

Week 32
8/1/12

Randy: Welcome to *LIFE Today*. I'm Randy Robison and this is my wife Debbie. My parents, James and Betty are taking a well needed break today but Beth Moore is still here. She is teaching her series called, "The Calling." I know it's going to be a blessing to you so let's go to Beth right now and I'll be back after her teaching. Let's watch Beth right now.

Beth: Jesus is telling somebody listening or watching today to do something that you've already done and it didn't work. And he's going, "Do it again! This time I want you to just cast it over on this side."

"But I already did it over here!"

"No. Do it again."

"Master, at your word. At your word I'll let down the net."

And they got so many fish they had to call over the other boat. Finally there were so many fish in the boat with them, the boats started to sink.

I want you to notice something in verse 7. It says in the ESV, "They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them." They signaled to their partners. I love this. This is when I love to get into a little bit of original word study because it gets really fun. This is a place where I got a little kick out of it because that word "signaled" right there literally means to signal by nodding your head. To signal by nodding your head. So, they didn't really say anything, they signaled by nodding their head and I thought that is such a classic man-thing! Don't you think it is? Women, we don't pass one another and go [nods head].

[Laughter]

I mean, am I telling the truth? I mean, we just don't do that! We just don't do that! But my man will just [jerks head].

[Laughter]

We have some cactus land. I always try to tell you don't be impressed with it because you should just see it. Honestly, if cactus is ever worth anything we are going to be just rolling, rolling, because we've got so much cactus. When we go to that area of Texas men, they just nod at one another. There really is very little conversation that happens and there's almost no smiling whatsoever. I think, in this part of Texas, they do not trust a grinner. That's what I think. That's what I think!

[Laughter]

Now, one reason they probably signal with their heads is because their hands were busy. They didn't yell, they did this business. [Jerks head] Like that business. Like, get over here! And so over they came and together they could not pull all the fish in the boat and it began to sink and so did the second one.

Now, look what happens in verse 8 because this is just, this is where I want to show you, this is where I want to prove to you biblically, something happened this time that, in the midst of all those people being healed, in the midst of what happened to his mother-in-law when she hopped up and began to --. I was going to say, "-- put on hot dogs." But they would not have eaten hot dogs, no they would not have. But she hopped up and served it.

Something happened right here that didn't happen there. This is what we can't explain to other people. We just know that it seared through our own hearts. In verse 8 it says, "When Simon Peter saw it he fell down at Jesus' knees."

Okay, now go here with me for a second because, remember Jesus is in the boat. Okay? He's in the boat. So the reason why Peter is at his knees is because he's in the boat.

Now, I don't know, their vessels were fairly large so there would certainly have been understandably room enough for him to have lay down at his feet but also the boat is full of what, ladies and gentlemen?

Audience: Fish!

Beth: Fish! So he is kneeling down at his knees and he says something to him that is of great importance to us in our present series. Somebody tell me what he says.

Depart from me. Go away from me! Why? I'm a sinful man.

How come he didn't figure out he was a sinful man when his mother-in-law was healed. And all manner of people came and had their diseases healed, why didn't he figure out he was a sinful man then? Because somehow he knew that Jesus had so known him on his own turf that it scared the living daylights out of him.

I just want to ask you has there ever been a time when God did something profound for you that somehow, after the initial delight of what he had done, it hit you how well he knew you and it nearly scared you to death? That's happened to me! That's happened to me. Where he would, honestly, I can't tell you what he would have had to have managed in order for me to read a scripture on an exact day when such and what was going to happen that I was going to have this encounter after having had that conversation. Setups! These divine setups all the time. Does anybody know what I'm talking about? Start asking him to make you aware of it.

Here's what happens. At first we're all like, whoa! That was good! And then it's like, whoa! He's in my house! He's watching me! He's hearing me on my phone! He's watching me on my computer! This man is on to me. He's come into my home now and he's messing with me at work. That's when you know you're getting surrounded by Jesus. "Depart from me! Depart from me!"

