time from people that are, um, you know, even some people that are higher up. But the reality is, is that even though they know that they're gonna send these really long emails, but most of their audience is never going to read all those words. And so one of the tricks to do that is to create headings so that you can catch the skimmers and you know who I need the people that are going to skim the headlines and then they may stop if they, if they have a headline that peaks their interest and read that little part. So I want you to be aware of the language that you're putting out there because if you can make it simple and clear and concise, you will be light years ahead of your competition. So, um, going back to the brain, you know, if it has these two functions which are to keep you alive and to conserve calories and energy, then our job as business owners is to get our audience to understand what we want them to do as quickly as possible. Which leads back to what I just was framing up with with the marching band. You know, the biggest tasks we have for those people that are getting those emails are get your kids here on time and please

volunteer. Those are really our call to actions is we always need volunteers and please get your kids here on time. And so if we just made it very simple per event and said, hey, your kids need to be here, this is where you can get more information, which is on the website. And, um, if you want to volunteer, we could use your help. Like that's all that needs to be in those emails. And so as an outside of strategists, I'm working with them on developing an action plan to really create more concise emails and then putting the bulk of information around to the website so that people can go and gather what they need at the time they need it. Um, so I want you to think about how that would play out in your business as well, because I also have done that in my business and in the business and my clients. Um, what is the first thing that you want people to do? So, and it could be dependent on activity. So if you're creating a piece of content, for example, say you're creating a blog post, well, when somebody reads that blog post or skims that blog posts, which is more, more than likely or watches a video or whatever it might be, um, you need to have some sort of direction in that piece of content that gets sent to the next step. And so why would you want to do that? Well, because if you aren't telling that audience what you want them to do, the sales funnel stops right there. It stops at that blog posts. They're not going to go any further because they don't, you haven't given them instructions or a reason to go seek out more information. So when you're creating things for your business, this is the, the initial phase of your failure of your sales funnel and you're creating those pieces. I want you to think about, you know, the wording you're using, how much energy it takes to get across, what you're trying to share with them, and how much energy it takes for them to understand it. Um, and then you know, like I'm like I a dimension before and make sure you just, if you have, so a, a tricky word for me is sales funnels and it's a difficult term to get away from because it's a very concise, um, term two round up a giant process. Like a sales funnel is not a small thing and sometimes people will try to minimize what isn't included in a sales funnel. And if you have been in sales, you may understand sales a little bit more than the average bear. If you've been in marketing, you might understand it, but the typical business owner does not really understand what a sales funnel is. And so it takes many more words from me to explain, you know, it is how you get people into, uh, you know, to starting a relationship with you, a way to nurture those people and then a way to turn them into customers. Notice sales funnel is much fewer words than that. So it's, it's how you can maneuver those and then do a lot of explaining so that if you are going to use a term that is an industry term, because it's hard to get away from that. You're doing a good concise, simple

job of explaining, okay, this is what a sales term, this is what this is really what a sales funnel is, for example. Or this is really what a chiropractic adjustment is. And just, you know, make it one, two, three steps is the fewer steps you can make it, the easier for the brain to understand and they're gonna be like, Oh, I get it. Um, so seam, um, concept is, you know, in any piece of content you're creating any kind of download, you're creating any kind of, um, verbiage that you're using in an email or that you're using on your website. Just keep it really concise and clear. So I'm gonna. So yeah, as I was saying before, if he, if he, it takes a lot of energy to understand what you're trying to con, you know, get across and convey, those people are just going to tune out. They're going to be like, okay, I don't have time for this, and they're going to move on. Just like the marching band emails, I can guarantee you 90% of the audience that gets those emails probably if they don't just delete them and send them to spam, which is, you know, very likely and probably happens more often than we would like it to. They might read the first half of a phone screen or maybe the whole phone screen and that's it. Like they never get to the end and the same thing is going to happen with your emails and the content you're creating. Like if you make it just long and dry and boring and full of industry language, people are going to tune out unless that's a subject that they are really wanting to dive deep into and become an expert. And if though, if that's the case, those people really aren't your customers because they'll get the ones that are going to go do it themselves. Not that it's a disadvantage that you know that they can go and learn that however you're really wanting to attract people that are wanting to be your customers and converting them into your customers. That's the whole point of being in business. So you know, when you're thinking about that, I want you to take into consideration, um, how you can help them, not just understand what you're saying, but give them the action steps to implement at least a small win. And really the goal of anything you put out there is to help your, your customers specifically, but also potential customers to improve their life in some way. And so you don't want to just help them survive a situation and to just kind of muddle through it. You really want to give them the tools so that they can move forward and thrive and see some sort of success. Because if they see even a mini success with you and can see what you can do, they're going to be like, th they're gonna want more, which means, you know, you're only gonna give so much away for free. Eventually they're going to pay you in some capacity or another to do business with you. And so, um, making it really easy for them to understand. And then, um, what was I going to say? And then, you know, making them feel empowered because you're using language they can

