

7/11/13

Week 28

>> When I'm out on the road, I may want to just honk my horn, flash my lights but then I get up next to the guy and he's the chairman of the board of deacons at my church. [Laughter]

Announcer: Pastor Larry Stockstill challenges the church to restore the call to personal integrity.

>> The Lord loves you. We've all made mistakes. We all have areas of deficiency, but the Lord will help us and the Lord will strengthen us to be that example.

Announcer: Reflecting God's standards in our families, churches, and communities -- next!

Music

Betty: Welcome to *LIFE Today*. We're so blessed to have you join with us. I'm Betty Robison and this is James.

James: And I'm so blessed to be married to you. Look at that smile! I've got a bright smile now. I look at my teeth now and they're just bing -- like that! And let me tell you, people say, "Well, he had a lot of cosmetic dental work done." Let me tell you the truth. I ground my teeth down into all the pulp chambers because you needed somebody to preach to you! And so when I got into the nerve chambers, they said, "You've got one deal, boy! Either you're going to get them all pulled and get plates..." Can you imagine me preaching with plates? [Laughter] I'd have one up my nose and one back... And they said, "We're going to fix them where you can't break them." And they did. But isn't it a pretty little smile? It looks like I've got a smile like my wife's! You'd date me now; wouldn't you? If we were young, you'd do it all over again.

Betty: I dated you then! [Laughter]

James: You did, and you still do. We want to welcome you to our program because we've got a friend that is very special who shares the same burden not only Betty and I share but I'm going to be quite honest with you, I believe this friend shares the burden that the Lord Jesus has for the whole world but also in particular also for this nation and for the church. He wrote a book, and really, the book came into being while he and I were talking about our mutual concern, our broken heart for our nation, and our deep concern for the church to actually pierce the present darkness, what appears to be prevailing darkness too often. The book, *The Remnant: Restoring the call to personal integrity* -- and it is written primarily to church leaders, to ministers and church staff. And what Larry is doing is he is calling the church leadership back to God. He is calling the holy remnant to really make a difference in the world because they've

experienced a difference in their lives. I think he is one the great pastors. Bethany World Prayer Center in Baton Rouge has impacted the world. His dad, who pastored there before he became the senior pastor, was a counseling chairman for two city-wide crusades that I conducted in Baton Rouge, and God mightily blessed them. I've been real close to his dad, Roy. What a great man! This is a great family. His family continues to lead as his son is pastoring there now; I mean the glory of God is on him. I want you to welcome Larry Stockstill from Bethany World Prayer Center to *LIFE Today*. I'm glad you're here. Love you, buddy.

Larry: Love you too!

James: Larry, I have not for one moment lessened in my deep concern for our country. But I believe that the only way we can reset the compass and the only way we can redirect the nation's course is for the church to stop just going to church and really be the church and for pastors to really lead. Am I right about that?

Larry: It is. And James, there's 300,000 pastors in the United States and I'd like to say we've gained in affluence but we've lost in influence. Over the last 15-20 years, everybody's watched these sad stories of this one and that one who have fallen. That's why I appreciate you and Betty so much -- 50 years of marriage! See I like to tell small town pastors, your stock is rising if you love your wife and you've raised your kids in a godly way and you pay your bills, you keep your promises. And the book, *The Remnant* was just written really out of an experience I had, a very tragic experience where I saw that a lot of the underpinnings of ministry had disappeared. My daddy has been in ministry 65 years. He is 94; he lives with me, so we solve all the world's problems every morning. We did today.

James: And you make sense.

Larry: I tell you, what a -- he was married 63 years to my mother who is in Heaven now. But I saw his example and I know that we can restore our nation through restoring godly pastoral example. Paul said, "I have become a model." We've heard a lot of messages. We need some models because Paul didn't have a lot of the mechanical or technological ability we do to spread our message, he just had himself. And "Timothy, follow me as I follow Christ." And I speak to a guy that's pastoring 50 people today in a little tiny town in America and I tell him I'm proud of you because if he's living an example life, people can follow him. These precious people in the studio or here in Dallas, wherever, in the thousands of churches here, they're just looking for a man and his wife that live something. That's what *The Remnant* is all about. There is no organization, there is no money being made. I give away my books to pastors. We've given away 100,000 copies of that book to senior pastors.

James: And we will give it to any of you who ask for it today that would say, "I would like to read it and know how to pray for them. But I would like to give this to my pastor or someone that's on the staff." If they'll actually do that, can we send it to them Larry, if they will contact us?

Larry: We would love to!

