

Week 13

3/21/12

James: Welcome to "Wednesdays with Beth" on *LIFE Today*. I'm James Robison. It is a joy to come into your home. I oftentimes wish that I could be looking at you while you're looking at us.

You say, "Oh, no you don't!" I understand. But I want you to know that somehow God's put a deep care in our heart for you. I know you see us care for people around the world who may have a need but we care about you the same way. If we knew you, if I were sitting there with you I would care, Betty would care, Beth would care. That's one of the reasons that I really want you to get *Indivisible*. I'm asking you to get your friends to get it.

Beth Moore is going to be talking about dysfunctional families and how you can get help no matter how big the problem. Well, we've got a dysfunctional family as a nation right now in many ways and we're really headed toward perilous situations but there is a right way out. There's no problem too big for God to deal with.

You're going to hear that from Beth and let's get the word God has given us today for this family.

Here's Beth Moore.

Begin video clip:

Beth: I want to have a little fun with you before we pray and get started in God's word because something occurred to me here recently; the strange phobias that our families obviously had. I had observed one for the 40,000th time in my home and I thought you know what? I'm just going to pitch that out on the blog and see if anybody can relate. So here's what I threw out to them. I said, "I really do believe that there are some people that I know under my own roof that have what I'm calling trash-can-phobia. That means that somehow with the trash can only a few feet away that everything collects on the counter. It's like, just reach here and throw it away. Maybe it is Sweet and Low packets, that's the main one. Anybody? It is not a big deal to pick it up but it is just our co-dependence, we're going to go behind it and we're going to pick it all up. But it could be an empty milk

carton but it's like you're the only person, somehow, that can walk it from here to just right over to here. I even laid out a tape measure to just measure how far would it have been? Because there was a fruit bowl and there was just all of this peel to the orange and it was just feet! Just feet away! And it occurred to me that my loved one could not help it. The person had trash-can-aphobia.

[Laughter]

So what happened after that is that some of the people on the blog began chiming in according to different phobias their own families had shown. We had shoe-rack-aphobia, and that means when you can't seem to put your shoes up. They just stay in a pile even though the rack is just right there.

This is one of my very favorite ones and this one needs a very large support group. There were many that wrote in about this one. This is toilet-roll-aphobia.

[Laughter]

This is the phenomenon of not, somehow, being able to take off the empty roll that we put the full one down on the floor even though the empty one... It is like, right here! Like right here! But somehow changing it and putting it in, you may be the only one in your house capable of putting the toilet roll back on the tube. It may be just you because why? Your loved ones cannot help it. They have toilet-roll-aphobia.

Then there is laundry-phobia. That is when the laundry just piles up to the heavenlies and like the glory of God just shines down upon it. It is like the tent of meeting where it just constantly calls to you but you never do anything with it. Anybody know what I'm talking about?

There were others that cried out with a phobia called fold-aphobia. In other words, they can get the laundry done but they just can't get it put up. Some of you know about that. Hang-a-towel-aphobia when people just can't seem to hang up the towel that is laying on the floor.

One of them said their family was suffering from toilet-seat-aphobia, that they just cannot -- they're scared of it! They're scared to put the lid down. They're frightened of it! It is not their fault. They cannot help it. They're scared of it! They're terrified of it!

Mop-aphobia. Where it is like one woman said, "I don't mind vacuuming, I don't mind sweeping, but I'm scared to death of a mop." It is a phobia. Just terrified of it.

I started thinking in terms of our series that we're in that for some of us we have heal-aphobia. We honestly, we're scared to death that what it would take to cooperate with God for healing is going to somehow hurt so badly that we will never survive it.

You know what? That is one of the biggest lies the enemy tells us. That is the big deception. We live with the pain day in and day out and never let him get us to freedom because we're afraid of what it would take. When listen -- aren't we in enough pain already? Are you telling me that it would be worse than what we're already going through?