understand is going to get you much further. So I have whoa, five tips that I'm gonna Rollout for you guys on how to keep your language simple and get people, uh, converting into subscribers, customers and raving fans basically. Uh, so number one is whenever you're creating a piece of copy or content, you want to keep your focus on one goal. And so, and sometimes you'll see, especially in video, people jump all over the board like they will pick and I have been guilty of this in the past. And so, um, I'm giving myself kind of a little thumbs up, wonder woman, um, you know, power stress because this is something that's kind of difficult when you're an entrepreneur because you know a lot about what you do, but it can get really, uh, your audience can become, um, overwhelmed. And, uh, there's another word we'll just go with overwhelmed really quickly if they're, if the subject matter is not familiar to you, to them. And so it's super familiar to you. So you may just, you know, jump in and go, well obviously it's step one, two, three, four. Um, but if they're just like, I didn't even know there was a step three and I'm still on step one and I'm actually on step path because I don't even really understand step one, you've lost them. And so specifically when you're creating a piece of content, if you can focus on one specific task. So for example, let's take this podcast episode. I am talking about insider language. That's the entire intent of this podcast is to really you clear about becoming aware of the language you're using and modifying that language in order to drive sales through your sales funnel. And so most of my episodes you will see focus on one thing. Whereas if you have an episode that's like, I'm going to talk about social media marketing, that is such a broad subject, that one, you're not going to stand out from anybody else in the industry talking about that. And two, it's going to be very overwhelming to your audience. So break it down to one simple piece of the pie and stick with that for whatever you're creating. And the same would go for your website. Um, if you, I see like they have these really long homepage websites now it's like the new thing, but most people aren't going to scroll down that far. Um, number one and number two is that they just try to cover so much information on that homepage. And so be cognizant of, of how your audience learns and what they learn and what they want to learn first. And then start to create your content and your copy around what that is. And then, um, always have a goal in mind for whatever you're creating, whether even if it's a, you know, a website page, um, and make sure that, you know, with a goal, you have some sort of measurement in place to determine whether or not you have met that goal. And, um, you, the, the guestion I always recommend you ask yourself is, you know, what is it you really want to achieve with this webpage, with this blog post, with this social media story or

whatever it is. Like what's your goal? And then work backwards. So that's tip number one is to just focus on one goal and one piece of content slash copy, um, at a time. Number two is to focus on one audience, uh, per piece of content or copy. And this. So for example, if you are a doctor, regardless, you, you will likely have more than one audience. So let's use for example, um, somebody that is just a medical doctor. Your audiences are going to be patients, they're going to be insurance companies, and they're probably going to be other doctors or hospital staff. Um, depending on what you're talking about and who you're addressing. And so when you try to have a broad umbrella and talk about a subject and cover all of those people, you, it is going to be so confusing to your audience. So I would recommend that you choose one audience, focus on that audience, let them know that it's for them so that if they're a doctor and you're writing for patients, they can tune out. It's, you know, they, they can tune if they want to, but it's really not going to be as relevant as if you were actually addressing the doc, the, um, medical community. And so when you focus on that one audience in that piece of content, it makes it less confusing about what you're trying to get across, what you're trying to say. Um, the people that you're addressing, they immediately know they're in the right place. And if they're not, then they can choose to step out and come back in another time. Or if they are, they're like, sweet, this person gets me. Um, and then it helps you to become really crystal clear and specific about what you're sharing with them. And so for example, it is much more clear to talk to, um, pregnant moms who need chiropractic versus I help anyone who has, who need, who has a back that needs chiropractic, which you know, when you're trying to service everybody in the Chiropractic community because you think that's a better way to go, no one's going to tune in. Whereas if you're like pregnant moms who are suffering with Sciatica, um, and migraines during pregnancy and want a natural solution, I help those people. That becomes very clear and you just carved out your piece of the pie no matter where you're posting it. So get really clear about who and get really clear about what. That's a tips one and two. Tip number three, and this is sometimes easier said than done. It is definitely a knack and it is something that you're going to probably have to practice at and you may even need to hire somebody to help you. Um, but that is to create a conversation in some way or form. Now this can become difficult if you're writing emails or you're creating a blog post and you're not really having a conversation with anybody about yourself. Um, and same with, you know, doing Instagram stories or even, um, Facebook posts. There's a little bit more interaction when you're doing a Facebook lives and things like

