

2/17/14
Week 8
Christine Caine - Awaken Now
James and Betty Robison

James: Well, I welcome you to *LIFE Today*. I'm James Robison. Betty and I are thrilled to have you be a part of this incredible crowd of people, some 4,000 who came, actually over 5,000 registered from almost every state and many foreign countries. You may not have been a part of that crowd but you're about to be a part of the Awaken Now conference.

And then the good news is, Betty, you could have every speaker, everyone of these gifted teachers and communicators teaching under the anointing of God something that the church and the whole earth needs to hear, America needs to hear, you can get the messages on transcript and hear these great speakers. I promise you, you are going to be inspired and blessed beyond measure.

I look forward to you getting the DVD's, CD's, here with all the fire and passion you could imagine, here is Christine Caine!

Begin video clip

Christine: Now remember the job of the mission is way too important to leave to the missionaries. See many of us come from Christian traditions where we have a strong missions emphasis. But we always create departments to excuse the majority of the church from being the church because that's what the missionaries do, it's not what we do. Because I just go to work and I have my nice little house and I've got my nice little comfortable lifestyle and I'm except from doing that. But I'm going to send an offering to the missionary, God bless them, because that's for the elite troops of the church, that's for the Navy Seals, that's for the big guns, that's for the Billy Grahams, that's for the Peter Pretorius's, that's for the Chris Caine's, that's for the Navy Seals of the Christian church. The rest of us, we're just normal, and our job is comfort and convenience. We've just got to make sure we protect ourselves.

I want to read you a scripture so you don't get nervous that I haven't actually read the Bible because I know people do get nervous about that. I have quoted scripture much, Miss Beth will give you beautiful theology but now you just get me. If you put up John chapter 17, the guys that are tracking with me are freaking out because they're thinking she hasn't said anything she was going to say yet. So here we go.

[Laughter]

Just keep preaching.

"My prayer is not," Jesus said, "that you would take them out of the world." I wonder if that ever gets your attention. When Jesus is praying and saying, "Let me just qualify what I'm not saying -- let me qualify what I'm not saying. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one." He goes on, "They are not of the world even as I am not of the world." We've heard that beautifully from Dr. Evans. And then we go on, "Sanctify them by the truth. Your word is truth." Here we go, the kicker, verse 18: "As you sent me into the world, I've sent them into the world."

Now I think these three verses have been taken out of most Christian Bibles. I think that because for some reason we spend a whole lot more of our time trying to get out of the very place where God sent us into. We spend a whole lot of time condemning and judging and arguing about and writing blogs about and writing having discourse about the very place that Jesus said, "Look, I do not pray Father that you take them out of the world but that you -- that in the same way you didn't take me out of the world. They're not of the world just as I'm not of the world. Sanctify them by thy word. Thy word is truth. As you sent me, I send them."

Job profile, at the end of the chapter on unity that we're going to hear so much about and if you're asking me, why we're missing it all, it is predominantly about this because we are scared of the very world that God has called us into because of the marred image that we have of the Father and the very warped view we have of each other. And you will only ever love the world just as you love yourself, "Love the Lord

your God with all your heart, soul, and mind; and love your neighbor as we love yourself." We do love our neighbors as we love ourselves, we just hate ourselves and we don't like each other.

So Jesus says, "Would you get yourself sorted out because by this all men will know that you are my disciples, not by your big building campaigns, not by your big worship CD's, not by how many books you sell. But here you go, knock yourselves out, this is how they're going to know that you're my disciples, your love one for the other. But since you all hate each other you've come away from the world because they will never know that you're my disciples. And you go into that world every now and again, you build building programs and you sell a lot of CD's and you sell a lot of books and you try to impress them because you want them to think you're as good as them. But you are actually not even supposed to measure yourself like that. What you're supposed to do is actually love yourselves and get out of your little Christian bubble and put yourselves back in the world, love each other in the midst of that and then they will all know that you are my disciples."

It is not complex! This is not complex. You have to get a lot of degrees to complicate this deal.

So what did we do? We went, "Oh, my gosh! I'm not of the world? I'm not of the big bad ooger booger monster, the world! So I'm going to come out from amongst them-est and be yeist separateist, in King Jamesest Englishest of coursest."

[Laughter]

Now I'm not of them that is so worldly. I don't really know what worldly is so... dancing! That depends which tradition you're from. Makeup! So for some traditions I'm scoring well today. It's long hair, short hair, tattoos, piercings, drinking, not drinking, smoking, not smoking. What other external behavior modifications can I put into this list? Because of course Christianity is not a heart transformation program it is just a behavior modification program. So let me see what else I can talk about that is an external behavior modification and this is it! I'm not worldly because I don't drink and I don't smoke and I don't have tattoos and I don't have piercings and I don't -- and I

don't know -- I don't do anything. And I'm beige and I've had a personality bypass and I've had a lobotomy, and I'm a Christian and I have no idea what I should be doing. Oh, but I know what I don't do! And in fact it is so hard not to do those things. And I'm trying my -- not to have sex and I'm not trying to do this and I'm trying -- and "Hurry up, Jesus and the rapture so I can just be spared! From not doing all these things that I really want to do."

