

8/14/13

Week 33

James: Hey, hey, hey! We have some real happy folks out here. Y'all look like you're enjoying yourselves.

Betty, they must be Beth Moore fans. When they get real excited, maybe they're Jesus fans.

Welcome to *LIFE Today*. I'm James Robison. Betty and I are so thrilled to share this time with you. I'm holding what I refer to as witness pens and this is the fruit of the spirit: love, joy, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, peace, self-control. This is yours, along with this beautiful one, the names of God and they all have such specific meaning. Now they're two different types but they're just fabulous and they work great.

A lot of times you get pens from people that don't write. These are wonderful writing instruments but better than that, not only are they pretty, they give you an opportunity to witness. We offered some pens similar to this several years ago and people told us that it was amazing how frequently someone would look at it and they would begin to discuss the things of God, maybe in a public place, maybe we're signing a bankcard but we're offering them to you if you will help us share water.

I want to read a couple of notes with Beth Moore's teaching today. She is talking about our true selves. Now this is one of the points she is going to cover: When are we crossing the line of working people? What's in it for me? Is there a single slice of insincerity in what you're saying?

And listen to this point, I think it is very, very important: Start facing up by going face down. I remember when I was asking people to pray for our nation and ask God to call us back to the shelter. Beth said, "I'll meet you on the floor face down praying for America." Well, let's learn about our true selves.

Welcome Beth Moore. Here's Beth.

Begin video clip

Beth: Number three is this: We're called to work with people, not to work people. We are called to work with people... but we are being trained by a culture that works people.

Now just so you know what my terminology is if you're in a different region of the world or in a different part of the country where they don't say it that way, what I'm talking about by "working people" is not that you're an employer. That's a beautiful thing! I'm talking about manipulating people, just working them instead of working with them.

Listen, listen, listen -- we are the people of God! No matter how much the rest of the world works people, we must stop! We are out of the will of God when we just join in with them because our entire culture is all about working people, working people, working people, working people. We're all Jacobbing in our own way.

I want you to write down two words somewhere in your margin there. I want you to write down the words *working people* -- *working people*. This does not mean like we're hard working people. No, working people. I want you to write down those two words. Then I want you to put between those words a little V like that where that shows where you're slipping in a word in-between. And I want you to put the word *with* because girlfriend and guy friend, we're getting our *with* back in our working people. Because we are called over and over again, the Word of God trains us all through Proverbs, so many of the epistles train us how to work with people. But our entire culture and listen, you're indoctrinated in it constantly through TV programs, through social networking. Social networking is one the biggest things I'm talking about here. We've got to understand that manipulation is a form of deception.

Listen -- we think that if there is a godly result it doesn't matter if there has to be a little bit of a manipulative means to it. And that's wrong because if it's part fraud the spirit of truth will not be in it. So as people of God we can't think, the end justifies the means. Oh, no, it does not! God never uses carnal, worldly, or manipulative or controlling means to bring to a godly end. That is not the way he works, and we are

held accountable by him no matter how much the rest of the world is getting away with it -- and trust me, they are.

Listen -- one of the things that I can use that can help me figure out if I'm working with people or working people, I have to ask myself a couple of questions. So I'm just going to pitch some out to you if this helps you. This is what I'm going to do because sometimes it is a fine line. Would anybody agree with that? Like at what point did I cross over that line where I began to work them? Because especially people that are real people people, I mean we can work people. At what point are we crossing over that line?

Here are two questions I ask myself. First: What's in it for me?

Now, in a business situation you're trying to get your staff really motivated; say there's bonuses involved, whatever. Sometimes there really is something in it for you. But you can know in advance, at least if there is something in it for you, you can know in advance, okay, I'm already on thin ice then. This already means because there is something at stake in this for me, there is something personal I can get out of what it is I'm trying to convince people to do, then I need to know already, I'm standing on very, very thin ice. I better be extremely aware that I'm walking in wisdom here. But I've got to ask myself, "What is in it for me? Is it a self oriented goal, getting what I want from them?"

