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Week 40

James: I'm James Robison. My wife Betty and I welcome you to *LIFE Today*. I'm asking from the depth of my heart for your earnest attention.

I think if you have watched me and Betty and this program and you knew we were in a battle, and you thought you were about to hear the answer to our challenge, I think you'd listen.

Well, I think it is very important for you to know that we're going to show you a challenging situation that is robbing life from precious children, and none of us have any good feelings about slavery -- ever! It is a horrible black mark, a blight on the American journey -- on the world, but today we have slaves in the world producing billions of dollars for very greedy, selfish, horrible people -- they're sex slaves. They didn't become involved in the sex industry, so to speak, because they chose that. They have been captured, most of them as young children, induced on drugs, seduced by cruel people out for their own gain to gratify appetites that cannot be satisfied.

And here's the thing you need to hear -- and that's why I'm asking you to really stay tuned -- this is the answer. It's not futile; it is not wishful thinking. What we're going to ask you to do works. And the only way it won't work, to totally rescue, reach those that are caught and restore them, the only way it doesn't work is for someone to choose not to listen and not to be involved as the answer to the problem, to really set people free, the way you would want your loved one to be freed from a disease or some horrible condition.

Please watch because you really are the answer. Listen to a woman's story. She has reported this in major newscasts, to the United Nations, to other organizations because she knows firsthand, and she has seen the death that comes when the answers and the solutions are not offered -- the solutions we can offer, the real answer. Listen to her story and please, so you can offer hope, life, a chance, prayerfully hang on every word and every image because you are the hope.

On the mission field:

>> These are young girls that have been sold?

>> She has been sold; she is five years old. That is one –

>> Five years old?

>> Yes. She is now big. They put her in the cage. I think if you come to Cambodia a few years ago, you read the newspaper. They put hot water and a nail in her head.

>> Can I see those other girls please? And these girls were also trafficked? So how old is this girl?

>> Three years, she's been raped.

>> Three years old and had been raped. Oh, my gosh!

>> So my friend, because she didn't want to have sex with a client; she didn't want to have sex with the clients. And she had been killed in front of me --.

>> She was killed because she did not want to service.

>> Because it's not that she don't want -- because she can't. -- Because she was sick. Because she had been sold. Because she had like 20 client a day -- because she can't. Her body is now -- she cannot -- her body is dead. So they kill us.

End of clip

In the studio:

James: And they killed her. And the ones they don't kill -- a living hell -- sex slaves -- they killed her. But we can save them. Boy, I hope you grasp that "we" and the significance of it -- "we" the people. "We" the people can give those girls and those children a chance at life. Someone did that for me as a boy without a home, without a father.

The viewers of *LIFE Today* are known all over the world as people who give life today - save lives. While those in the sex trade and sex trafficking, predators are destroying life, we can give life. I don't know how you can experience a greater joy, Betty.

Betty: Absolutely! And just knowing that these children are used as tools of a horrible trade: greediness, selfishness, people -- and sinful ways -- they just want to be used

and then just throw them away when their little bodies wear out. Their bodies are not prepared for what they go through. They are just children.

What if they were our children? Wouldn't we want to do everything we could if someone had kidnapped our child and used our child like that? We would immediately use every resource we had to find them and get them out of that.

Well, we have the opportunity to be those that care about these children. God cares about them. He wants to use us to reach out and to give them hope and to get them out of this horrible situation that they're in.

James: We used to sing the song... and I've heard you even sing it, you've even done a chorus or two on the program over the years, Jesus loves the little children of the world. He really does love the little children of the world. I think it is really imperative that we understand the way that he expresses his love.

Think about the way the New Testament teaches it. The New Testament says "we" as Christians, as people who know Christ, who profess a relationship with God who is our father and we're his family, the New Testament and Jesus is teaching us that we're his body; we are his body. And beyond spiritual body; we are spiritually born into his kingdom as his children and his family with God as our father, but together connected and yielded to the will of God and to the headship of Christ. We become his body; which means what? It means we do what He would do if he was here because he is here. But in order to do it -- remember, he said, "You'll do greater things than I do."

How in the world is that possible? -- Only because there are more of us. We can be in more places. Jesus can only be in one place at a time. But we can be what? -- Around the world. We can put his arms around the world, so to speak. He's got the whole world in his hands only if we extend his hands to the whole world and in specific instances to the downtrodden, the overlooked, to the captives that he came to set free. He came to set them free. He left us here to set people free. He left us here to rescue the perishing. He's not willing that any would perish. He came to set captives free. He lives to live in us.

Now we can rescue these children. We can rescue the women before they get killed, before they lose their lives. We're getting many of the children, before the predator gets them, by telling their impoverished families the truth. "Don't believe the people that come to take your child or give you some money for your child. It won't work. Here's what happens." And we're able to show them that.