I want to suggest to you that one of the biggest miracles in this scene is that Jesus did not depart from him. Do you know, and I wonder, now I just pray this is going to speak to somebody listening and watching today, how many times have you said, one way or another, maybe with different words, "Go away from me! Go away!"

How many times have we, in this room, said to Jesus, "Depart from me! Depart from me!" And you know why? Because I'm a sinful woman. Because I'm a sinful woman. It scares us to death that he would hang around when we know we do not have it together. That's the crazy thing is that the light of Christ's countenance is so bright when he reveals himself that you will always get a self-revelation out of it.

I want to suggest to you today it is one reason why people avoid an intimate relationship with Jesus. Because the thing about it is you know that the more you get to know him the light of his presence and know it's -- I want to make sure you understand, especially if you're new with us and if you're new to this whole Bible thing. None of us have seen him out-rightly. At least I haven't. I don't see any of them lifting up their hands like they've just seen him like appear before their very eyes in flesh and blood. But we know this, that when he's revealed himself to us, if it was intimately enough, something was also revealed about ourselves. Sometimes it's

something wonderful, like how loved we are. But if I'm wigged out in sin I am like so aware of it I can hardly bear it. Depart from me!

And I want you to know it doesn't matter how many times you tell him to go away, once he's on to you he's on to you! You'll think that you're going to like leave him at home and then he shows up at the boat! Why? Because Jesus loves a fisherman! Jesus loves a hairdresser, a bank teller, a teacher, a nurse, a doctor, a lawyer, secretary, administrator, a principal. He loves us and he is closing in on us and a beautiful thing happens right there.

See, it's so beautiful you can't appreciate "Come follow me" until you hear Peter say, "Depart from me!" Because he said, "Leave me alone!"

He said, "Oh, I'm going to leave, alright, but I am taking you with me. You are going to follow me."

You have not sinned so much that you can keep Jesus away from you. I don't care how you tell him. Some of us are trying to stay in our sin so he will leave us alone. If we do enough of this maybe we'll wake up, maybe we'll come out of that stupor and he'll be gone, only he's still there every single time. That's his way.

I've got to tell you guys something. I hope so much she is watching this broadcast today. I had an encounter a couple of weeks ago with one of you viewers that I cannot quit thinking about. It's just like under my skin and it didn't involve twelve words.

I was in a major airport. I don't want to be too specific because I don't want anyone to be on to it. I was in a major airport where I was making a connection and my plane was very late and I had a very short one and it was a very, very big airport. It was one of those that you just go hauling down and I was, I was just moving as fast as I could heading down to my next gate when I smelled popcorn and I want to tell you something, I have no self-control with popcorn.

I was raised, my daddy ran movie theatres and I was raised on the wonderful smell of popcorn. I cannot resist it! And I could smell it. It was like, oh no! Oh no! Of all things! With this nose, I'm just like a bird dog on point. I could just turn it like a radar, like a whole satellite. I thought, "There!" So I ran over there as fast as I could and there were two young women behind the counter, both of them beautiful women of color, one brown, one darker, darker brown. Absolutely, just faces I'll never forget.

And they were busy doing what they were doing and I walked up to the counter and one of them looked up at me and had this strangest -- I don't even think I can do the expression for you. She had this strangest look on her face and I mean her brows drawn down, her eyes just like piercing a hole through me and she said -- I mean she looked very, very disturbed.

She said very quietly, "I've seen you."

What do you say to that?

[Laughter]

Because was it in the ladies' room?

[Laughter]

"No. I don't know where."

So I was frozen because I was frozen! I did not know what to say. I went -- I went, "You have?"

[Laughter]

And she looks up at me and says, "Yeah." And she looks down, just like this. She never looks up at me again. Never, never looks eyes with me again. She looks straight down and says, "Yeah. On TV." That was it.

I tried to engage her. She was all the way on the other side of the counter. There was no way, they must come in through the back because there was no opening there. Because I'm a hugger. Listen, if I'm talking to you I'm on your person. But I could tell when she looked down, I could tell that the tears were about to spill out of her eyes and I was so overwhelmed I didn't know what to do.

