

Week 9
2/20/12

James: Welcome to *LIFE Today*. Thank all of you for being here. I'm excited about the program. I'm James Robison.

Betty and I are thrilled to have the co-author of the book, (I'm the other author,) *Indivisible: Restoring Faith, Family, and Freedom Before It's Too Late*. Now it's not too late but it is later than most people think, and if we don't begin to correct our course the catastrophic consequences of decades of, quite frankly, God-forsaken thinking and policies based sometimes on good principles but the policies are unsustainable and they don't work. And it doesn't matter how well you mean and your good intentions if they don't work, they don't work. We can't keep digging this ditch of debt -- insurmountable.

And notice this, Betty, this is so obvious, the smaller God becomes to people the bigger the federal government gets. The bigger whatever you depend on becomes once God becomes small, and whatever you depend upon will begin to control you and ultimately destroy you.

Jay Richards joined me to write the book. I want you to welcome Jay Richards to *LIFE Today*.

Jay, good to be with you.

Jay: Thanks James, it's good to be with you.

James: I think it is important for our viewers to know that my finding you for me was a three-year journey of prayer. And knowing that I was to write a book dealing with the issues we face as a father/grandfather, a husband, deeply concerned about America and our direction and God led me to you, and he led me to you when I read a book, *Money, Greed, and God*, which was about the economy and free market, capitalism, and how that's not the problem. I kind of coined the phrase from a biblical perspective that the fertile field is never the problem for the abuse of any form or any person.

But you also in the book pointed out how clearly the Bible teaches the freedoms that we enjoy. And you talked about family and the social issues and how they matter too but you weren't able to spend the time you wanted to. And when I saw where your heart was I came to you and invited you to come and spend several days with me and Betty, and we did, and God welded our hearts together, and then you told me you were a Catholic, and

everybody knows this guy is the gun-slinging right-wing Baptist evangelist protestant. You know, you're talking to a Catholic. I'm not only talking to a Catholic, I love him.

As a matter of fact, I love all Catholics, I love all people. So I don't really need to hear from any of you telling me I don't need to love somebody who may come from a different vein or a different thought pattern than I have.

What God showed me, Jay when we talked was that we needed to come together because God had already shown us the legitimate concerns and that we could do something together. And it is amazing and we did it. How do you feel about the journey with your background and us working together?

Jay: It's one of the most exciting, if not the most exciting thing I've been involved with, James.

It wasn't that long ago -- from my perspective, I was in my office at Discovery Institute in Seattle and you called me and said, "I have an idea, why don't you come down here to Colorado and see us?" We really had a couple of conversations so I came down and you told me that your heart had been moving in this direction and you wanted to write a book that would speak to the nation and were praying about someone you could work with to do it. And from my perspective, I had this kind of book idea in me but honestly no idea of how it was every going to work on it.

But for a couple of months we prayed and talked about it. And finally, I decided, I usually don't get real clear directions from God on a red phone telling me exactly what to do but I just prayed if we were supposed to do it God would work everything out and he did; he worked it out spectacularly so that we could spend the last year working on this thing.

James: We brought together 71 major church leaders including Catholics, all of the mainline media ministry leaders that you would know. You can go to JamesRobison.net, scroll back in the columns to supernatural gatherings and you'll see a listing of ultimately 92 leaders who joined together, including Catholics. They were 100% behind us doing this together. They believed we were supposed to do it.

Jay: Absolutely. It felt very much like we were getting a message independently, others were getting the message independently, it wasn't like we'd all come together four years ago and sort of colluded on this message. That was one of the things that really confirmed it for me, is that people from different walks of life, different theological traditions saying the same thing and what we wanted to argue in the book, that believers, Catholics and

protestants as well as people that believe in family and all the millions of Americans that believe in freedom and limited government and a vibrant economy, we want those people working together. So it really made perfect sense that a team, a Catholic and an evangelical would write the book together. We thought, this hadn't been done very many times before but the Lord works in mysterious ways and he can make things possible and it came together beautifully, I think.

