

Week 18

5/2/13

James: Boy, we have some programs that sometimes people keep asking about. I'm James Robison, by the way. Betty and I welcome you to *LIFE Today*. We had Glenn and Earline Williams on several years ago. Boy, they were going through it, like the impossible, like one member in the relationship had an affair, a moral break down, which just destroys a lot of relationships. It doesn't have to. We should never have those break downs but human beings do, break down, fail, miss the mark tragically; sometimes like Beth Moore says we need to get out of the pit. Oftentimes we fall in the pit. Sometimes we're thrown in the pit. But sometimes we dig the pit we find ourselves in. That was the case here. And just kind of a little acknowledgment before the world and let's get this marriage fixed up miraculously... and miraculously this marriage was fixed up.

Would you welcome Glenn and Earline Williams back to *LIFE Today*?

Hi, Glenn! Good to see you, buddy!

Hi, Earline!

Now Glenn is a tennis coach in Memphis. Now if anybody wanted good coaching, let's say they got somebody who thinks they can play tennis, or wishes they could play tennis or maybe you saying that you really want to help kids that may not have the wherewithal to say pay for tennis lessons and you're wanting to find a way you could help those kids that are overlooked, how would they find you? Do you have a web site or an address if somebody in Memphis says, "Look, I want a good tennis coach." Or maybe somebody says, "I think my kid's got some athletic ability but we can't afford it, but I wonder if they could play tennis." How would they find you?

Glenn: TennisMemphis.com. It's the city program. Has nine facilities throughout the city and I work at one of the facilities but I can work at all of them. We can help the advanced kids, kids that are struggling financially and those that just want to learn about tennis. It is a good place to be. We do more than tennis, we do life coaching.

James: How are they going to find you, though. I want to know now. Is there a web site?

Betty: That's what he said.

Glenn: TennisMemphis.com.

Betty: TennisMemphis.com.

James: Okay, that's it. I don't hear every dot. I missed the dot and the tittle and the jot and the whole bit, sometime. This is my interpreter over here, and you'd be surprised how much she has to help me. And don't give me a lesson on hearing aids. I don't care even if you want to offer them to me for free. I've been through four sets. All they do is make me want to go to the psychiatric ward. Because I hear all the other noises, I still don't always hear the edges of words so just pray for my interpreter here.

Now Earline, you all had quite an encounter because you missed the mark, right? And I'm sure he wasn't Mr. Perfect by any stretch, but something happened when you acknowledged you had failed and you wanted the marriage to be healed. And you all came here with your story knowing that you'd have to have a miracle of God; right, Glenn? Y'all had to have God's grace.

You knew that too, Earline. Something happened when they were here. I want you to watch.

Earline: I knew when we got married that Glenn was going to travel. He would oftentimes come home and leave but this particular time, I think I was really excited that he was coming home. We went to dinner and had some time together and Glenn packed his bags and in a couple of hours he was gone again. I sat at the airport and cried.

Glenn: I'm still blaming myself for some things that have happened, maybe if I'd been a better husband, maybe it would have been a better situation. But I didn't know.

Earline: From the beginning I never wanted the relationship but I think it was something like a drug in a way. It wasn't the sex.

Glenn: But to know that this happened and it was for a number of years, to find out that they didn't know if my first child was mine or his.

James: Are you able to say to this woman, I forgive you. Really look at her and tell her.

Glenn: I forgive you.

Earline: You're good enough for me and you always have been. I love you very much and I'm sorry that I hurt you. I didn't set out for that; that was never my intent. I know you just wanted to take care of me. I'm sorry and I love you very much, Glenn.

Glenn: I love you, baby.

James: Let's just pray together right now.

James: Well, did something happen even while y'all were here?

Earline: Oh, yeah.

Glenn: Life-changing from my perspective. When you don't even want to be here anymore and to come here and have the encouragement and to have somebody help you through your struggles, just trying to find a way to end it. And just coming here and getting the encouragement for somebody to help us; to help us make it, to see somebody else work it out. We just didn't see that to be possible until we had the opportunity to come here. Without a doubt, I don't think if we wouldn't have come here, we wouldn't have made it.

James: Did you feel like you were loved no matter what? Did you feel that when you got here?

Earline: Yes, I did.

James: Because you were and you are; and there's no place for shame when he took the shame. And we just trust him. And I see that the love -- you've written the story, *Betrayal in the Church*. One of the chapters is about their trip to *LIFE Today* with James and Betty and what happened. We never stopped praying for you.

