

**1/21/14**  
**Week 4**  
**James and Betty Robison**  
**Polly Wright**

**James:** Well, welcome! We saw quite a few of the ladies here in pink shirts. We had some on not long ago that said, "Embrace Grace." And it was an outreach that is supported by many of the churches in the area, including Gateway, where Betty and I happen to be members. I'm James Robison and this is Betty.

They were reaching out to girls that were carrying a baby and didn't seem like they knew what to do and considered abortion but they didn't have an abortion. They didn't know where they were going to handle taking care of a child, and they found grace embracing them and they embraced grace. And the building was just filled with people who were sharing that grace and tonight we've got a lot of ladies here who are sharing love with ladies who are in the adult entertainment business, and the clubs. All they do is go and love those girls. He's changing their lives. There are some here tonight who have been totally transformed and they just go and love them.

The one who we're going to talk tonight, who heads this up and wrote a book about it called *Cherish* is Polly Wright. She's at First Baptist, Colleyville. A lot of the churches in the area help her in what she's doing with these beautiful ladies; and the ladies' husbands who minister to the boyfriends or the husbands of the girls who are in that business, they just love them. Love never fails. The clubs are letting them come in because as strange as it may seem, and I've talked to the club owner of the largest club in America out in L.A. and he just wept because he said, "Somehow I care about these girls and I know what we're doing is wrong. I want a future for them." Lo and behold, we were able to help them find a future.

That's what Polly's done because she was trapped there for a while; raped when she was just a 14-year-old girl, and addicted and nothing going right. "Her shattered innocence," as the subtitle says, was restored by hope. She's got a wonderful ministry. I want you to welcome this beautiful lady, Polly Wright, to *LIFE Today*. Glad to see you! And you are beautiful!

**Polly:** Thank you!

**James:** And your husband? Your husband is out here and he is too. He's got just the holy glow of God on him and I praise God!

Tell us a little bit about your journey. I love what you're doing and God's honoring it. I love the fact the churches are working together with you. You ought to not put up denominational fences because God's love lifts us above those barriers so that we can storm the gates of hell -- and that's what love is doing. Tell us about your journey.

**Polly:** My journey started, just almost every woman that's been in the industry, I was sexually abused as a really young child and it just immediately twisted every idea of what I thought love was. Instead of becoming introverted I became incredibly extroverted and started seeking to be filled by love and finding that in men and being very promiscuous. But, in that, with the shame and the weight and the depression, using drugs to just numb everything; and putting myself in situations in that cycle of self-hatred over and over again just led down a path of destruction.

**James:** What was going on inside while you were there? Were you finding any satisfaction or gratification out of it when you were in the business? Or was it just a job? Or was it something that had actually become an addiction in you; you used manipulative possibilities to feed the addiction to support yourself? What was driving you then?

**Polly:** What was driving me is I thought this time I would actually have a control over men; where I could actually manipulate and control men this time; where I would be in the driver's seat.

**James:** Did you feel they had hurt you initially?

**Polly:** Oh, absolutely! Yes!

**James:** So now then, you weren't necessarily just trying to hurt them but you wanted to be in charge?

**Polly:** Yes, absolutely!

**James:** Did you feel like you were?

**Polly:** I did, because I would manipulate my own mind to think I was. And then when you're drunk or high and things like that you can manipulate yourself to thinking that. It is such a lie of the enemy. I had no control over my life and what I did. It was horrific.

**Betty:** Did you ever feel like... was there ever any guilt feeling that came into it? Or you were just so wrapped up in being in control of every situation from then on because of what happened to you early in life?

**Polly:** When you would wake up in the morning and you're next some guy you have no idea who he was, and then there's that sense or something in you at that time going, "What am I doing? You know, this is not who I am." I did not believe in God then. But knowing that core that is in us, each one of us, going this is not who I am.

**James:** What was your age during that time?

**Polly:** Eighteen years old.

**James:** And were you there for an extended period of time?

**Polly:** Two years.

**James:** What happened? Because obviously you not only came out... you ultimately came out gloriously, to the point that love sent you back in to the very people who are

perhaps trapped, either being manipulated and so forth. What helped you? Did you ever reach points of depression where you were wanting to escape? Suicide or...

What happened to turn you around? Tell me about that journey.

**Polly:** After two years of dancing and just the fear of depression, I did try to take my life. I had a gun and I went to my ex-boyfriend's house after contemplating over and over again. But something in me, I know its God now, but something in me then just said, "No! This is not what you're supposed to do." So I was put away in a home for a while under suicide watch.