James: And now a miracle that the Hachette FaithWords, evangelical press has joined with Ignatius Press, Catholic Press and they're co-publishing the book, that's another supernatural miracle. Now Betty, you've been kind of watching. You've watched me literally on my face before God for a long time. You've been brokenhearted for the nation.

Betty: I have. I too have gotten a really big burden for our country as a Christian. I feel an accountability, a responsibility to be knowledgeable. Years ago, I couldn't have said that because I thought, well, I'm in my little Christian world, my little church world and didn't really look beyond that. But now I know that I should and I am because I care about the future of our families, our children, our grandchildren. I care about where we are now as a country. And to realize that I, just me, can have a big part in the decisions that are made, the choices that we've made.

We've made some bad choices as a country and I think as Christians, we have been asleep almost and it is time to wake up. I feel that. I know that in my heart. I have to be accountable and knowledgeable about the surroundings going on around me. I can be effective in it and if we all see that and know that we can't just leave it up to government to make all our decisions but we can have a part on who's in those places and what really our hearts express through the decisions that are made.

James: Jesus said he is the light and we're light in the world because the light's in us. We are to put that light on a lamp stand, we're not to hide it. He says don't cover it. Now I think a lot of people have covered the light of Christ with all of their theological arguments that don't ever really magnify God. But the bigger way I've seen Catholics and Protestants hide the light, they get comfortable in their situation, they see the ugly out here, they see what goes on in the political world.

A lot of good people don't want to run because they know they're going to be blasted for any fault they ever had, and our great founders had faults and flaws. All the great Bible leaders had flaws but they pressed on toward the standard of God's truth.

Here's what's happened and don't you miss this. You get settled in and you don't know it but you also are covering the light by just taking care of business at home. But someone in

Washington and someone in high places is giving you the business and destroying your business and building a government that is bigger and more dominant than Pharaoh ever was, and people are foolishly being dependent upon it. This is what I have seen happening. This is what I felt called, and since you feel called, and that's why we wrote *Indivisible* to try to get people get that light back on the lampstand and then become a city set on a hill that cannot... and I've added this words for today -- will not, that's affirmative, that's take action, take a stand. It is a city that cannot be hidden because we're standing together to illuminate the way, to illuminate the error of the way and to correct the course.

Now I believe that this is what you and I have been called to do; to try to call people to stand together to get the light out from under their own little security, get out here and make a difference in our nation, and change the course of our ship of state. Now have I said that in any way that pretty well sums up what we felt together? You have to pardon me, I'm a preacher. You hang out with professors.

Jay: Actually, it really is, but I shared this with you, I have a friend that has a lot of kids, home schools kids, a very nice situation, he speaks for a lot of people, I know, that he really feels countercultural. If you have a lot of kids and you're home schooling and you turn on the TV, everything seems to be against you. So the temptation is to say, "Okay, I'm going to corral here and build my fence and have my own little world and don't worry about -- first of all don't worry about politics but you also start thinking well, all these political debates, they don't really matter."

Unfortunately, a lot of Christians will come out of the cave maybe once every four years, cast a ballot. It either goes well, and you say, "Good!" You go back in the cave. Or you lose and then you say, "Well, the Lord is going to return soon anyway so I'll go back in the cave again."

Well, the secularists don't think that way. They think incrementally, what they say is if you chip away at something for 30 or 40 years it eventually gives way, it eventually collapses. I think frankly that we as Christians need to think like that, not in secular terms but the reality is that we've got to be in this for the long haul. Yes, we're concerned about specific elections. We're also concerned about what's happening in our communities, in our churches, in our families and if we look internally, at least with respect to what we're doing, that's right, we want to get our own house in order, we want personal holiness as well as cultural renewal. But that's just the beginning, that's not the end. We're called to be salt and light in the culture and you can't do that if you stay in your little safe cave.