The second one is this and I've really been testing this. I'm trying to think, about two weeks ago God began working this lesson in my heart and I've thought about it ever since -- every day since then I've thought about it. And I've just been dealing with whatever because I'll just go, in my own spirit, "Fraud! Fraud!" I don't want that to scare you. My husband -- I believe my husband would tell you he knows the same woman that you have serving you today. But you know when we've just -- I mean I'm southern!

[Laughter]

I'm going to say just a little bit more than what's necessary.

[Laughter]

I'm going to tell you I love you just a little bit more than I do. I mean I love you a little but I'm not going to say, "I love you a little." I'm going to say, "You are my best friend forever!" ...When you're not. Do you understand what I'm saying? When somebody says, "Do you know what my name is?" "Well, no. Now remind me. Remind me because it is on the tip of my tongue." Anybody know what I'm talking about? Somebody... somebody!

So the second question is this: Is there a single slice of insincerity in it? A single slice of insincerity even if it is well hidden, even if they'll never know it. But here's what's been happening because I'll hear myself because I see people all the time, talk to people all the time. And I've begun to get this thing, because I've been asking God to deal with me on this. That when I say something that just has just a slice -- a slice -- I can't tell you how many things I've said again in a different way over the last two weeks because I think, "Say it again. This time say it more honestly." "I think about you all the time." "Well, you know day before yesterday it was really occurring to me what you're going through." No! Not all the time, but I have been thinking of you. "I prayed for you so many times." "Well, I prayed for you three times but I did it with everything in me." You know what I'm saying?

[Laughter]

What is a slice of insincerity there?

Listen -- you and I live in a social networking world and when you see the word *social networking* -- working! I mean they are working it. We are working it. Here's the deal. I want to be part of it. I like it. I'm not on Facebook because I don't have time for it. The ministry is but I'm not personally but I love blogging. I like Twitter; I like all that kind of stuff. I love fooling with my phone. But I'm just going to tell you, I think there comes a time, let me just ask you, if you describe someone you know and she is a networker -- he is a networker -- do you really -- I'm just asking you, do you mean everything good by that, because I bet you don't. I bet you don't. I bet you laugh just a

little bit. Do you know somebody that it's just like they're always running for president?

[Laughter]

Anybody? Where we're just always running for president out there. Because they're networking -- networking -- networking -- networking. I'm just saying, we're on thin ice here, believers. We're on thin ice because this world that we're operating in is given to it. I mean it is just given to it! So I want you to hear -- this is way, way, way, way, way before social networking even became a term that we use. A.W. Tozer wrote something, a quote that I want to read to you. It says this: The grosser manifestations of these sins, egotism, exhibitionism, self-promotion are strangely tolerated in Christian leaders, even in circles of impeccable orthodoxy. Promoting self under the guise of promoting Christ is currently so common as to exact little notice.

Exhibitionism -- egotism -- self promotion -- we're all about... forgive me, if this shoe doesn't fit, don't try to put it on. But I'm just saying in this social networking world where Christians are just completely immersed and I am one of them; if we're not careful, we will use Jesus to promote ourselves. We will use Jesus to get us some followers. Not Him! "I got this many new followers!" This is dangerous! And it is fraudulent. And it is not working with people, it is working people. It is working people.

Listen -- we have a mass population of heel grabbers. Anybody know what I'm talking about? Jacob was the original heel grabber. When he and his twin brother were born he was born grabbing on to his brother's heel; grabbing to get ahead.

Let me tell you what can happen. We can have people that are so ambitious to be used powerfully of God that they grab the heel of someone they think is being powerfully used by God so they can use them to get somewhere. Now listen, there is mentoring where someone comes and takes your hand. I have the joyful privilege of being able to just walk with Priscilla Shirer. It's one the greatest joys of my ministry life is having these spiritual daughters. Listen -- she was well-mentored by several powerful women of God before I ever came on her radar but we have a close relationship. I've already

heard from her this morning praying over this taping. I love her so much. I gladly take her by the hand in any way I possibly can and introduce her to anyone that will even listen to me. But not one time has she tried to grab my heel. Not one time! That's not hand holding, that's not mentoring, that's not learning by example, that's grabbing on so you can get where they've gotten or get what they've got -- and it's dangerous.

I thought of how the serpent bruised the heel of the seed of Eve and how the enemy has been trying to grab on to the heel to supplant the work of Christ throughout all of human history.

