

11/08/13

Week 45

James: Welcome to *LIFE Today*! It's such a privilege for Betty and for me to be able to share this time with you. I'm James Robison. We're offering something that I know, Betty you have told me you're experiencing. You're moving past the pain of losing our daughter Robin, which we're rapidly in that... approaching that season when our little girl, our baby girl, mother of three teenagers went to be with the Lord. And in that pain, we could have gotten stuck.

And you told me you had carried the burden for years with the battle for her life with cancer, and then the pain afterwards, and you're beginning to see that lifted to where what Christine talks about, *Moving Past Your Past: How to Turn Trials into Triumphs*, you're beginning to see, and I'm watching this, it's beautiful, that God has lifted you up, you're putting on the garments of praise, it doesn't mean you don't miss her, but there was one of the little lines in I think Jennifer Rothschild's song and basic poem that she wrote that really meant a lot to you.

Betty: Yeah, James. Those words were, "I praise you in the pain, (during the pain,) though the mystery remains." We don't ever get all the answers we would like to have when we lose someone we love so much, but God is right there in the center of it, James. And that's what I have experienced in my own walk, this journey since we lost our daughter Robin and God has been right there. I took him to that place of hurt in my life and he has stayed right there and the healing is coming. I can't explain it all as best I would like to, but there's joy in my heart again.

James: I really am watching. It is like Betty said, I was fighting so long for Robin's life and trying to make it well and then we trust and believed and then she's gone. Now I'm still trying to go through the understanding. I said to Betty... because she said, "I don't really feel like going up to the studio. I don't really feel like... I just want to be in the presence of the Lord."

I said, "Honey..." We lost our little girl. She said "our baby." But we've got a lot of people all over the world that are losing their babies and they're losing their children. And we have a lot of people who watch us and we're an encouragement to them. Here's what I really want you to hear. Betty kept coming and I kept coming when we wanted to be far, far away and we kept coming for you because we wanted to help you move past your pain or your hurt. This is why we're excited about sharing what

Christine has and you can ask for this incredible teaching, and a couple of books that she wrote but I want to tell you something else that I really don't want you to miss.

It's just that a lot of times when we come on the air and we kind of show you somebody else and their need, I get concerned that maybe you're going to... maybe you're going to check us out; maybe you're just going to check out on us. Don't! Because why we show you someone else who loves a child or show you a child in need or you listen to a missionary, we do want to help them, and together we can. But I don't want you to ever forget that the reason we come in to homes all over the world is not only to inspire you to put God's arms around others but to also help you get in the arms of God. Rest on him... in him. Get so close to his heart that you not only feel it beat, you know what he's saying.

I want you to hear something from Jesus when Paul is actually talking in Acts 20 about how his life may actually come to an end because he is going bound in the spirit, carried by God, to Jerusalem to face the leaders and the material secular world and religious world, and he doesn't know what's going to happen. But he makes a statement when he's talking about "I'm doing this for the right reason. I'm doing it" in verse 33 of Acts 20, "I want to help those that are in need."

He said, "I always did what I had to to take care of myself so you wouldn't think I was using you. I just want to bless you. But it's really important that you help others. And we want to be an example helping those in need by working hard.

But remember the words of the Lord Jesus." Now listen to -- "Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Did you hear that? It's a greater blessing to give than to think about receiving. And here's the truth. When you learn to freely give you'll begin to live fully. You'll begin to live more freely because you're releasing a river of love and life that gives life because of the love expressed and the power. And the blessing you get in blessing others is indescribable. We've been helping missionaries and we're going to ask you to do that -- we've been helping missionaries help others. Because if we take children who have been hurt and we help them and we get their minds healthy and then we don't leave them dependent -- that's tragic!