James: Well, you know I think that one of the finest comments of our book that we could have ever hoped to hear came from George Gilder, an incredible economist. He wrote

Wealth and Poverty. He is so highly respected that President Ronald Reagan made him his most frequent quote; the individual he admired most in what he said, and the things that he recommended and put in place, absolutely fantastic. He did the Israel test, which is quite an exploration in the failure of socialism when they brought it into Israel and it didn't work. He went through this whole thing. For him to say in our book and he is an academic, he is brilliant, he said that you and I had taken the truth and had really put to rest the error, the thought that the social and the economic and the moral and the fiscal can be separated. They can't! He said and we "concussively" was the word he used, and conclusively and emphatically we literally proved you can't separate it.

We talk about the family and marriage, and when that deteriorates what it does to the economy; what the social ills do in the fiscal area. And everybody says it is economy, we're talking about the economy, why do we talk about family? Why do we talk about marriage? Why don't we talk about the preciousness of life? And Jay, Catholics and Protestants say, "We believe life is precious." "We believe marriage is important." "We believe family is important." Well, that's what affects the economy more than anything else. And the government doesn't seem to get that at all, and the academics and the entertainment community don't get it.

Jay: They don't. Even sort of so-called conservative pundits in certain places where there are lots of cameras and lots of news media have been telling us for years, "Well, these so-called social issues, don't talk about life, don't talk about marriage, that doesn't poll well. Just focus on so-called economic issues." But we argue, look, these things are inextricably tied, they're indivisible.

One of the most important things for keeping people out of poverty, for instance, in the United States is having a mother and a father in your home. In other words, the number one predictor of childhood poverty in the United States is whether that child has a father in his home. So in other words, a family issue is the most fundamental variable in whether someone is in poverty or not. So you simply can't separate those. So when people say, "Well, I just want to talk about the free market, I want to talk about limited government." What do you think is going to happen if every American family suddenly collapsed? This would not be a libertarian paradise where everybody is sort of the free to do what they want to do. It would be a world in which the state was involved in every private and personal decision that a person makes. That's not the paradise of a limited government.

Betty: Don't you think we've been complacent, as Christians we've been convinced and told that it's politically incorrect to involve ourselves in the economy and the things of the country -- the secular, the so-called secular runnings of the country? And that, "Oh, no! Oh, no! We can't mesh the two together." Well, I want to know how you separate the two.

Jay: Absolutely. We're often told don't try to -- you're imposing your morality or you're legislating morality.

It is the strangest thing that people say this because I always say, "Well, so what should we legislate? Like sports scores or the laws of physics? What are laws?" Laws are the most fundamental moral judgments we make as a culture. That's why we have laws against fraud, we have laws against stealing and killing. Those are moral decisions or moral judgments.

Yeah, of course it is true that you don't have a law against every sin, against envy or anger that someone has in their hearts, of course, but these sort of fundamental moral questions are the very essence of politics. So that's really the question.

The secular left would love for Christians to decide okay, well, I believe in separation of church and state so I won't talk about my moral views. So then they can just have the territory all to themselves. But it is really a sucker's bargain because of course, even atheists know that it's wrong to torture a small child for the fun of it, for instance. Everybody has moral knowledge. That's what you base your laws on.

So we have as much say in the public square as anyone whether they believe in God or not.

James: But we don't say. We hide the light. We have the say and what we have actually done is not to speak is to speak -- not to say is to say -- we have not to act is to act. Christians, for whatever reason have pulled out. Here's the thing you need to understand. Jay and I are not called to a party, we are called to deliver the truth to all parties, to all people.

This is not a book written for democrats or republicans or libertarians or independents. It is a book written to every person on planet earth about eternal, unshakable, in our opinion irrefutable truth, and we've put it out. By the way, some of the greatest minds have said -- and I know a get a little firm, a get a little worked up. Now you pray I'll become a little calmer, because I really am pretty stirred. I'm trying to be calm.

[Laughter]

But the thing is that we really do believe that we have got something here that is so important that you've got to get it out, you don't hold it back. We believe it is imperative to get it out. That's why we feel like we have written something that will take people in

the direction that they're trying to go. And it is written to every person, to every candidate in every political party, we believe the light of God, Catholics, Protestants, all believers, and all people who believe faith is important, family is important, freedom is important.