**James:** Who put you there?

**Polly:** My counselor. I had been seeing a counselor dealing with the revelation of abuse and depression and drug use.

**James:** But you were still in the business then?

**Polly:** When I attempted suicide I never went back.

**James:** What happened after that?

**Polly:** I still lived the same life. I still was seeking. I was going to A.A. Things like that. But in programs like that you have a higher power. If I was able to pick my own god therefore I was my own god, I could be God. It was so detrimental to me. A.A. is a great program for some but for me it was very detrimental to my life and my walk. But I kept living the same lifestyle. I moved away but wherever you go there you are! I came back to the Dallas area. I was at a country and western club one night and my girlfriend and I were dancing on the bar and we were drunk and she fell off. And these two guys move in and one of them, I am married to now.

[Laughter]

I have been married to him for 18 years in January.

**James:** Was he there for the right reasons?

**Polly:** Of course not! He was there to pick up women. But I don't think he knew I was going to be his wife.

**James:** Who picked the one on the floor?

**Polly:** I don't remember.

[Laughter]

**James:** But he picked the one that was still standing. Okay?

**Polly:** It's true. I was the girl that still stood. Yeah!

**James:** Okay, so he came for the wrong reasons but now you're married to him. I don't think he would be still excited about you if you were in clubs. And so, since you're going in clubs now for all the right reasons, tell me what happened and what influence did he have on you? Because I was quite impressed with his countenance and his demeanor; I think he's much of a man. He has a look of Jesus, a look of God. You have two daughters and they're twins. Are they here? Yeah, there they are! So tell me what happened. What happened to him and what happened to you?

**Polly:** It was just an incredible journey. That whole equally yoked thing, thank goodness, he wasn't walking and with the Lord at that time because he grew up Southern Baptist. We got married and just immediately jumped into family and I became a housewife and that compartmentalizing your life...

**James:** Did he get right with God himself?

**Polly:** He did eventually. Yeah!

**James:** He decided to go back to his Baptist roots? Or the Baptist family and preacher came and got him... What happened to him?

**Polly:** No, he was never dragged out! I think they tried but yeah... No.

**James:** But he just began to refocus and you began to watch.

**Polly:** Yes.

**James:** All right. What happened to you deep inside?

**Polly:** Watching people love me -- getting to see that.

**James:** Even knowing where you had been, some of them?

**Polly:** Even knowing where... Well, I would never tell the story that I was a stripper because the shame I carried in that.

**James:** Into church or wherever.

**Polly:** Into church, into any part of life. When you're promiscuous, any type of that, even when you're not in the sex industry as a woman, if you had that kind of lifestyle in college or in your early 20s, the shame that you carry in that is so weighty and

horrific. But I got to see women love me and my mother-in-law loved me, even though...

**James:** Did she know your past when she's loving you or did she find that out later?

**Polly:** She found it out later. Everybody found it out later.

**James:** But love began to change your life; right?

**Polly:** Love began to change my life.

**James:** And so you committed your life to Christ?

**Polly:** Yes! Three years later, after being married.

**James:** You didn't just become a good Baptist, because he was a good old Baptist guy.

**Polly:** Do you think I'm a good Baptist?

[Laughter]

I go into strip clubs.

[Laughter]

**James:** And you go for the right reasons!

**Polly:** That's right!

**James:** But see, all the other church folks are there for the wrong reasons.

**Polly:** That's right! Amen!

**James:** But you really did meet Jesus. You have a relationship with Jesus.

**Polly:** Oh my goodness! Yes!

**James:** And you love him. And then the ladies that go with you, they love Jesus. And it's the love of Jesus that goes through you when you go to the clubs. What do you do when you go to the clubs now where the girls are?

**Polly:** We take gifts. That's what we go with. And we take gifts into there and just see the women. We always pray, "God, let me see her how you see her." Because each one of us, we are his child no matter if we're in the pit of hell in a strip club or we're in church, we are his child. We go in there, we take gifts, and we don't go in preaching the gospel because we are the gospel.

**James:** You show them the gospel.

**Polly:** We show them the gospel!

**James:** You love in word and deed; then people listen to what you have to say. Because when they see the gospel, when they see the kingdom of heaven in us, and the love of God in us for them and they're not being invited to be one of our gang members, club members, they're not being invited to that organization, they see the love of God.



So they listen to you; right? Were they amazed?

**Betty:** Was this something that after you got saved and really got right with God and your life was changed around, you and your husband's, that you wanted to naturally go do?

**Polly:** No. I wanted to be a good Christian. I wanted to be in Sunday School and do every Bible study and inhale that, and do all my Beth Moore's and...

**Betty:** So you weren't looking for this type of ministry.

**Polly:** No! And then God, after much refining...

**James:** Did you push God back a little when he was telling you?

**Polly:** Oh, I argued with him.

**James:** You did?

**Polly:** I'm like "God, are you crazy?" And he is crazy, by the way. I love that!

[Laughter]

That should be our crazy. His crazy should be our norm. Because I love his desire for our hearts. And I argued with him and I just said, "God, I cannot save these women."