And it is interesting that our viewers never stopped praying, and a lot of people watching found out that the impossible is possible with God; that he can repair the damage, he can rebuild the walls, he can mend the broken hearts, he can renew the trust, and you can go on and be stronger than ever. Please believe that. I mean you have to want that.

Don't you agree, Glenn and Earline, that you have to want that healing? It's not like it's going to be forced on you, you've got to want the relationship to be healed; correct?

Earline: Yes, you do.

James: And what have you found because I see in Glenn, I just love him talking about wanting to help the kids that might not have a chance. I love that. But what have you watched God do in him even in respect let's say of your failure and your misdeed? What have you watched in his heart that's been an encouragement to you?

Earline: I guess -- well, he's never stopped. He's -- even as a result of us being on the show, that was really Glenn. So his consistency to serve and to stick with it has always been something that's been great in him, a determination to see things to the end -- and make it right, really.

James: Have you had anybody talk to you guys about their situation that was having trouble, maybe that you'd been able to talk to at all? Have you had anybody open up and say, "Hey, pray for us?" Has that occurred because it certainly happened as a result of being on here; a lot of people got help.

Earline: We actually went through a training for marriage mentorship so we are trained marriage mentors now. That helped us, it helped our marriage; the training we went through was healing for us, still in the healing process. And then we were able to share with others, share with other couples who were going through some things also. To be able to help them just helped us. That has been something that we've done.

Betty: Looking back on what God did that night here at the show, on our show, when he said, "I forgive you," what exactly was going on inside of you when you heard him say those words, "I forgive you"? Did it bring release to you? Like "I can't believe it but God's letting him forgive me?"

Earline: Well, I can think before then I knew that Glenn had forgiven me because I don't think if he had not, then I don't think we would have even come here, because he could have easily packed his bags and left or asked me to leave. The forgiveness had already begun. To hear the words definitely is a plus for anybody to hear, "I forgive you" for what you've done when you've hurt them. It's definitely a healing place. And looking at that clip, some of it, I don't even remember because it was a time where I knew I had hurt him but I was also in a hurting place. I was just -- I remember being in a state of wanting to take the steps to save our marriage and really, that's what I was doing. I was just walking; whatever it was that was needed to be done, that's what I

did -- and that was part of it. Because I had never heard of your show before he told me about you guys and that he had written a letter or e-mailed or something. I had never seen your show before; didn't know who James and Betty Robison were. So when he said that, I knew that it meant that he wanted our marriage. So yes, I'll do it. Let's go.

And we've done other things. We spoke at a marriage retreat, once we moved from here and moved to Memphis; we've had a number of times we've had to do that. Right after we moved there was a marriage retreat that we went to and I was put on the spot of they wanted us to speak. Well, what am I going to speak about?

[Laughter]

Well, just -- and I just prayed and I said, "Okay, Lord, what do you want me to say?" Well, I just went up there and let God speak. The only thing I knew to do was to share what had happened.

And in doing that, people came to me, some women, actually, came to me and told me that they... there was one in particular I remember that she told me, she said, "After this retreat I was leaving my husband. This was -- I was just going through the motions here. But now I think that we can stick it out and that I can do something to keep this marriage -- at least try to." Which was great for me because like I said, going up there, I just felt like a deer in headlights. I didn't -- Lord, what do you want me to do? What do you want me to say? We were still hurting. We were still at a place of healing at the time.

James: I feel like what I watched happen the night you all were here and when he talked to you, is I watched you both open up whereas religion tends to make you want to hide the truth. We cover up kind of like with fig leaves and our nakedness is still pretty apparent as well as our foolishness because only God can cover.

But Glenn, I watched you and I felt like something was happening to you when you were saying before the whole world what you were saying to her, and it was actually serving as a source of inspiration to others to offer forgiveness too. I felt like something was happening in you even as you expressed that forgiveness and that desire for you all to be whole, and it was probably why you kind of wanted to come here. You saw something that you thought would encourage you. Did you feel that? I thought I saw something going on inside of you even in that exchange.

Glenn: Well, the reality, James is that I was... I was hurting. People can hold their

alcohol, and they can be on a drug and still function, I felt like I was just holding my alcohol when I was here and some of the things that I was saying, I was saying them but then numb... so numb until you don't even know what you're saying, it's almost like some kind of hallucination.

But this is what I do know that is real, was God had done and was doing something in my life right then that I could not deny. And because of the presence of God in my life that made more sense than anything, that's what helped me to get to here. And you guys being a vehicle here to help us to get to here because those people that you saw there are not these people here today.

James: Praise God! Isn't that great? See what God does right there? Well, I want you to both know, I think you are a beautiful couple. I really do. I think you're beautiful people.