The other woman said, "Can I help you?" Because we're having the oddest moment, the other woman is going like, "We're selling popcorn here."

[Laughter]

You've got customers behind you. Order or move!

So, I tell her what I want and the other woman, I get -- I said, "How much?"

And the other woman does her arm like this and says, "No."

In other words, she's going to pay for my popcorn. I can hardly tell y'all this. I can tell she's crying and I don't know what to do. I mean, they've shushed me, she never looked back at me. I tried my -- Y'all know I am a talker. You know I would have done anything to have tried to engage her. And, it was over. It was absolutely over. But I am telling you that I turned around because my flight was like that, [snaps her fingers] and headed to my flight and I mean I sobbed all the way to that gate. All the way! I have no idea what had even happened to the woman. I have no idea. But I felt like I knew because what would cause you not to look at people, and to me that's always shame, that's always shame. So, I wanted so badly to go, "Me too! I've been in the pit too! I have! I have!"

I wanted to say to her, "Did you watch long enough to know that you could not possibly have out-sinned me and that Jesus has saved me from so many things but nothing bigger than my plain old self. He saved me from myself and my self-destructive heart. I'd have done anything to have engaged her but it just was a moment that was just gone.

I have thought about her so much. I hope so much that God has done -- I want you to know I have never gotten over you that day. And I thought God pierced my heart. And you know what I thought? I don't think, many times people have ever said to that young woman, "I love you so much! You are so valuable! You are so priceless!"

I had this strangest feeling, like no one had ever said, "You are so beautiful! So beautiful!" Because I knew she did not think she was. I knew she did not think she had value, and I knew a savior who did. And I knew that she may have run me off, but Jesus stayed and scooped popcorn all day.

[Laughter]

Then she got into her car and he went with her. She got home and he went with her. And everywhere she has said, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful woman."

"I'll depart but you're going with me. Follow me!"

End of clip

On the mission field:

Beth: I come with such gratitude to God for James and Betty Robison. They are such tremendous people of God and I not only love them and have so much respect for what they bring to the body of Christ, I also get a huge kick out of them and love them dearly. So I'm so grateful. Keith and I both love the privilege to serve with them.

I want to tell you something, on Wednesdays we get this opportunity. This is the outreach that we do on Wednesdays but somebody else on the other side of the world doesn't even have clean water to drink. They can't even get their mouths wrapped around weekly Bible study because they are trying to stay alive. There are people that don't have enough food to eat and there are outreaches of life that are meeting those kinds of needs.

So I love being part of a ministry that has a broad range perspective of the gospel of the living Christ. So thank you so much! Not only for participating on Wednesdays but in all the outreaches of *LIFE*. We are so grateful. May God bless you!

End of clip**In the studio:**

Randy: I hope you enjoyed Beth. If you miss any part of it, you can always catch all of our programs including "Wednesdays with Beth" at *LifeToday.org*.

I want to let you know that Beth is a part of the Arise devotional. I know you're going to enjoy this. It is not just Beth, it is my mother, it is Christine Caine, Margaret Feinberg, Priscilla Shirer, and so many other wonderful teachers. I want you to get this. You can get it when you support *Mission: Water for Life*.

Now what is that? That is our outreach to give people clean drinking water in areas where they have none. I want you to go with me right now to one of those areas on a river where we are helping to provide drinking water that will not only change their lives but in fact save many lives. Watch this.

On the mission field:

Randy: This is an amazing area. We're in Cambodia on a river that's about 15 miles wide and there are floating villages. Yet when you look at all this water, it's death. And in one small pharmacy alone, which is the only medical facility they have in one of these floating villages, the retired nurse there said that he's seen a child die on average every other week.

Randy: They cook with it, they bathe in it, and they go to the restroom in it and they die by this very water.

Randy: Tell them we will do what we can so he doesn't lose anymore grandchildren. We can change their lives. We can stop the sicknesses that are killing their children and grandchildren. We can just simply give them clean drinking water.