James: We are going to ask our viewers to help us drill freshwater wells, and I know you just prayed with us before we walked out here that we would be able to drill those 500 that we've targeted and even go beyond. But we want you to have it. It is a great book; it's so well done and so clear. But you are actually also in your concern, you're calling these pastors together in various cities to spend the day with you. What time does the conference start? Because the one day conference --

Larry: It is a one day conference from nine to four. It is free, which is a big word for a lot of pastors. We find that a lot of pastors don't have money for big conferences and hotels and flights but they can drive in. So we're going to be in New York City this month. Next month we're going to be in Portland. And then we're going to be in Maine and right down through the --

James: The web site, let's put it on the screen. If they want to know how to find where those conferences are located so they could drive in and spend the day with you, I just did that and even spoke and talked about the miracle of marriage, which I said to the pastors, "You all know, you're wise enough to know for me to be married 50 years -- great God! Great woman!"

[Laughter] But I spoke and let me tell you, the presence of the Lord was there. What would be the web site if they wanted to know?

Larry: It's called RemnantOneDay.com. That's what the event is called. We've done several of them already with 500-600 pastors in each one. We did one here in Dallas, which you spoke at. I had you share about how y'all have been married 50 years. And he spoke so kindly of you, Betty. But just the reality of your walk, thank God for you. Thank God for you! And the longer you go, you're becoming a model to our nation. And in humility we say that because all of us have to check our motives and our lives and our finances and every part. But it is so important that we provide that right now. America is perishing and really, the Lord spoke to me, James, in urgency to do these 12 meetings this year because he said we're not moving fast enough. We're not going to elect a new politician that is going to save America. I don't think anything can save America except godly leaders who are pastors. It is the only hope and it is a great hope. It is what saved Israel; it is what saved any nation. And we thank God for our political leaders. But we have to become that light and that's what Remnant is all about.

James: So I know for a fact that people in your church and I know how you think, you've impacted every level of leadership in the state of Louisiana, and there have been some very positive things happening in your state. I would say there have been some miraculous changes in the way people think, even in the way they value life and the way your government leadership has been effected; by what? -- The prayers and the witness of the church. Do you agree with that? That you're seeing it in your own state?

Larry: I had six years with Governor Foster there, teaching him the Bible in the mansion there, and his staff, every week for six years. It is going to be four weeks and he asked me to keep going, and then he got reelected. But now our new governor, Governor Jindal is a great Christian who loves the Lord. We've seen Louisiana really turn around from the bottom.

James: You've been through some really deep pressure and crisis and I think it is amazing how together you have weathered the storm. But the big thing is I've watched some positive changes in the state and I think it is absolutely essential.

Larry: Yes, it is. In fact, I was with Governor Jindal recently and talking to him about our state. He prayed a prayer in his office asking for God to forgive areas of our nation, and of our state particularly that have held Louisiana back for 200 years; this is our 200th anniversary by the way as a state. I mean God is really moving now in Louisiana. In fact, I recently did *The Remnant* conference there in Baton Rouge. We had over 600 pastors that came and from all denominations -- every denomination was present. James, I'm just sitting here thinking about your session at *The Remnant One Day* here, and how you shared about Betty. If you remember leading into that, I told my seven mistakes of how I have not loved my wife as a pastor and honored her. And I've watched many pastors and their wives, who are just not happy; they're over-stressed. I believe there is a pastor watching this today, perhaps, he is over-adrenalized; he's living his life on adrenaline. Because of that temptation is coming in. He and his wife are unhappy and yet they are trying to maintain this example and this image and they need ministry badly. We want pastors to know here in the United States that we love you. The Lord loves you. We've all made mistakes. We all have areas of deficiency, but the Lord will help us and the Lord will strengthen us to be that example. That's really what Remnant One Day is all about. We have an invitation after each session where pastors can come forward and hundreds come forward for personal prayer. That's what thrills my soul is that we're seeing pastors being ministered to. Now we can't reach all 300,000 but the Lord told me there is 7,000 in the United States that we can reach this year. That's my goal. And we can turn our nation around. We really can. I see great hope in America. I know many godly pastors that no one knows anything about but the Lord knows them and we're very excited about the opportunity to minister to them.

Betty: I think it is wonderful what you're doing with the pastors because so many times because they're in leadership like that, they don't get the encouragement as just the regular church goer gets. People, I think, expect so much of them that they think they've already solved everything in their life, all their personal challenges and everything where they don't get -- they don't know who to go to necessarily to get that encouragement. And when they get encouraged, it's going to encourage the church to get out and to be charged up to really want to make a difference in our world.