Glenn, I'm going to pray God will open the door for you not only to continue your training of tennis players who are able to take the lessons but also to be able to help some who are challenged who say, "Man, I feel like I've got some ability" or a parent that wants to get them to you and find you. I know the testimony that they have shared over and over, and basically, this is what they say in the book, that if they can make it anyone can make it. Don't say that your failure or your trial or your challenge is too big for God because it is not too big for God. How would they get the book if they want the book? I don't know if it is in a lot of the bookstores. You make it available. If somebody wanted to get the book, where would they go, Glenn?

Glenn: You can go to online AuthorHouse.com, Barnes and Nobles, Amazon; you can get it through any of those.

James: And you can get it there?

Glenn: Yes, you can.

James: Great! Well, I hope you will get it because this is a great story, *Betrayal in the Church*. It can happen. And it can happen with the people you least expect it to happen with.

Let me tell you, when you miss the mark, I don't care where it is, when you miss it, you need somebody to help clean up the mess and put the broken pieces back together. That's what God is the master at doing. He can take a master mess and make a masterpiece and that's what he has done.

Would you express thanks with me and Betty for what he's done with Glenn and Earline?

Y'all are a beautiful couple. I'm real proud of both of you. I'm real proud of what you're going to be doing. You're going to keep us informed; right? And let us know?

I'll tell you what we want to see you do. Every one of you watching, we want you to do what this beautiful little bronze represents. I love this! What we're doing this year, this is our 50th anniversary; we made it past that 50th anniversary. Some of you probably say, "I bet it was touch-and-go for her to stick with you." Well, probably so! But we've been married 50 years but we've also been 50 years in ministry.

And this summer, in July, we have a great 50th year anniversary conference. There you see some of the speakers right there on the screen. Don't miss it. You've got to register. We'll actually feed you right there on site but you'll pay for your food. And oh, yes, if you come, you'll probably get to give an offering to help us help people.

This bronze is golden anniversary and this is Brotherly Love. I love it! This is a big brother feeding a little brother. Here's what I think is important for you to understand. We'd like you to get the bronze. You help us feed 100 children and we'll send you one. But here's what I want you to know, the brother has nothing to feed the little brother if we don't give it to them -- it's that desperate. The missionaries who were sent by God in love have nothing to give unless we provide it.

Watch closely. You're going to rejoice at what love does.

On the mission field:

Announcer: This year, *LIFE Outreach International* and James and Betty Robison are celebrating 50 years of ministry. As part of the commitment to putting love in action nearly 25 years ago *LIFE Outreach* introduced the mission feeding program in Africa. According to our missionary partners, mission feeding has helped save the lives of seven million starving children. Currently, *LIFE Outreach* helps feed nearly 400,000 children in crisis areas and assists with school feeding programs to encourage school attendance and education.

On a recent trip to Angola, the *LIFE* mission team met a young man named Jose who grew up participating in the mission feeding program. As a child, he lived in a remote

village and attended a school that received food every day. Now Jose works as a mission partner within the feeding program and his story embodies the heart of *LIFE Outreach International* and why it was founded.

>> When I was a child in a village like this, most of the time we didn't know if we would eat each day. But when mission feeding came to my school we got a hot meal every day during class. My friends and I were motivated to come to school and learn because we knew we would get to eat. If it wasn't for mission feeding, I don't think I would have gone to school.

Before a feeding program comes to a village, not many children go to school. They stay home and work with their families. But when a school has mission feeding, the children are excited about school and you see them running to the classroom each morning.

I'm very happy to be a monitor in the mission feeding program. I'm very proud that I get to help these children just like I was helped as a child. One day, maybe one of these children will work for mission feeding too.

I want to thank the mission feeding donors, not just because I work here, but because I am a human being. I live in this community and I see the condition of the children. Please, do not stop helping. Carry on!

End of clip

In the studio:

James: Well, that's what we're doing. You may not know this but the school feeding programs that the World Food program has picked up... as a matter of fact, there was a democratic congressman from Ohio, Tony Hall who actually was appointed to the head of the World Food program and was based over in Italy. And he actually took that school feeding to the third-world countries, and it was modeled there by Peter Pretorius and the missionaries, what we'd been doing. And we started there like you see, 25 years ago.

So, Betty, we not only rescue the children that are dying but once we get it stabilized in order to encourage them to move beyond, we will feed at the schools. That may not touch your heart strings like, "Oh my! If we don't get it there they won't make it." That's where we start. But we want to take them beyond that. We want to take them into a sound future because we believe that's what we're supposed to do as loving people and as Christians, and as people who believe God loves us and wants to teach us and disciple us and train us. So that's what we're seeking to do.