that where it's live video. But anytime you just putting out content, you really don't have the opportunity unless it's a webinar or something like that to have a conversation. So to create a conversation and openings for conversation and invite conversation is definitely a skill set that needs to be practiced. So how would you do that? Well, tip number one I have for you is to actually, when you're writing that content or you're brainstorming it or whatever, is to imagine that that person is in front of you, whoever you're addressing from step number two. And you know, how would that conversation start? What would it look like if you sat down at a Starbucks and had a cup of coffee? And this is why having testimonials and client examples is so, so helpful because you've had those conversations. So when you go to write an email or you go to write a blog post or you go to do a live video, you can pull from that experience and it makes it really easy. So that's tip number one is to, you know, to imagine how you'd be, um, addressing and having a conversation with that person if you were face to face with them in real life. Along with that, you want to become aware, and this is something that I alluded to earlier in the conversation, become aware of the language they use, the language they would use, um, as well as, you know, what, what questions they would ask, those kinds of things. Because when you become aware of that, it's very interesting when you become aware of it in your email creation and in what you're doing off, you know, outside of meeting with customers, when you meet up with customers and potential clients, your hypersensitive to those questions and those words that are trigger words. And so it makes it really great because each individual conversation will have added benefits to teach you, you know, oh, I didn't even know that was a problem. Or Oh, I didn't realize that that was a bigger issue. And so it's stuff you can document and then later, uh, you, you can figure out how to add that into a consulting offer or into whatever product and service you're offering. And it becomes a very, a, it becomes a huge asset to the people that you're trying to serve and help. So the other, the, these get a little bit trickier, but just have fun with it is, um, you definitely want to add your personality in there. If you are on my email list, you probably get my emails and you are fully aware that I just kinda let loose. Like I really enjoy writing and, and some people do and some people don't, but my personality comes through because, and I've gotten better at it because I kind of used to hide a little bit of that. Um, but letting your personnel a shine through is going to naturally attract people to want to read more because it's not just a sale, same old bland email. Those are sent every single day when you can have fun and entertaining and a different, um, twist on what you do and what you're presenting, people are gonna pay

attention and they're going to look forward to those emails. So think about how you can add your personality into the mix. And then, uh, last but not least, you know, when you're creating that conversation, kind of in your head and also, you know, on paper or however you're doing it, is like, you know, what other voice cues can help you to provide value. And so, you know, when you're with, if you don't have clients or customers yet or you don't have very many, you can totally do this with the test group. I'm sure you can dig out some potential people that you know you've networked with or whatever and just, you know, start asking them questions and, and start to listen for cues of things that might come up or areas of confusion or things that they're just like, oh, I don't know about that or I'm afraid of this or whatever. And that's going to help you create content that resonates with your audience. So, uh, number three is to create a conversation. Number four is we have harped on this for the whole first half of this episode, but stay away from insider language. You will quickly lose your audience. Uh, it's going to take way too much energy for them to process what you're saying. And so they just won't, they'll just walk away and you don't want to make your readers feel inadequate or unintelligent. And so using simple language actually makes you appear smarter because you have taken the time to simplify something very complicated. And when you can do that and you get really good at it is when you're going to see bigger results. And Trust me, I have, oh boy, there's so many times that, um, I and I still struggle with it. I'm not saying I'm perfect at it, but I'm getting a lot better. But I've also seen a huge shift in, you know, the, the more simple I become with how I can serve people and help them and be aware of what their problems are and use simpler language to relate to them, the bigger success. I see. So, uh, when I was, you know, doing initially, um, what am I trying to say? The uh, elevator pitches. Oh boy. I would do elevator pitches cause I've been in pretty much every networking group under the sun. Um, but specifically B. And I remember having to do a 32nd commercial every week and I was just like, I can never get out what I do. And there was just so many things and it meant, and a lot of it was I was trying to serve everybody. I was trying to, um, do way too many, I was offering way too many services and I just couldn't get clear. And so the more clarity you have around what you do and what you offer and how you help of course is also going to impact your language. But, um, the more clear that you can be about those things and about how you, uh, get results and help and serve people, the quicker that people are going to be like, oh yeah, I remember she does this and you're going to get more referrals, you're gonna get more business and people are going to remember, they're going to start to remember you and what you do. So

stay away from insight or language. And then unlike this podcast, my tip number five is less, is more. And it's really difficult on a podcast to be brief because you're trying to explain a lot of things that you could normally visually share with people. But, um, less is more in your language, especially if it's something that's showing up on a mobile device. Because those screens are small. And I don't have the exact statistic in front of me, but it's somewhere between 80 and 90% of every piece of content as now being viewed on a mobile device. So be aware of that because if you have a homepage that is six paragraphs of information that are all about you, that takes up more than one phone screen and people just aren't going to read it. And so you're not going to get traction, you're not going to get the results that you want. Um, so the fewer words you can use to say something, the better. And the tip I gave you originally was, you know, brain dump everything out onto a blank document. Go through and start cutting it and then I actually recommend going through it one more time and cut it again because the less words you can use, the clearer it's going to be. The simpler you make it for customers and P and m prospects to do business with you and the more your cash register is going to ring. So that's what I've got for you this week. Next week, we are taking a tour of our website through our customers' eyes. So I would love to have you join me for that podcast. And in the meantime, if you've enjoyed this episode and you've got some, a good tips out of it, I would love for you to share it with a friend. And in the meantime, have a great week and I will see you guys next week. Take care.

Announcer: 37:08

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