You want to see something so freaky here before we close. Look back where it says in verses 20 and 21. Let's all think up for a minute because I have to talk some original language here but there is a reason why we're doing it and I want you to appreciate it. In the scriptures, particularly in the Hebrew there is this thing called "narrative art." You don't see it as much in Greek. But in the Hebrew it is not only what is being said, it is how it's being said. Very often a strong alliteration, very often a real poetic language, very, very visual, very artistic language, and it is happening all over the place here. Because in 20-21 where Jacob said: You shall say, "Moreover your servant Jacob is behind us." For he thought -- listen carefully -- I may appease him with the present that goes ahead of me, and afterwards I shall see his face. Perhaps he will accept me. So the present passed on ahead of him and he himself stayed that night in the camp.

Listen carefully -- in the Hebrew, the word *panim*, which is the word for *face* is used five different times in those two verses. If we were reading more literally from the Hebrew it would say... instead of "I will appease him" or "I may appease him" it would say, "I will cover his face -- I will cover his face." When you and I are manipulating someone, it is as if -- I wish so much that I had thought to bring a hand towel with me because it is as if we're standing in front of that person and we're covering their face with a towel while we're talking to them. We may even cover their face while we hug them. Anybody know what I'm talking about? We'll meet with an employer and we'll just throw a towel over their face because we're trying to appease them by manipulation, by spinning it instead of dealing honestly with the situation. "I will try to cover his face."

It goes on to say, "The present that goes ahead of me..." Literally, it is that present that goes ahead of my face. In the E.S.V. it says it clearly: I shall see his face -- That one is clear -- Perhaps he will accept me. When it says that in the E.S.V., "He will raise my face," in a more literal translation of the Hebrew. So the present passed on ahead of him. In the Hebrew is: It passed on ahead of his face. Five times face it, face it, face it, face it, face it. You think Jacob was having a deal with facing it? I think so. I think so. So that's what's happening. What God wants to do in us is get us to throw in the towel that we keep throwing over somebody else's face to appease them and face it.

I say this as one who has been there so many times, have you made a mess? Girl, I get it. I get it. Guy friend, I get it. I have too. Are you a mess? I've been one. I've been one. Has there been a mess made? I know about it. But there comes a time when we keep wondering why healing escapes us and we will not do the dealing that will bring the healing. Deal with it. Deal with it! Deal with it! Deal with it!

Our very last point is this: Start facing up by going face down. Start facing up by going face down. Today find a place in your house, go somewhere where you can be alone. Maybe if you're at your workplace, maybe you need to wait until you get home. Maybe in the public restroom it will not be as great a place to try this but let it begin -- if you and I want to begin facing up... okay, I need to face this. I've got a situation between a couple of my kids here that nobody's calling out and it needs to be called out. This is what is going on. I need to take authority in an area where God has given me authority but I will not stand up and say what it is I see. Anybody know what I'm saying? We're all just working people -- and we're letting them work us and we know we're being worked! Do we need to face up? Go face down -- it starts right there. Go all the way face down on the ground and go, "God, if I can face you, I can face anything. I can face anything."

End of clip

In the studio

James: Wow! If you can face God, you can face anything.

Father, how I pray you'll take what Beth shared straight to the hearts of people, all of us. And that we will be able to come into your presence boldly. It is a grace throne but knowing that that's what we want, your grace, your truth, your will; in Jesus' name.

We're so glad that you give us the opportunity of sharing this time with you, sharing Beth and what God puts on her heart to be a blessing to you.

Betty, I met a woman this -- I went to speak to some men over in north Dallas at elevate life church, Keith Craft is the pastor. The lady that helped everybody with all these mighty warriors, these great men, she told me, and she was almost tearful, she had helped as a hostess. She said, "I want to thank you for putting Beth Moore on your program every week because I think if you hadn't, I think my life was over but God's used her to change my life." I'm glad you're blessed.

Beth Moore is a blessing and one of the greatest blessings she tells us that she's ever experienced was going to the mission fields with *LIFE* to share food and water and love -- life! I want you to listen to another beautiful woman filled with Jesus who understands what's really important.