Larry: Absolutely! But we live our lives in a fish bowl. I pastored 28 years, almost 10,000 people. I know you can't go to a Wal-Mart, you can't go to a store, you're standing in line and you want to get really mad at how long the line is but you're an example. You go out in the parking lot and nobody else puts their buggy up; they shove it with their foot. But everybody is watching you because you're supposed to walk yours over and put it where it goes. I've always wanted to shove my buggy with my foot. And when I come to Dallas, I do shove my buggy. [Laughter] But when I'm in Baton Rouge, I'm on television, everybody knows who I am. When I'm out on the road I may just want to honk my horn, flash my lights, but then I get up next to the guy and it is the chairman of the board of deacons at my church. [Laughter] So I find that pastors live in a fish bowl. Their marriage is in a fish bowl. I don't know if you saw the newspaper article recently of a lady who hired a body double. A pastor's wife met a lady in Kohl's department store who looked like her. She hired her, gave her a \$100 a week to go sit in her place in the church service. [Laughter] She was so unhappy. That's in the news. You can look it up online. And the bad thing is the pastor didn't know for two years that it wasn't his wife! [Laughter] So I thought... the pastor's wife, of course, she gave \$10,000 over two years to this lady until he finally called on her and said, "Let's sing that old song." And she just did like that. Didn't know the song. I thought, but what's with this guy? He is so into his sermon that he didn't notice that his wife wasn't present; she is so unhappy. I've got a burden for this, James. This is not a little thing for me. I love a pastor and I love everyone of them and we want to see them -- that's why this conference is free. We even feed them for free. They're all paid for. And we just want to be a blessing to them.

James: I want to really emphasize, not only the sincerity but the effectiveness of what Larry is talking about. I was so defeated and burned out; and it wasn't that I didn't love God and I was operating in the gifting of God but I reached a point because I was so tired, and so spent and spent so little time in the word to get life I just went to the Bible to get sermons for others, I wasn't getting life for me. I had moved away from first love and now I'm loving the ministry and what people expected. And I became so defeated I wanted to die. But here was the sad part, I didn't know who to trust, who to talk to. I didn't know who I could share my heart with and they wouldn't try to hurt me. You are a man... and what Larry is doing, he is showing you someone who loves you wherever you are and that you can lean on his shoulder and he'll help you get up out of that point of hurt and despair, and sometimes a sense of hopelessness or even meaninglessness; what am I doing? I tell you, I felt like Sampson grinding at the mill and just going over and over grinding. I want to tell you, when the Lord lifted that burden, I was liberated, Larry. You know, you remember what a transformation occurred in James Robison. He stretched me way beyond my little Baptist limits and any denominational -- he really led me to put his arms around a broken world and a divided family, the church and reach out to the whole church and filled me to

overflowing with love. But it happened because somebody told me the truth in love. Someone reached out to me. That's what these Remnant conferences are. If you want the book, *The Remnant* or you want to get it for your pastor or minister... and look, go online and see where these pastors' meetings are that Larry is talking about, these Remnant conferences, and encourage your pastor to go. If he needs some gasoline expense money, give it to him. Listen to this; let the pastor know you love him. Let him know that you really care. And let him -- I mean it, Pastor. I'm not just saying this going out the door. I mean it, I care about you. Do all of you here appreciate Larry Stockstill reaching out to our pastor and church leaders? I don't believe our national leaders are going to be moved in the right direction and our nation move in the right directions if our pastors don't come back and lead the people back where we get on our knees before God and then stand on our feet for God. I really appreciate what you're doing. Larry, you talked about the love that you have for missions and helping people. In our water program that we prayed about before we came out here, it seems to be one of the most meaningful and exciting mission projects that our viewers all over the world watch. You're going to be moved by what you see right now -- I promise you. When you see women and the trouble they go to to get the essential water, the efforts -- this -- it is hard to fathom not only that women do it, but that they can do it physically. And they're so determined and then what happens to their own children and those they love because what they go after so diligently can be so deadly. Watch this closely.

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Through cause spot

James: Betty, it breaks my heart to think about little children like this, so precious, coming here and living on the side of a dump. And this is where they get water and it is disease-ridden.

Betty: And it is just water that can kill them! They drink it, they swim in it, and everything alive walks through it. We need to help them.

James: It is really pretty simple, but it takes all of us doing our part going in together to give not only a cup of water as Jesus said, but a well of water. I pray you'll make that life-giving call today. Children and their families in so many parts of the world will see a chance at life because of the love of God shared through you.

James: If you're able to give \$1200 or \$2400 or give a well, we're going to send you the "Living Water" bronze. This is the commemorative edition, the commemorative 50 year anniversary of our wedding and our ministry, and it is a beautiful bronze. We

will send it to you to say thank you. The book, *Majesty* that talks about the names of God in the scriptures and what they mean -- the beautiful witness pens. And today, if you'd like to have it, you just ask for *The Remnant* by Larry Stockstill. What a beautiful gift! What an encouragement to pastors and church leaders. We'll be happy to send it to you; simply ask for it. Betty and I want to say again, thanks to Larry Stockstill. Will you join us here in the audience saying thanks to Larry, to Bethany World Prayer Center in Baton Rouge? And the web site is there. It is on our web site but you've seen it. Find out about these conferences. Pastors go, church staff can go, and I hope you'll encourage your pastor to go. Thank you so much for watching.

Music

Awaken now 3

Connect