Who is the "we" again? We, the people, the missionaries, called and anointed and equipped and enabled by God with a broken heart. But because we, the people here, share with you and we, the people there, enable the missionaries to stand there not empty-handed with full hearts and the ability to give them a home, to rescue them before someone gets them, to get them out of the traffic and restore them and teach them so they have a future, and they can bless their impoverished family.

I want you to listen once again and watch because this is the difference that needs to be made and this is the difference only you, only God through you, through "we" working together can do. I'm telling you, you're vitally important! You are important to God and you're important to his purpose, and his purpose is setting people free, rescuing the perishing. Watch closely.

On the mission field:

Announcer: If brokenness had a face it would be Dalene's -- her spirit, her will, her body. All at the cruel hand of sex trafficking.

Dalene: After my mother died, a lady came and told me she would raise me like her daughter. But instead, she sold me to a brothel to pay off her debts. I have scars from the chains they put on me. They force me to service eight to ten men each night, and we are not allowed to eat or drink unless we do. If girls are disobedient, they're sent away by boat and they never come back. I haven't felt love since my mother died. I want freedom. I want to not live in hell anymore. This life, it is like hell to me.

End of clip

In the studio:

James: Just before I asked you to watch that, I made it very, very clear that Jesus in his first real public announcement, quoting Isaiah, he made it very clear, I came to set captives free. Now that's his heart, but we are his hands; we express his heart.

Now here's what we know. Here's what the missionaries have shown us. Now think about this. [T] Many of them have left the comforts of their home. They do not feel like they're sacrificing; they feel like they're fulfilling a mission call of God. The same thing you should feel when you say, "Well, you know what? I'm going to help them fulfill it. I'm going to send them." Because that's the bottom line in the gospel: Preaching, hearing, believing. But how shall they preach unless they're sent? How shall they minister? How shall they be a missionary unless they're sent?

The bottom line, and really, the bottom line dealing with every issue we have is we the people, not those people -- not them, us, we. What can I do? However small I may think it is, it is part of his commission and his call and I'm rescuing the perishing, I'm setting captives free and I'm doing my part to share God's heart and to extend God's hands. That's what I'm doing, I'm part of his body.

So here's what the missionaries have told us. It takes an average of \$128 to rescue someone. Now the missionaries tell us, this is what they say. Okay, with your help and part of the help this year is to restore one of the *LIFE* Centers that burned. We not only want to restore it, we want to expand it. Now we didn't expect that -- they didn't expect it. But we the people, for the glory of God and to rescue the perishing and to set captives free and to save people, we're going to restore that. And that's a \$278,000 challenge.

In addition, the missionaries have said we've got 6,000 that we know we can care for if we have the resources; that's more than three quarters of a million dollars. But here's how you break it down. It's \$128 per person that we reach and we rescue -- either get them before the predator gets them or get them out of the trafficking and get them into a future, to prepare their future. And we give these little children a total future, teach them English, teach them a trade. The ones we get out, we teach them how to make a living. They don't want any part of that life. They didn't choose sexual impurity as a lifestyle, as an income source. They are slaves used for greedy people and to try to satisfy people who can never be satisfied.

Would you be the hands of Jesus? Would you say, "I'll give the \$128?" Or "James, God's blessed me. I want to rescue 10 -- I'll give \$1280." I don't know what you can do. But by the way, you may say, "I can't do that." I understand that but we the people can do something; \$64 and another person join you, we've got another one. Some of you can rescue ten, you can give \$1280. Many of you, to get that \$278,000 we need for the restoration of that *LIFE* Center, you can give \$1,000.

Would you dial that number right now and say, "Hands of Jesus extended, I want to reach out and touch someone with the love of God today." Use your bankcard like a check. You write a check, make it to *LIFE* but call us. You can go to LifeToday.org and give your gift immediately. We can tell the missionaries, "Go do it. Got another 100 you can rescue today. Got 1,000 you can rescue today because 1,000 people said, 'I'll take one.'" Would you do it?

Father, move people with compassion.

We've got some gifts for you. Betty's story, *Free to Be Me*; how she got set free as a little church girl, a journal that will bless you in recording your thoughts, a *Life Application Study Bible*, and the 50 year anniversary commemorative bronze by Robert Summers, the world's greatest sculptor. He gives to say thank you for giving life. Make that call.

Begin video clip:

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

Through *Mission: Rescue Life* you can help reach, rescue, and restore thousands of children from the horrors of the sex trade in Thailand, Cambodia, India, Ukraine, and many other nations. Your gift today of only \$128 will help rescue a child and change their life forever. And with gifts of \$64 or \$32 we will combine your gifts with others to help reach, rescue, and restore one more child from the horrors of their kidnappers.