It was very interesting here recently I had an opportunity to go through a book with a group of people online. It was the very first time I had the experience. In the past, I had feedback from various journeys in the word but now we can do it in realtime together because of things like social networking and blogs. So we were able to go chapter by chapter through a book.

I noticed something that was remarkable to me. We had so many that were very anxious to let God do what he had come to do and set us free, and it happened to be that that particular journey was on dealing with our insecurity and letting him work security that he died on the cross to bring us, into the reality of our own lives, and not just as a theory to us. So many had gone through it victoriously but I noticed this phenomenon of people just scared to death to deal with the subject.

I thought, Lord, what is this? What is this? In some respects, just a group, there were so many, we did it with hundreds, so it was really a small group of them but I noticed over and over again, I'm talking whining -- just whining!

Listen, whiners will never be warriors! Never! Never! I kept thinking to myself, because they were, "This is so painful! This is so painful!" It is -- it is painful but we're dealing with it every single day. Every single day it is painful. Why don't we let God bring us some healing and get on with living instead of just live staying under it? We are phobic of healing -- scared to death of it!

Case in point, here recently I broke my little toe on my left foot and let me tell you, it was at that moment that I realized that I really do not cuss. Because when I tell you that it hurt, when I tell you I saw Stars -- when I'm telling you it stuck out a direction it was not supposed to be, and I mean I had to steel myself like this until I could make myself step back on that foot. And you know there is not a lot they can do. So I looked on the net --

you know how we constantly go to be our own physicians on the Internet. Even with a broken toe you can think, I have about three months to live, according to the Internet.

[Laughter]

So I did what it said I was supposed to do but finally I thought, I was seeing a doctor about something else so I decided to tell him. I said, "I've got to tell you something, I think I've broken my toe."

He said, "Well, I need to look at it."

I said, "Well, I don't mind you looking at it but I do not want you to touch it."

[Laughter]

He said, "Okay. You don't want me to touch it?"

I said, "No! Don't do anything to it! I just want you to look at it." Well, he took one look at it and he said, "You've got a broken toe." But he said, "Beth, but I need to feel of it because I need to know if it is also jammed and I think it is jammed."

I said, "I don't want you to touch it."

He said, "Beth, I need to touch it."

I said, "Okay but don't do anything to it!"

[Laughter]

Do not pull that toe! Do not pull that toe!" And so I'm laying there on the examining table.

He gets down there and he goes, "I'm going to have to pull that toe."

I'm going, "No! I'm telling you, it's sore! It's sore."

He said, "Beth, pain will not kill you."

I said, "Pain hurts! I hate to state the obvious but pain hurts!" I laid there with my hands covering my eyes going, "Ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh!"

And boom, I mean he pulled. I heard it pop. But boy, was it worth the pain. It was completely disjointed.

Every now and then we've got to let God grab hold of that thing and reset it. He's got to pull that back out of the jam that it is in and reset the bone. That is our restoration, that is our healing. Anybody game for that? Just like the pain, it may be intense for a moment but we're going to get to the other side and that's when healing comes. Let's quit being scared to death of what it would take to be whole.

Would you stand please and let's pray together? Let's open ourselves to a work from God. I don't know what you happened to be doing today. You may be so busy around that house but if you have a chance sit down for just a few minutes and let this be not just another Bible study or another message on Christian programming, let this be a day of healing. Those times come where, for whatever reason, you're just ready, and in that moment you think, my life was never the same after that. This could be the day! This could be day when we gather the courage to do what it takes to be people who know the powerful healing of God. Let's pray to that end.

Father, we bless your name and we thank you, God! Your ways are good; your ways are right! Father, it is not your desire to put any of us off and to withhold yourself, Lord. You are found by all who seek you. Father, every relationship, every single encounter we've had with you has come because you initiated it, Lord. You are the initiator of all things faith. You are seeking us. You Lord are chasing us down. And oh, God, I pray -- I pray with all of my heart at this moment that we will stop and be caught by you. That we will be somehow overwhelmed and ravished by the holy passion of a God who loves us so. Do what only you can do. Be our healer. Put us back together again in the magnificent and mighty name of Jesus. Amen.