That's what's happening in much of the free world including the U.S., where we make people dependent and they look to Pharaoh rather than God. We've got to be very careful that our good intentions actually become damaging, and it is happening in America. By the grace of God we'll recover and repair the damage. But I want you to look at some children, and I want you to know that we get these children where they

can think, we get them to where they know the importance of work and responsibility, help them get in school and learn while their minds are sharp and we can give them a whole new future. Let me tell you something, that's more blessed than ever thinking about ourselves. Listen to one of our missionaries.

On the mission field

Peter: Just looking at these children around me and their plight, and especially this little boy sitting on my lap, it makes me think about what malnutrition actually does to children. If it is a long enough period that they go through malnutrition, something like two or three years, they never recover from it. But it is not only in their growth, it's also in their mental capacity. So for me it's a huge issue because no child should be held back in their lives because they didn't get the food, the nourishment they needed when they were small.

That's why this thing is such a big thing on my heart because I've seen those kids. I've seen kids who are eight years old that look like they're three. And you know we have to get to a place where we as people say enough of this. We are not going to let this cycle of poverty go any further. We are not going to let kids like this grow up in that cycle, grow up stunted, grow up without a chance. It's time we actually draw a line in the sand and we say we as a people, we as a generation are going to draw the line and we're not going to let this thing go any further.

You know what? It's not so difficult to solve if we work together. We can actually break the cycle of poverty if we'll work together because there's enough people in the world who have to be able to solve the problem for those who don't have. That's the whole kind of nucleus of the meaning of stepping in in the name of Jesus and helping these kids.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Peter, I really do hear exactly what you're saying. We do step in, in the name of Jesus, and we not only give those children the food and the nourishment.

And Betty, you've watched it where they were dying, where they were being buried and where we gave them the food, and then they're singing -- they're singing the praises of the Lord because they have seen the power of God and his love expressed not only through the missionaries but as the missionaries say "through the people who enable us to stay here with hearts overflowing with love and compassion but also with

hands filled with the ability to meet the need and then to point them in the right direction."

Now here's what I'd like you to understand. When we opened this program we talked about the pain of losing our daughter. She did everything right. One of the things I learned as I experienced a heartbreak that I never thought any parent would ever face, I kept hearing Jesus say, "I came to bind up the brokenhearted."

I said, "God, help me bind up the brokenhearted," which is one the reasons we offer teachings from Beth Moore, from Christine Caine, from other people who have contributed a wealth of wisdom and knowledge and love and understanding -- want to help you.

But as I said at the beginning of the program, it's more blessed to give the healing, the help, and in that is actually the joy of receiving, knowing we made a difference. I want you to listen and boy, you talk about... we lost a daughter and this mother we're about to see, basically her family. Here's the thing Betty, we would have done anything for the cure for Robin and everybody watching would have said, "Okay, if you know the cure we're going to help you get Robin to it." That's how much we're supposed to love one another. We've got the cure. Listen to this mother.

On the mission field

Subtitle:

>> I've lost all my children. I hope God can see me.

Announcer: Unseen, unknown, invisible is how Adut feels. In an area devastated by malnutrition, the suffering is widespread. Adut knows it well -- most recently her four-year-old daughter.

Subtitle:

>> She died on the 10th of this month. I buried her alone. I have no family, no husband.

Announcer: Now she sits alone next to her daughter's grave, the last of four children lost.

Subtitle:

>> This is where I live. I have nothing.

Announcer: Adut is not unseen. None here are. Not by God or you. We know God has called us to respond but we can only act if you do.

[Children crying]

End of clip

In the studio

James: Oh boy!

Betty: As a mother I know the hurt and the pain from losing one child but I can't even imagine four... four children! Her whole family is just wiped out because they're hungry. You know, I look at it and I see the innocent are suffering, and in this situation it doesn't have to be that way. We can get there in time to save other children that are in the same situation as this mother's children were. Let's do it together. Let's join together and let's reach out and save the lives of these innocent children.

James: One of the things that I really wish that through the missionaries -- and I'll be sure they hear this -- are able to say to that mother that no, we can't bring back your precious children. We wish we could.