We believe that every one of us has a responsibility to be well-informed, actively involved in the process of selection and choosing because the people we choose, they put the policies in place, they put the laws in place that we live under, or either encumbered by or assisted in our liberty to be able to function freely as our founders understood it and we're about to lose that. I think we're very close to losing our freedom.

Jay: I do too. Every four years, every presidential election, every big election, you hear people say it is a very important time. But I really do believe that this is the most important election year that the American republic has ever had. I just think there are so many things converging. I don't think the economic policies, the deficit spending, it is just simply mathematics that we can't keep this up much longer. Four years, we'll be spending as much just paying the interest on the debt as we're spending on our entire defense, which is the main point of having a federal government. So this can't happen very long.

So the person that is in the White House in 2012 is going to have some very tough decisions to make. He is going to have real intestinal fortitude and be able to bring the American people along to do some things that a lot of people aren't going to like. It's going to be unpopular.

So I think that's what we need to be praying for. I think someone that has both the right principles but also knows how to apply them properly in the right policies and the moral conviction and the character to be able to weather the storm.

James: The book is in the bookstores. I challenge you to get a copy, to get a copy for a friend that you know is concerned about the country. You may even consider getting one for someone that has kind of pulled back but you know they love their family.

The other thing I'd really like to suggest you do, get one for your priest or your pastor. Encourage them to read it.

And here, if you just say, "Well, I don't know how active I want to be." I promise you, we will point you to the issues about which we must pray. We must focus our prayers.

Would you join me and Betty in saying thanks to Jay Richards for being our guest today, and also for helping us with this incredible endeavor? It's a real mission assignment; God

has called me to this mission field. We love the mission field for the world -- we love to help the people that are downtrodden. We want to do more to help the downtrodden here. We want to get the wealth creators and the people who have created the wealth to quit saying, "Well, I paid my taxes and now I did my due." We want them to focus their attention on trying to solve problems here at home too; not just the government that has mismanaged our money worse than anybody on planet earth. So we want to refocus some attention.

Betty and I are mission minded. We want America to be able to continue to support missions, Australians to be able to do so, Europeans to do so. We want things to get right. I want you to look at something. A lot of times you'll see a challenge that you just can't figure out how to meet, a disease you don't know how to whip. I'm going to show you a problem, there is a very simple cure for. It is not something we have to test. This works!

I want you to listen to this doctor and we've got the answer to what he addresses.

On the mission field:

Translator: It depends on the type of illness but in general if a child has a waterborne disease and he is not treated in the first 24 hours he has a 60 to 70% chance of getting worse because of dehydration. After that, the child's body will probably shut down and die.

Translator: This is a place where we came to bathe, to wash our dishes, and we take the water back home and drink it. We cook our food in this water. They also bring the animals in here to wash them. Blank.

Translator: The kids get sick often. They have diarrhea, fever, and vomiting. We take them to the health center almost each month but they keep getting sick. My child right now is sick with diarrhea. A lot of children from this community have died. This water is contaminated. We know it but there is nothing we can do about it.

End of clip

In the studio:

James: But there is something we can do about it. I want to ask you to reach out and really touch someone with love. Right now and throughout this program people have been calling, some of them perhaps are concerned about what's going on in their family, maybe in their country, something is on their heart. Maybe their heart's broken so they call for prayer. Love pays for that call.

But I want to ask you to call right now to say, "You know what? I want to give those people a fresh, clean, non-contaminated water source. Let's drill them a well." We're going to drill hundreds of wells this year and you're the one that determine how many. We have focused on 12 different nations and we're asking you to help us drill the wells.

Betty, they're \$4800. You and I have had the joy of asking God years ago, "Help us to be able to do this. Please, dear God." And he answered our prayer, because it was really in our heart to do it.

I believe that our viewers, there are some of you that can drill a well. There may be some who can drill more than one. Thank God there is some that do that. There are some who can give \$1200 and pray, "Lord, give three more the ability to give \$1200 and we'll have a well." Or \$2400 and pray for one to match that. Some of you can drill a well but Betty, there are many who give \$48 and that gives ten people Water for Life.