End of clip

Randy: As I talked to that couple there, they are actually grandparents, they look young but they're grandparents; they lost a grandchild to waterborne illness. I asked them a couple of things, a couple of very practical questions because I always want to know what's really going on here in these areas where we're doing these things. I said two things, "Why don't you move?" Because that river is just awful and there's children dying far too often.

They said, "Where would we go? We don't have any land. We don't have any money to buy land. We were born on this river, this is where we live."

I thought, wow, they're stuck. They would go if they could but they're really stuck. Then I asked them what really probably sounded like a dumb question to them. I said, "If we drill a well on shore, which is just a few hundred yards away, would you go over there and get the clean drinking water?"

She looked at me with this expression that kind of made me realize that it kind of sounded dumb to them. Of course, they will go get the water. They know the water is killing them. They would do anything for their grandchildren or their children, just like you and I would. If they were in our neighborhood, we would invite them over and say, "Drink this water." Well, the only way we can impact them that far in Cambodia, in Africa, in Southeast Asia, all over where we're drilling water wells is to join together.

I understand your financial resources represent your work, your time, your talent, that's what I'm asking you to give. If we will all work together we can reach our goal. When we drill hundreds of wells around the world, it averages out to \$48 helping ten people -- ten people! And not just for a short period of time but for a lifetime!

If you can give \$1200 we'll send you a beautiful bronze that will remind you of the sacrifice you made and the impact you have had and you can join with three others to drill a well. Some of you can give \$4800 or more and drill an entire well. It's a gift that will keep on giving. You can make an impact right now at whatever level you can give.

I'm asking you just to join with us. I'm inviting you to join with us on this wonderful mission to change lives, to save lives. Pick up the phone right now. Call the number on the screen or go to the web site, make a gift, join with us, join with others as we reach out and share the love and the life of Jesus Christ by giving living water to those in desperate need. Thank you!

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 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. Suffering can end because clean water changes everything! With your gift today, we can establish and drill 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 impact 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 *Arise*, a beautiful new daily devotional featuring words of encouragement from inspiring women who have shared their faith on *LIFE Today*. With your gift of \$100 or more, you may request the *Arise* audio visual devotional featuring 40 days of inspiration from *LIFE Today's* favorite women guests.

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 Lion and the Lamb."

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

End of clip

On the mission field:

James: This mother has four children. Last summer a year ago they had an outbreak of intestinal disease from contaminated water. Two of her children got very, very sick. Now she has a little baby just a few months old and this baby is living on her mother's milk, this baby is nursing. Betty, pretty soon this little baby is going to be drinking that water and oftentimes it takes their lives.

Betty: It really does, James. And they can't do anything about it because it's all the water they have. I can't even imagine!

This little baby is so precious, so beautiful and her momma just cuddling her and taking care of her. She makes little signs of life but you know, I don't know how long those little sounds of life will be if we don't do something to help them.

Do you know that there are 10,000 people a day that die from the waterborne diseases and most of them are children five and under. We can stop that. We can make the difference by drilling the water wells and giving them a fresh cup of water.

You know, I very deliberately reached out to see if this little girl would take hold of my fingers and in so many ways little children like this are reaching out to find somebody they can hold on to. I'd like you to be one of the hands to reach out and dial the envelope number and use your bankcard and use it like a check or write a check and make it to *LIFE*.

Please, call us and let us know what you're sending. Or you can go online and say I want to give life to children like this and keep them healthy.

In the studio:

Randy: I hope you are calling or going to the web site. Remember, the Arise devotional is available and Beth is a part of that so do ask for that with your gift. Most of all, thank you for supporting *Mission: Water for Life* and for watching *LIFE Today*.

Announcer: Faith, family, and freedom are under attack. As America faces battles within, many wonder where to turn. In their new book, James Robison and Jay Richards call us to stand together before it's too late as one nation truly under God. *Indivisible* -- The New York Times bestseller now available in paperback at online and retail bookstores.