Here's what I'd like you to understand. That's a miracle story. That's where you see way beyond what we actually saw yesterday were the little girl in the last stages of her life that we were trying to save but we didn't. She literally died that night; she never saw the next day. There are hundreds of thousands of children right now and especially in areas, in particular... let me just tell you this. Right now in various parts of Africa there is a very, very bad drought -- severe -- and the malnourishment is extreme. The missionaries are saying to us, James, we have to continue. We have established the feeding centers, we've got to have the resources, we have to have the food.

So I'm asking you please, dial the telephone number; use your bankcard like a check. If you want to write a check, make it to *LIFE* or you can go online and many people are doing this, frankly every day. About half of the support that comes in comes through LifeToday.org. It's a wonderful way to be able to give.

But would you let us know what you're doing? If you'll use your bankcard call us. If you're writing a check, call us now. Tell us you're putting it in the mail.

Remember this, \$30, \$50, or \$100 enables us to feed three, five, or ten children. Here's what I want you to pray about. Pray about giving \$100 and help us take care of 10 children. Help us continue the school feeding and increase their ability to learn and the desire to learn, to be nourished, and help us save the lives of those that are so desperate.

This year, our 50th anniversary, we're offering the beautiful "Brotherly Love" bronze, and that is such a beautiful picture. But you see, if you look closely, there is a bowl there -- one of our soup bowls. The bright orange bowls that you, the viewers said, "Can't you give those children so they don't have those old hot tin cans burn their little fingers when you put the hot soup in it. Can't you do something about it?"

We said, "Well, the missionaries said not if we can't give them food."

You said, "We'll do both. We'll give them the bowls, we'll give them the food." The bowl is here. There is food in the bowl. And the big brother is feeding his little brother because he has the food that your love made possible.

Please dial the number. If you could possibly help us care for 100 children, make that \$1,000 gift. But whatever you can do, it's going to help give life. Thank you for making that call. Thanks so much for your gift.

Begin video clip:

Announcer: At this very moment a child is drawing his last breath, struggling to stay alive due to a lack of food. Sadly, this impoverished child is not alone, and without our help many like him face death as well.

Today you can make a difference. You can help save a life. Life's mission feeding teams are in place right now ready to answer the hunger cries of 400,000 suffering children in remote areas of Africa.

With previous food reserves gone, and parts of Africa facing its worst drought and food shortage in years, we desperately need to replenish our supplies immediately. Your life-saving gift of \$30, \$50, or \$100 will help feed and care for three, five, or ten children for three full months.

With your gift, we would like to send you A Good Word for a Great Day, a 365 day devotional providing an inspirational new word, Bible verse, and promise for each new day.

With your gift of \$100 or more to help feed ten children, you may request The Family Reading Bible featuring easy-to-use reading tracks, questions, and fun facts to help engage your children in God's Word.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1,000 or more to help feed and save the lives of 100 children, and you may also request the 50th anniversary commemorative bronze, Brotherly Love.

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

End of clip

Begin video clip:

>> Well, my partnership with *LIFE Outreach* goes way back. We started supporting James Robison back in like 1981 and have followed his ministry over the years. I know we can't fix all the problems, I know we can't feed all the people in the world that's hungry, but the ones that we can, we need to do it. That's just doing that part that we can do and believing God to continue to expand that and that's God's blessing in allowing us to reach more and more people. I'm excited to be a part of it and I want to do more!

James: I hope you will ask for the "Brotherly Love" bronze. You know, our executive producer stepped over and said, "James, you do remember Glenn, they used to live in the metroplex. Glenn would drive over here frequently and bring money to support our mission outreaches."

And then Glenn just said, "I'm still driving from Memphis and bringing it to you." Isn't that neat?

Would you say thanks to Glenn and Earline? I say with Betty, thanks to all of you. Thank you for your gifts! Thank you for your prayers, your love, helping us put God's arms around a hurting world. Thanks for doing it!

Announcer: Join James and Betty Robison July 18 through the 20th for the Awaken Now Conference at Gateway Church in Southlake, Texas! Featuring inspiring speakers such as Governor Mike Huckabee, Pastor Tony Evans, International Bible teacher and author Beth Moore, New York Times best-selling author and speaker Andy Andrews and many more, including musical guest such as Big Daddy Weave.

Register today for this once in a lifetime event, celebrating fifty years of ministry with James and Betty Robison. Go to lifetoday.org.