You may be seated.

Do you remember with me that we ended the first half of our series with the point that family calamity does not have to be terminal -- it doesn't have to be terminal. I want you to know that Christ himself had a very dysfunctional family. If you don't believe it, you go and look in the gospels and trace every single time there is a reference to his brothers or these would be half brothers; he was of course conceived by the Holy Spirit, they by Joseph himself, his half brothers and his half sisters, and there are all sorts of problems in the family.

And what's interesting is that Jesus himself brought them to the family because there is nothing quite like having an older brother that really is -- "Oh, he is so perfect!" No, he like really is!

[Laughter]

Like you're coming up behind one that is like Mr. Perfect -- he really is! He really is! So we're told that, obviously, in their jealousy they did not believe him and did not believe in him as the Messiah.

Now, Mary knew better. There is nothing like being the mom in a family where there is this kind of sibling rivalry and this kind of division and this kind of destruction in the family. But Christ himself knew what it was like to have a family that was falling to pieces!

I want you to notice something with me. I want you to go with me to First Corinthians chapter 15. I want to show you something that God just reminded me of here recently and I pray it brings the blessing to you that it brought to me.

Now just hold tight for a second on First Corinthians chapter 15 and let me pour a little bit of foundation here. One of the things that we've been talking about in our series is that family calamity doesn't have to be terminal. Now for some of us and we're going to get to this in just a moment, the brokenness has already come and we're going to talk about the healing from that brokenness in our very next points. But for now, I want to talk about times when we really do see God bring a restoring work even after years of division or destruction.

In the gospels we see Christ completely redefine the family structure because he has his real life family of origin but as they fall away from him, we see that they all start out together in the very beginning, we see in John chapter two that he is there at the wedding in Cana with his disciples and with his mother and his brothers. So they're all together there. Then we see the family fall away, except of course, Mary.

And then we see that he refers to his own disciples, those who do the will of God, "They are my family." So we think, well, that's the way it ends. And then at the cross, he looked down from the cross upon his grieving mother and he said to John the beloved disciple, he said, "Son, behold your mother. Mother, behold your son." And he was restructuring the family unit telling us that there is not only blood family there is also spiritual family and it is real and it is alive and it is something that transforms us. So we see that he is changing the climate of the family.

But does that mean that he went on from that point and never looked back? Because it looks like if we stop right there, his entire family now, he's dumped the old, he is on to the new, and he is never looking back. But that is not the way it was. I want you to pick up in this little portion of First Corinthians chapter 15 and see with me that it records the resurrection of Christ and his appearances to different people and groups of people. I'm going to pick up where it says in verse three -- First Corinthians 15, verse 3.

3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

I've got to stop there just long enough to say to you that it is also what is of first importance here to us, the pure gospel message of the Lord Jesus Christ. I don't know what has caused you to tune in today, maybe you watch Monday through Friday --

I hope that you do -- but have you ever placed your trust in Christ as your personal savior? Because that is the only thing that saves us. Believing in our hearts and confessing with our mouths that Jesus Christ is Lord.

We want you to know that as we study together and seek to have healing in our areas of brokenness, there is no healing more important than that healing. To seek salvation in Christ, receiving the grace gift that he gave us on the cross, it is of first importance.

Then it says in verse five; it begins to give us a record in chronological order that is very, very intriguing of him revealing himself after his resurrection. It says that on the third day according to scriptures:

5 and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve.

Okay, this is fascinating because this is the only place that we're told that at some point Christ Jesus went to Peter who had denied him three times; he went to him all by himself after he was resurrected from the dead. He sought him out and I love that! Because there is no record in all of scripture what took place in that conversation. You know why? Because it is none of our business!