But I want to be able to say to her, and you're the ones that enable us to say this through the missionaries, your loss inspired many to take action to save another mother's precious children. I would want her to see that maybe I helped someone else miss the pain because they heard my broken heart. I hear the heart of God toward the poor, and one of the things I hear is feed them, stabilize, but don't teach them to be dependent on anyone other than God. They can go forward. That's what part of what our outreaches do. We don't teach dependency on others. We teach dependency on God and love others, and inspire them to depend on God. We become an answer to the prayers of mothers, to the heart cry and the pain of children, and the starving, and we give them what they need in the name of love as a demonstration of the love of God.

The telephone number there is a lifeline today. It's more than a 911 call. It's life! Would you dial it right now, please? Go get your bankcard. I like to say run to get it as though lives depend upon it because they do. But get your bankcard and say, "This is one thing I know, I'm using this card for the right reason today. I may not always but God, if I had to give up some little something that would give three children food for the next months, \$30, that might be a meal somewhere. Lord, I want to give for five children." \$50 we can take care of five children. \$100 we can take care of ten. And I always say when you give can you think about "I'm helping ten. Let me add another

\$10 to give them all those nice heat-resistant bowls. I'll give \$30, I'll tack on \$3." "If I give \$50, I'll take on \$5." Think that way.

How can I really bless the missionaries who have given their lives to share the life and love of God not in word only but in demonstration so those missionaries are not empty-handed? So out of the abundance of their heart and their mouth speaks love, they can also meet a need and people can see love in action.

Dial the number. Say, "Here's my gift." If you want to write a check, make it to *LIFE* but call us and tell us you're mailing. We need to know because we're going to take care of hundreds of thousands of children but you've got to see each one of them as important -- each one of them as those children were to that mother. Make the call. You can go to LifeToday.org and make the gift online. I'm grateful many people do that because immediately, it is like a transfer, we've got the resource. We can tell the missionaries, "Looks good! People are responding. They're releasing the love of God. They're finding the blessing of giving."

We want to send you Christine Caine's teaching on CD, on DVD. I hope you get it both ways. We're going to send you the two books that she's written that are such a blessing.

And remember this, we've got the commemorative bronze and I love it! "Brotherly Love," this is a scene that we've witnessed so many times on the mission field, an older brother feeding a younger brother out of one of the bowls with the porridge mix that love provided. Could you possibly give \$1,000, enable us to take care of 100 children?

Father, I pray everyone watching will move to the phone or go online and make the gift you put on their heart. Thank you for doing it!

Begin video clip

Announcer: In remote and impoverished areas of Africa, families are suffering, facing death by starvation, and those hit the hardest are their children.

Life's Mission Feeding program is there able to feed and care for over 400,000 children in crisis areas of Angola, Mozambique, and Sudan. Our mission partners urgently need your support. Our food reserves are gone and we desperately need to replenish our supplies at more than 800 feeding centers immediately. Your life-saving gift of \$30, \$50, or \$100 will help feed and care for three, five, or ten children for the next three months.

With your gift we'll send you *Moving Past Your Past*, a powerful new series featuring author and speaker Christine Caine. In Christ There are No Yesterdays, Only Tomorrows; in this series, Christine provides you with the keys to leaving your past behind and receiving all God has for your future.

For a gift of any amount you'll receive the audio CD series along with Christine's book, *Can I Have and Do It All, Please?* With your gift of \$100 or more to help feed ten children, please request the entire teaching on both DVD and CD. And as a bonus, we'll send you Christine's latest book release, *Undaunted*.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1,000 or more to help feed 100 children and you may request our 50th anniversary bronze sculpture, "Brotherly Love." Please call, write, or make your gift online today.

End of clip

On the mission field

>> This is Akun. She is four years old and her frail body tells you something is terribly wrong. Her parents have died and her surviving uncle is the only one left to care for her.

Subtitle:

>> She used to be healthy. Her stomach became bloated. She began coughing and has difficulty breathing.