And he said, "Pollyanna, it is not your job to save them. It's your job to love them."

And from that moment it was like, "Yes, God. I will do whatever you want." And oh, when you say "yes," he just... [Pshew]

**James:** So it's something you can inspire other church groups to do. Can't you? Isn't that what they're asking you to do? Do you have a website where people can learn? What's it called?

**Polly:** WeAreCherished.com, and you can learn all about the ministry. We love to help encourage and teach people how to do ministry because it's so important to go in with the right attitude of love because my favorite is Ephesians 5:2: Christ's love is not cautious but extravagant. Love like that. And when we do that it changes the world.

**James:** Are you seeing these girls, some of them, who just decide to leave what they're doing and go into a new way of life? And then you're able to encourage them through that?

**Polly:** Oh yes, very much so. We've walked with over 30 women out of the industry in the last three years, and over 100 women have walked through our doors. And they're getting to have a glimpse of hope where they're like, "I'm not alone." That shame that you carry of just the whole past is... you think you're the only one and you're not. They're getting to see other women become free -- and men free from sexual addictions and pornography.

**James:** You're ministering to the men too? The boyfriends or husbands of these girls who have either thought, "Well, boy, look at my wife!" or "Look at my girl! She's something, and she's mine." And yet, they realize then they've got a problem. And you're able to walk the husbands in your churches are walking through with these men, the changes.

Let me just say something!

By the way, would you like to say thanks to Polly and to *Cherish*?

[Applause]

**James:** Outreach is there on the screen. And always remember this, when we have a guest and you want somebody to see a guest you can always go to LifeToday.org and

you can play any program. Many people have gone back, for instance, and they've played... maybe they heard me preaching one of the messages in the past, "I want to hear that!" Some of them are playing them in their churches. You can go on *LIFE Today* and you can see who is on today, but you can also find out how do I get a hold of that person or get their website? Now there's the website for Polly, right there. I think on that website you can find out if they're having some training sessions where they talk and actually share with others how you can be involved. So please look that up.

But let me say something to you real, real personal. Just let me talk to you a minute. Some of you are trapped, maybe not by what we've talked about today but by something. And really, it's so important that you understand, please understand this -- how much, in spite of anything that's ever happened or you've done, how vile you may think it is, how despicable, God loves you. He really loves you unconditionally. You don't have to clean up or straighten up for him to love you. But he really wants to pick you up, he really wants to hold you and help you and heal your hurt. Polly is an example of that.

So many women that have been set free, and their boyfriends or husbands, they've been transformed. We're not talking about religion. Religion is actually one of the greatest roadblocks to a relationship with God. I don't mean to be unkind but some of the meanest people on this planet are church folks, and religious people. I'm not trying to be unkind.

Look, don't get your feelings hurt. Yes, I'm talking to you. You don't need to be the way you are. Don't be so touchy. If you really delight in the Lord nothing shall offend you. You delight in his word and his truth, really delight in him. But hey, listen, this Pharisaical traditional ugliness has got to go.

What I'm trying to say to you is Jesus is not that. The things you don't like about church and you don't like about religion, God doesn't like it. It was the biggest problem Jesus had. And hey, God wants you to come in his arms. And yes, you can find a fellowship of people who are like Polly and like so many of the churches in our area and around the world where people really do love Jesus and love you. You find that. You want someone to pray with you today? There's a telephone number there right now; someone to say, "I want to share my heart." They will be so glad to pray with you! Call that number. Give them an opportunity just to agree with you in prayer and to be a blessing to you.

Polly, this ministry gets extreme joy out of sharing the life and love of God around the world, and sharing it with people that never knew anyone could possibly care.

I want you to look and here's what I want you to do: you just watch and you tell me if a spark of love and a little part of God just seems to leap up in your heart. You notice how I said it leaps up in your heart, and my hand went like this? You would be amazed how when God's heart is poured out, it expresses it -- Wait a minute! It expresses it so often like this beautiful little art piece -- that little child. Is he reaching out to help? Or is he reaching out to receive? What's your part in God's heart? Watch!

### **On the mission field**

>> This is Em. At age 67, Em's main pleasure in life is watching her two grandchildren play with village friends. Seeing her grandchildren grow helps soothe the pain of the tragic memory that haunts Em to this day.

[subtitle]

Life must go on. While having no other choice but to gather water from the same pond that took the life of her two-year old granddaughter, the unthinkable happened. Em lost her 13 month old grandchild to a waterborne illness.