Some of the things that we go through with Christ are just between the two of us. Some of the deepest moments you've had with him are those that you won't even tell, they're just intimate between the two of you. He went to Peter one-on-one because he knew he would be suffering with the fact that he had denied him and it was going to be a moment

between the two of them that was important to Christ that he had the privacy of having his dignity restored.

Anybody love Christ because of that kind of thing right there? And it also says that he appeared to James. This is a very, very important value to us because this is telling us that this was his -- this was his half brother. This shows us, it illustrates to us that it wasn't just on with the new and no looking back. He went to have his half brother restored to him.

When you open up the pages of Acts chapter one, you find Mary and all of the brothers up there in that upper room worshipping God and confessing Christ Jesus as Messiah, and this was the beginning of it. Yes, God has family for us in the people of God and we're going to be talking about that in a few minutes but he can also take a relationship that is long since been broken and he can restore something back to you that is so precious to you.

I shared with you in the first half of our series, I think maybe even in the very last segment, that God has brought a great restoration of one of my siblings back to the family. I can't tell you all the fresh healing that is coming to my life by watching what my sibling is going through. I told her, I said I would never have dreamt that so much of my own healing would come from what I see you going through.

When she gets a fresh word, it comes fresh to me... to everything to her. She can see John 3:16 and she would just be in a revival over it. Suddenly, it's causing me to have a revival. I mean you can have a secondhand revival off of somebody else's revival!

[Laughter]

And just feel like a miracle because you're watching somebody else be a miracle. I just keep telling him over and over again, this is why I love you so much! This is why I love you! You just don't let us alone. You chase us down. You seek us to bring us home. I love that about him.

End of clip

In the studio:

James: Boy, that's the power of a testimony. When you know God's done something in someone's life you can rejoice. But also, you know what Beth pointed out about many of the situations that we find ourselves in, they're really private issues except really for the immediate family of faith or your family or those involved. The world, the media always wants to see the ugly.

Here's the deal. God really sharply rebukes those who try to expose the nakedness of another person, a family member, rather than to cover them, which God covers, starting with the Garden of Eden and with the robes of righteousness, God's total forgiveness, restoration for every member of our family.

I do want to remind you that we're deeply concerned about our national family here in America. I, along with Jay Richards -- now think about this because this in itself is kind of a miracle but we're right on target. James Robison, an evangelical Protestant, and Jay Richards, a highly educated academic, Catholic, we have joined our hearts to write a book dealing with our common concerns and how we find the common ground to address them personally and nationally.

I'm really anxious to send it to you because I want to help you and help everyone you know. See, this ministry is totally committed to bringing the transforming power of God's love into lives where there is suffering and pain. Perhaps nothing illustrates the pain that one can experience when God is totally left out and the predatory nature of the enemy, the destroyer, takes people captive. Literally, this is happening in the sex trade. We can set people free. Watch this.

On the mission field:

Giselle: As you can see it's like complete chaos. Traffickers come here and just wait for the children. The way that they do it is normally going through the villages in Nepal, tricking the parents, tricking the children. And then once they've got that child, she goes through that gate, her life of horror begins and she's sold into sex slavery for the rest of her life. She will have no more hope.

Giselle: Fortunately, Kutu's story has a happy ending. She was rescued and now has hope.

But there are thousands of children that are lost through the border never ever to be seen again. If we can provide a home for them, if we can provide rescue centers that we're able to bring these children back to we can really help to provide that opportunity and that safety that these children deserve.

End of clip

In the studio:

James: It's hard to imagine that anyone would take a little child -- it's hard to imagine what we see here in the United States. Children -- father killing his children here weeks back with a hatchet and then burning the house. God help us! These terribly vicious,

despicable characters in such desperate need of the delivering power of almighty God are taking little children captive and making sex slaves out of them.

And in Nepal, as one example, and we're working in many different areas, but let's just take Nepal, it's a very poor country, and the children are taken by the predatory sex traffickers by promising the parents something or the child something or sometimes they can just walk up and find them walking alone and just take them. And then they'll take them into India and then they'll literally keep them as a sex slave throughout their life.