Announcer: But why? Why is this weakened little girl struggling to survive?

Subtitle:

>> So when the child was brought it was having severe malnutrition. In fact, for Akun, it was a lack of food. It was the lack of food.

Announcer: An immune system broken down by malnutrition, broken down by starvation. In a matter of days Akun's body could reach a point of no return. In a downward spiral that could ultimately take her life all from a lack of food -- just food!

Subtitle:

>> I am trying my very best but it's all I can afford. I have no other choice but to survive in the way that we have.

Announcer: Her uncle's best effort may not be enough for Akun but yours would be for both Akun and so many like her.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Well, that child represents hundreds, even thousands. We have to take each life as precious, one at a time.

But remember, each one represents many others. \$30 -- I don't think there is a person watching who couldn't do that. And by the way, for some of you, it may be the first time and it may be a stretch for you. Take the step. Allow God to stretch your heart, enlarge your capacity to care and express that concern. \$30, three children -- like that! Give them a future. \$50 we can help five for several months. Isn't that amazing?

There are many people working together to provide the substance that we use in the soup mix. Sometimes other nations say, "We want to help you because what you do works and we know you'll take it to the source of need." So they'll give us the substance, the grain, the corn, that we can utilize in grants. Thank God for that! That makes it possible for us to produce the porridge mix, especially designed through study, to meet the need, the nutritional need in that area. So would you make that call? \$100 we can take care of 10 for the next several months. \$1,000 we can take care of 100.

We want to send you Christine Caine's teaching, *Moving Past Your Past*. God sends to us blessed, gifted people to bless us with truth that sets us free. Many people are stuck in the pain of the past, their own hurt. We could have been stuck totally over the loss of a daughter who never did anything to deserve the pain and the loss and trusted God. How do you explain it? You don't. You can't. You trust. But God will carry us past that place so we're not stuck in the pain of the past. Let Christine help you. Go to the phone or go online and make the gift God put on your heart.

Betty, I'm praying that there would not be one person watching who would not do something.

Betty: Me too! We can all do something. I hope you will join us!

Begin video clip

Announcer: In remote and impoverished areas of Africa, families are suffering, facing death by starvation, and those hit the hardest are their children.

Life's Mission Feeding program is there able to feed and care for over 400,000 children in crisis areas of Angola, Mozambique, and Sudan. Our mission partners urgently need your support. Our food reserves are gone and we desperately need to replenish our supplies at more than 800 feeding centers immediately. Your life-saving gift of \$30, \$50, or \$100 will help feed and care for three, five, or ten children for the next three months.

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End of clip**On the mission field**

James: As I kneel here by these beautiful children I want them to be healthy. You can look at this little girl's complexion right here if she'll step out in the light. See, she's got some of the beautiful glow but she still has a little bit of the red tint in her hair, which simply means that we're bringing them up to a norm. And this is a very poor area and if we don't continue to feed these children, they'll just reverse and they'll go back into serious trouble. We want to keep that going. We want these children to have an opportunity to get ahead in life -- we don't want them to just survive. We want them to have a future and a hope because this is what God has for them but it won't happen without your love.

So I pray you'll respond today. Make the largest gift you can. If you could put arms around... see, here's five children right here. You just put arms around these five or

maybe you could extend your arms all the way back here and you just take ten children into your arms; would you help care for these ten children? Would you do that?

End of clip

In the studio

James: I'm confident that you went to the phone or went online.

By the way, if you call and you ever get a busy, say, "God, thank you others are calling." Because you know this, they're either calling to get help because they need someone to pray with them to help them with a challenge or someone is calling to help others.

I pray many of you will ask for the beautiful commemorative 50th anniversary of marriage and ministry bronze, "Brotherly Love." That's what we're going to be showing; we're going to be showing the love of God for others. We love God, we love our neighbor. They've got a need that we can meet. We joyfully do it together.

Thank you so much for your help. Thanks for making that call. Be persistent! You get a busy, call until you get through.