With your gift of any amount, we'll send you *Free to Be Me*, Betty Robison's updated account of how she moved from fear and insecurity to true freedom. You'll also receive the companion journal for your quiet time and daily reflections.

With your gift of \$128 or more to help rescue a child, be sure to request your copy of the *Life Application Study Bible*.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1,000 or more to help rebuild the *LIFE* Center in Ukraine destroyed by fire or \$1280 to help rescue 10 children, and you may request the limited edition bronze sculpture titled Christian.

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

End of clip

On the mission field:

Announcer: This is a prison. Not a real prison run by a government and police officers but it is a prison nonetheless. Room after room contains not much more than a bed. Depraved visitors to these types of prisons pour millions of dollars into human

trafficking worldwide. The prisoners are scared young girls held captive by violent slave traders but the prisoners that live here did nothing wrong. They have broken no laws. The girl in cell 4D is innocent.

Open Captions: I have no control over my own body. I don't want to do the things they make me do. I feel trapped here like I'm in bondage. Even my heart feels like it is in bondage. My life is over. I have no more hope. When my life gets really bad, I cry out, "If there is a god, please save me."

Jesus was sent to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, and that the oppressed will be set free.

End of clip

In the studio:

James: Wow! Hear her crying out? "If there's a god" -- you know why a lot of people ask that? They don't see him well enough in the lives of those of us who claim to know him. I do know him and I do love him because he first loved us -- and he wants to love people through us. And I'm so grateful that a boy, me, without a father got to know the father because someone showed him to me, and Jesus gave me life.

I began early in the program telling you that if Jesus came to set the captives free and we're his body, then we do what he does and we can set them free.

Betty, I'm praying that every person watching will simply go to the phone. If their heart was broken, we've got a prayer team here... and I know you may find this hard to believe but even though we've been talking about the needs of others, 75% to 80% of the calls that come through our prayer center today will be because somebody calls that's got a broken heart, and they know someone who cares will pray for them; and that is not an exaggeration -- it is true. The call is even paid for by love, the love of God expressed through someone like you.

But I'm praying that everybody watching who can will do something. If you can give \$128 or a portion of it and pray, "God, let somebody do what I'm doing at least. I'm doing my best." Go to the phone. Take a bankcard, use it like a check. If you don't use cards, then write a check. Make it to *LIFE*, you're giving life. Or you can go online

LifeToday.org and make your gift. There's a way you can do it and there is a level you can help.

I've said that it's \$128 per person; that means \$1280 we can rescue ten. And there's some of you who can do that.

I've mentioned the *LIFE* Center that burned. This is in the Ukraine. This is where Jim and Sandy, who lost their baby Joshua there and never left. They said, "We're going to save everybody else's baby." Their little baby died -- their little boy. But they've been staying there for years to give life. We don't have a more precious mission couple on the planet. But now their center burned. We not only want to restore it, we want to expand it so they can do more, and that's \$278,000 there. I need people who will do that.

And I'm praying you'll give \$1,000 if you can. But whatever you can do. But remember this, the missionaries have targeted 6,000. They said, "We've got the facilities to do it if we have the resources to do it. That's how many we can reach." That's nearly a million dollars we're talking about. So would you just do what you can do?

Dial the number, take your bankcard, write a check; call us and tell us you're mailing it or go online. We want to send you Betty's book, *Free to Be Me*, a journal, the *Life Application Study Bible*, the commemorative bronze of Christian, a little boy we rescued out of the sewers of Romania. Betty, I believe everyone can do something.

Betty: Everyone! Every one of us! You should be -- in my heart I feel like you should be rushing to the phone. I want to be the first one to call and say, "I'll help." Please join with us. We can save the lives of these precious children. She is just one example. There is many, many more. Please help us!

James: And I really think it is important, even as you go to the phone or you go online to know, she got her prayer answered. We rescued her. Back heavy on the "we," not Betty and me; missionaries and people like you who made it possible for them not just to care but to share life and give them a future because you share life. Please go to the phone or online and you make gift God puts on your heart. Thank you for doing it right now.

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End of clip

In the studio:

James: Please hear our thanks as coming not just from us but from those missionaries and really those we're able to set free, which is what Jesus came to do. I love this commemorative bronze, Robert Summers, the world's most renowned sculptor. This is *Christian* in Romania. Rhonda held him. That's not our daughter Rhonda, our oldest daughter, but it is a missionary and we got him out of the sewers. That's where he lived. The only place he could find shelter like thousands of children that we rescued.

We're sending this to those of you as a commemorative gold-inlaid bronze. It's to say thanks for 50 years of ministry but thank you for rescuing the perishing. Make the best gift you can. And the other gifts we have for you to say thank you for giving the gift of life to people who are desperate.

God bless you! Thanks for watching... for caring... for sharing.