

BIO & INTRODUCTION FOR COOPERATIVES

Allyson says, "I've been where you are. Sitting there, dreading another mundane training, wondering how the speaker just doesn't get coops." And that's exactly why she does things differently!

Allyson began her journey with an electric coop in Oklahoma just one week after graduating high school. Like many true cooperative team members, she wore many hats—from typing the employee newsletter and taking payments to leading teams and managing cooperative-wide metering projects. Over two decades, she gained firsthand insight into the unique culture and communication needs of cooperatives and developed a training program designed for field crews, supervisors, HR teams, metering departments, MSRs, marketing professionals, CEOs, and everyone in between.

Today, Allyson is a part of the internationally-known John Maxwell Team and brings values-focused training to cooperatives around the US. She's the author of three books and multiple YouVersion devotional plans. She's known for her authentic, relatable style and her ability to connect deeply with cooperative teams.

Please help me welcome Allyson McElroy (MAC-ul-roy)!

Note: I tell a bit of my story in my presentation, so no need to read a longer intro. However, I've put a few points below in case they pertain or would help connect to your audience. If you'd prefer to read a lengthy, full bio, please reach out.

POINTS OF CONNECTION

- **A little about home:** Allyson and her husband, Michael, live in Oklahoma with their Maltese, Bentley. They enjoy traveling with their college son, Cole, and collecting passport stamps along the way.
- **A little nostalgia:** She often jokes that she fits into many "generations." She loves old movies like *In the Good Old Summertime* and *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, can still dance the Macarena, and knows all the words to Boyz II Men, *Friends*, and *The Office*. She also keeps up with the latest lingo through her college-aged son.
- **Her faith and service:** Allyson is an ordained minister, certified marriage mediator through XO Marriage, and has served on numerous nonprofit boards, including United Way and Mercy Health Foundation.
- **Her philosophy:** While she speaks to many audiences about many subjects, her message remains the same: There's a lot to be passionate about. But until we're passionate about *com*passion, nothing else matters.