[subtitle]

**End of clip**

### **In the studio**

**James:** I promise you that those little children that she's referring to and you look into their eyes and you see them getting the dirty water and I'm not exaggerating when I tell you they capture my heart. They not only touch my heart, they capture my heart because they really have captured the heart of God. He really loves them. And you and I are on this earth, the revelation of the kingdom of heaven, the kingdom of God. We reveal what life looks like when God's god and when his love's in our heart. That sweet grandmother, she's ordinary, she's poor, she's real poor.

Poor in the United States is not anything like what poor is anywhere else. We give our poor people a cell phone. And that's fine; it's probably not the best use of how you help people. And we teach them to be dependent upon us.

These people, Betty, they don't even have any water for their children. And you know, when you look at them, they're not looking for somebody to bring them a toy, they

were playing just holding hands. I wish the church would hands. I wish the family of God would put the arms of God around a hurting world, one child at a time, one village at a time.

We've been 50 years in marriage and ministry and there's nothing we've ever done that gives us greater joy than giving life to families like that. We want to drill them a well. I want you to see those children that were reaching down in that dirty water. I want you to see them getting water that's clean and they want to splash and play in. And that's their water park, just splash a little water. Whole villages rejoice because they've got something that we take for granted. We take too much for granted in the blessed countries.

Sometimes it seems that our blessings cause us to forget the source of the blessings. But I haven't and I don't think you have. Betty, I don't think our viewers have. I think our viewers would want to give that village a water, and many others, give them a well. And we're going to, by the grace of God with your help, drill 500 wells to be an answer to the prayer and hopes of a grandmother.

**Betty:** As I watch this grandmother – I'm a grandmother, we have five beautiful granddaughters and I just can't even imagine. I know that grandmother must say, "This shouldn't be. This shouldn't be." And it doesn't have to be if we will reach out, drill these water wells, so they can at least have a chance, an opportunity to not have to take in that old diseased water, but fresh, clean, pure water. Let's reach out together and do that!

**James:** I want to ask you to go to the phone, or go online, [lifetoday.org](http://lifetoday.org). Take your bankcard right now.

Please, father, touch hearts to express your heart and your love. In Jesus name.

Please, just dial the number. Go get your card. Say, "I will not be distracted from this."

I can make a gift of \$48 and give ten people water the rest of their life. Or \$144 and give 30 people water. That's how it breaks down, because \$4,800 will give a village water. Could you give that?

Did you know there are people that tell us, as much as anything we've ever done, drilling a well, and some say we make a commitment to drill several. I thank God,

we've had a couple of people in the last couple of years that drill ten wells. You say, "How did they do that?"

God blessed them and they said, "We're blessed to bless." But wait a minute. The \$48 to help those ten people – How big is that? Till the ten people represented by those the grandmother just talked about. Those precious little eyes look so sweet. Let them see the eyes of God.

Dial the number, use your bankcard, go online. Make the gift. If you write a check make it to *LIFE*.

We're going to send you the *Awaken Now* CD's, or the DVD's. You'll see all the information. This conference, we're told, is one of the most powerful visitation of the power of God people ever saw. You're going to hear these truly anointed speakers and you are going to be lifted in the presence of God

We want to say thank you by blessing you with spiritual water and life. So simply ask for these tapes, CD's, and DVD's and the wonderful book with the messages, and know you're giving water.

The beautiful glass art piece, the collectable, we send it to those of you who'll make that special gift. Thank you so much for going to the phone or going online.

### **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 demonstration 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 twelve different nations. Your gift of \$24 will help provide clean water for 5 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 the *Awaken Now* audio series, a once in a lifetime gathering of 23 anointed speakers proclaiming a powerful message for every believer in God's kingdom.

With your gift of \$100 or more, you may request *Awaken Now* on both audio and video, along with the companion book containing the speaker's sermons and encouraging messages.

Finally, please prayerfully consider a gift of \$1,200 to help provide water for 250 people or a gift of \$4,800 to help sponsor a complete well and be sure to request our new commemorative sculpture glass statue, "The Blessing."

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

**End of clip**

**In the studio**

**James:** This is absolutely beautiful! We've been giving bronzes. This is a glass sculpture. It's amazing how you can place this in different settings and it captures the light beautifully. But it's a message. You're going to treasure it. It's an expression of thanks. For those of you who will say, "I'm going to help with a well." \$1,200 and pray 3 people will join you or \$2,400 and pray somebody else joins or we're going to give a well, or I'm going to do it. My church, my business, we're going to do it as a couple.

*Cherished, Shattered Innocence Restored!* Listen, there's the website; visit it. Go love those who feel unloved.

Would you join us saying thanks to Polly Wright again for sharing.

Thank all of you ladies for being here.

Thank you, Polly!

Thank you!

[Applause]