On the mission field

Tammy: We all face obstacles in life but often the reward on the other side motivates us enough to overcome them. These girls in need of life-giving water face unbelievable obstacles. They labor for hours each day, for miles walked and climbed to get it, and they do! Their strength and resilience is astounding. But for what? For water that looks like this? That's no reward. It is filled with sickness and death. Something they've encountered all too much of. You see, their source of water is the one thing they can't overcome. But you know who can? We can... with your help. With your help, we can change the life of this girl... and this girl... and this mom... and this village. Please, all it takes is for each of us to do what God is leading us to do.

End of clip

In the studio

James: All it takes is each of us.

Betty: James, as Tammy said, they can't do anything about it. They can't change their condition. They can't change that contaminated water. Those mothers would give their

own lives to see their children have to avoid all the death that that diseased water brings but we can. We can make the difference if you'll join with us. We can drill these water wells so that they can know the difference in clean water and diseased water. I know which one they'll choose.

James: I remember so well when Betty and I were moved deeply on the mission field, so much so that we were ready to just leave everything here and just go and stay there. They literally, it was a united request, "Please don't stay here. Please go back home and ask people all over the world who have been blessed to make it possible for us to stay and do what God's called us to do. Please go and ask." And Betty and I really heard the call of God.

The Lord let me know, one of the giftings that he had given me was to inspire people. He said, "James, this is your part in my heart: Inspire people to fulfill their part in my heart." And our part together is to put his arms around a hurting world, to reach out with hands of love and bless people in the area of their need because of what he has done in our heart. So we are giving Water for Life and then we're telling people about the water of life that put this on our heart that can change their life.

This year we have undertaken... this is the largest number of wells we've ever felt like the Lord told us to drill in a single year, over 500 wells this year. That's going to take every one of you. I wish I could reach out and take you by the hand and just say to you, you are so critically important -- for you to give a cup of water.

Think about this, a gift of \$48 will give ten people water the rest of their life. This is to provide a well for a village that will last a lifetime. 500 areas, 12 countries -- would you help us give ten people water? \$144 -- 30 people! You can do that. Some of you can drill a well; they're \$4800. Or you can give a portion of a well, \$1200, ask God to raise up three others to join you. \$2400 -- pray somebody matches that.

We have many people right now who have asked God, "God, let me do this." God's heard their prayer. We have people who say every year now, "I look forward to drilling another well." I'm asking all of our viewers to pray, let that happen for you. But right now the majority of the support comes from people who give \$48, \$144. Whatever you can do, it's big to the people whose lives it will save.

If you'll dial the number, take your bankcard, use it like a check. If you write a check, make it to *LIFE* but call the number and tell us what you're mailing. You can go online, LifeToday.org and make your gift. We have some beautiful gifts to send you. The

names of God, and a Bible study that you will love, beautiful witness pens, the commemorative bronze, "Living Water."

We want to say thank you for giving the greatest gift, the gift of life. Thank you for making that call. Thank you for making the gift God put on your heart.

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 500 new water wells for remote villages in over 12 different nations. Your gift of \$24 will help provide clean water for five people. A gift of \$48 will help provide for ten 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 *Majesty*, an inspirational new, fully illustrated book that will help you discover the promises behind the many names of God.

With your gift of \$100 or more, be sure to also request "The Names of God" pen set custom crafted with the various names of God and the gifts of the spirit.

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 limited edition 50th anniversary bronze sculpture, "*Living Water*."

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

End of clip

In the studio

James: Thank you so much for your help. I think most of you have surely heard this is the year we're celebrating our 50 years of marriage and we're still loving every minute

of it, and you work on marriages every day, not ever so often, not every 50th anniversary or annual anniversary -- it's every day. But we have 50 years and 50 years in ministry.

This is a commemorative bronze celebrating 50 years, "Living Water." It is a Robert Summers' bronze. He's known to be the world's foremost artist, bronze artist and he does this in love. We're sending it to those of you who will help us drill a water well and we're asking you to make a special gift. I hope you'll do that.

We thank you for whatever you've done today. We have some beautiful gifts to send you. I pray if you can drill a well, you will or whatever you can do, we say thank you. God bless you.

Tell your friends to watch *LIFE Today*! Tell them about Beth Moore on Wednesdays.