We're able to get these children by showing them a film of what can happen and it captures their attention and makes them aware. We're able to deal with their families and tell them the truth and let them know what's happening. Then when we find a girl, like this little girl, we can put them into a place of care. That's why we're asking you to help us build a *LIFE* Center in Nepal where we can literally care of hundreds of children that need help over a period of time. It takes \$128 to rescue one of these children or women.

Giselle is putting the women we get out of the sex traffic to work. They're making these beautiful beads and we want to send you the beads to say thank you if you'll help us by making a gift of \$128.

I want you to keep in mind that your gift is going to be matched. And you making a gift of \$64, we've got the \$128 now. Some people say, "I can't do the \$128 but I really want to help rescue someone." Well, it will be doubled. Everything you give will be doubled. And we need to build the *LIFE* Center in Nepal. We're asking our friends to make \$1,000 gifts; that will immediately be doubled. Would you dial the number? Please do this and say, "You know what? I'm going to rescue a child like that. I'm going to give them a future. I'm going to reach them, I'm going to rescue them, we're going to restore their lives."

Would you dial the number? Take your bankcard and use it like a check, please! Make the largest gift you can. And thank God because someone is so concerned about the importance of this particular outreach, they said, "We'll match your gift." Would you call right now? Could you help us build that *LIFE* Center and make a \$1,000 gift?

I really sense there are some of you who can give even more than that. You think about it. A \$5,000 gift will immediately become \$10,000; a \$10,000 will become \$20,000. We really need over \$200,000. It's going to provide quite a facility.

We're going to send the book, *Indivisible*, to help us get out of our ditch of defeat, debt, and despair here and to help you and your family and those you love. I promise you, this

is the way out of the wilderness. It's going to help us. We'll send it to say thanks. Thank you for making that call or going online and making the gift God put on your heart.

Remember we're sending "The Lion and The Lamb" bronze, along with the other gifts if you'll help us build that *LIFE* Center in Nepal. God bless you as you make that gift.

If you write a check, make it to *LIFE*. Call us and tell us you're mailing it.

Begin video clip:

Announcer: Human trafficking... it's impossible to believe but at this very moment innocent children, many very young are being sold and forced into sexual slavery and exploited in every way imaginable, and someone must save them!

With your help today we can reach, rescue, and restore their hope for a better future and we can also build the New Hope Life Center in Nepal, which will be a safe house for children for years to come.

And now a miracle opportunity of \$384,000 matching gift with a cost of \$128 to rescue a child, that means your gift of \$128 will be matched to help rescue two children. And \$64 will be matched to help rescue one more child.

With your gift please request *Indivisible* by James Robison and Jay Richards, a soul-stirring read for every Christian who desires to restore America to the values that formed our strong foundation built on faith, family, and freedom.

With your gift of \$128, which today will help rescue two children, you will receive a unique and beautiful necklace handcrafted by women who are survivors of human trafficking and slavery.

Finally, please prayerful consider a gift of \$1,000 which will be matched to \$2,000 for the New Hope Life Center and you may request the beautiful bronze sculpture, "The Lion and the Lamb."

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

End of clip

In the studio:

James: It really is exciting to not only rescue these who have been trapped and give them

a new life but to give them a job, which is what literally happens with these beautiful sets of beads.

I want you to remember that we are sending the book, *Indivisible*. Other than love and forgiveness that God offers and us telling you about it, the greatest thing we can do for you is to show you the way out of darkness back into the light of God's blessings and to show your family -- and yes, to show an entire nation, which remember, God's Word was not only written to individuals, it was written to the entire nation. This is the way out of the ditch of defeat, the way out of the darkness back into the light of God's blessings. I'm anxious to send it to you to say thanks so much for your gift. God bless you!

James: Do not move God's standard.

Announcer: Tomorrow, a call to protect faith, family, and freedom.