The thing I think our viewers need to understand is the \$48 that gives ten people Water for Life or the \$144 that gives 30, that is just as important and perhaps more so even than those who give the entire well because we don't have that many that can do that, but many can give \$48.

Betty: That's right, James. And this should excite us! It excites James and me. We love giving opportunity for these families, these children.

You heard the heart of that mother. She knows the water is bad but what can she do? Well, this is the answer. We can go in and drill these water wells and give them a choice. Which would you think they would take? The clean water or the muddy diseased water? I know! Please help us be a part of doing this.

James: Well, we know Jesus said if you give just a cup of water in my name you don't lose your reward and you let him determine the reward. But as far as Betty and I are concerned the fact that we gave the water is reward enough; to see a child have health and a chance at life, that's reward enough.

We're sending, by the way, these beautiful little coffee mugs. One of them represents the clean water; the other one, of course, it is just tan, it represents the contaminated, but they're beautiful coffee mugs. You'll enjoy them. But I think every time you use them and you will, you'll pray for people to have clean water. We're asking you to make the best gift you can.

We want to send you the book, *Believe This Not That*. Don't believe the lies, believe the truth.

If you'll drill a well or give a gift of \$1200 or more we want to send the beautiful bronze, "The Lion and The Lamb." It's absolutely beautiful!

Please right now dial that number. We're going to send you some gifts to bless you but you're going to be making a gift that gives life, that gives these children and their families a chance.

Thank you for making that call. If you want to go online *LifeToday.org* use your bankcard like it's a check.

Father, I pray every person watching, please Lord, touch their heart. Every person watching will give something. Thank you for that. In Jesus' name.

Thank you for making that call. Thank you for making that gift.

Begin video clip:

Announcer: Every day millions of children are forced to make a dreadful choice, drink filthy, polluted water filled with deadly disease or die from thirst. No child should ever be faced with this decision.

The good news is that there is a solution -- Mission: Water for Life is one of the most exciting and viable demonstrations of God's love in the world today. The suffering can end because clean water changes everything!

With your gift today we will begin drilling 350 new water wells for remote villages in 12 different nations. Your gift of \$24 will help provide clean water for five people! A gift of \$48 will help provide for 10 people! \$72 will reach 15 people. And \$144 will help provide fresh clean disease-free water for 30 people for a lifetime!

With your gift be sure to request, *Believe This Not That* a brand-new topical Bible promise book that will encourage you in every area of life.

With your gift of \$100 or more you may request our newly released *Water for Life* mug set, a daily reminder of the clean water you make possible to those who thirst.

Also please prayerfully consider a gift of \$1200 to help provide water for 250 people or a gift of \$4800 to help sponsor a complete well. And be sure to request the 2012 commemorative bronze sculpture, "The Lamb and the Lion."

Please call, write, or make your secure gift online today!

End of clip

In the studio:

James: This is an absolutely beautiful, beautiful bronze. I love that! I can't help but say, I know the day will come when the lion will lie down with the lamb but right now Betty and I are praying we can help get the -- and Jay and I, get the elephant to lie down with the donkey. Wouldn't that be refreshing?

[Laughter]

I want you to get the book, *Indivisible*. If you care about the direction of our country, you want to know how to pray and what to do; I believe we're going to give you as clear a picture as you could ever ask for. I believe it is an answer. I believe what we've put here is an answer to your prayers so we're going to see an answer to Jesus' prayers that we be one, perfected in unity, and that his will be done.

Would you join Betty and me in saying thanks to Jay Richards?

Jay, thank you! Thank you for your help. Thank you for joining with us.

Thank all of you for watching *LIFE Today*. Encourage your friends to watch. Thanks for your help drilling wells!

James: I'm excited about coming to many areas of our country. Check the web site to see when and if we'll be in your area. The *Indivisible* book tour, this is the way to lead our great nation out of the wilderness back into the land of blessing and promise. Don't miss it!

Announcer: Join us tomorrow as Sheila Walsh interviews James and Jay Richards as they challenge us to become one nation truly under God.