[Laughter]

Now I don't know what I should be doing but bless God, bless God I didn't press the click button again one more day. Whoo! Bless God that I didn't cuss today! And Jesus Christ came from Heaven to earth, died on a cross and rose again from the dead so I wouldn't get a tattoo. That's pretty awesome! Or take another drink. Man! That's pretty awesome. I could have just gone to a psychologist and not done that. But anyway, that's all right!

So we don't know what to do. So what we've done is build a little defense fortress around us because I don't know what I should be doing. I need to protect myself and it is us four and no more and I'm just waiting for the rapture. And I just don't know what to do and there's that big bad ooger booger monster, horrible ugly world over there and it is so worldly!

Now the problem is we don't read the Bible very much but if we did it would be very interesting to find what the Bible calls worldly because I couldn't find dancing in there. But what I did find was things like lying, cheating, abuse and slander and gossip and envy and greed and sexual immorality and dissension. Like I've got the whole list except I never looked at my notes.

[Laughter]

Lying, cheating, stealing, gossip, slander, envy, greed, lust, immorality, idolatry, hatred, discord, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions, hatred, fits of rage, unforgiveness, bitterness, lovers of selves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, without love, rash, conceited, having a form of godliness but denying it's power.

Not much in there about hair length or make up or dancing or clothe styles or music styles or body piercings or pre-post or mid-tribulation theology, or gifts of the spirit or infant or adult baptism or small groups or mega churches or liturgical or contemporary style of worship or missionary or attractional churches are having -- not much in there about any of that! Not much in there.

But this is the deal. Jesus says, "I want you smack bang in the middle of it but I don't want you of it." So here's what we do. Hang on a minute. Now this is not in the American church, just the Australian church; okay? So when we came out from amongst them to be yeest separateist, and got behind our artificial social construct, some call it "the church," and we got behind our little defense fortress, we brought us with us! So we haven't got tattoos and we don't drink but lying, gossip, slander, envy, hatred, selfish ambition, dissensions... and the list goes on.

I need you to hear what I'm about to say. Hopefully, it will tie everything together. So instead of being in the world but not of it, we're over here and we are of the world but not in it. You cannot change a world you are not in. And listen to the kicker. You cannot change a world you are the same substance as. When Jesus says in Matthew 5:13-14, oh, we love these scriptures! "You are the salt and you are the light." These are catalytic agents, these are agents of change. They change the very substance they come into contact with. If you're the same as the substance you come into contact with you'll never change it. You have to be different to create something that is different.

Now that is really hard because to be over there you have to be a Christian. But to be over here you don't even have to be a Christian. You do not have to be regenerated, you do not have to be born again, you just have to know how to act like one, and you just have to know how to talk like one. Praise God! I've been redeemed and sanctified and justified by the blood of the Lamb. And as long as I can talk the talk and as long as my behavior is modified, I may not even be regenerated. But here -- hoo! You've got to be the real deal.

Have you ever noticed a non-Christian knows exactly how I Christian should act? Ever noticed a non-Christian knows exactly how a Christian should be. But what

we've done is we've taken all the salt in the salt shaker and we've poured it all into one place. Do you know if you had a piece of steak and you had a whole lot of salt and you poured the salt shaker, the entire contents on to one piece of steak, you'd take a bite of that steak and you would spit it out because it is unpalatable. That's what we've become to this world. We have taken the whole salt, created a Christian subculture and we try to force feed it into them and they spit us out because we are unpalatable. And Jesus said, "Would you just get a clue? Would you just back into this world and in the marketplace? Salt it here and salt it there and be my light and bring my love and grace and mercy and truth and justice in the midst of a lost and broken world? Would you just be the church? Would you stop acting like the church and would you be the church over here?"

And if we did that, I need to finish up with this because I need you to get this. I'm sorry that I'm not being eloquent but I just want you to get what I'm saying. What happens is then the missionary comes to town once a year, in our churches, flips open the Bible to Matthew 28 and we think, "Oh, know, the great suggestion -- the guilt trip."

[Laughter]

The guilt trip! And we already switch off because that's for the missionaries as if the role of the mission is only left to the missionaries. And this is what happens. They come in and we go, "That's not me! Christine, that's not my love language. That's not my strength finder.

[Laughter]

That's not where I fit on the disk profile. That's not my gift mix." I'm like wow! We write Christian books to excuse Christians from being Christians. There is only one love language, it is called: Die to self. That's really ultimately the only one. Even Jesus himself said, "I really don't want to do this. It is not my love language, it is not where I fit on the disk profile, it is not my strength finder -- but nevertheless, not my will but thine be done."

And what happens is we go, "Okay, okay." So now we've got the guilt trip, let's pick the four weirdoes in the church, those elite troops, you know the weird ones. And they're going to be the missionaries and they've got the four spiritual laws tract and we're going to give them that tract and they're going to get in a holy huddle on a Friday night. And if you're from my tradition you "Shonda Honda Kawasaki" but if you're from your tradition it may be a self-reflective, deep introspective prayer -- whatever it is. And so what happens is I'm all prayed up and I'm ready. So then the drawbridge goes down because I'm about to go into all the world because this is my evangelism night.

So I've got my four spiritual laws tract, I've got some poor guy in the middle of Dallas, he's been working all week. I have zero relationship with him but this is my evangelism night. So I've got my little tract and I shove it in his face. I say, "Did you know that Jesus Christ died for our sin? If you don't repent right now you're going to die and go to everlasting hell. I want you to take this incantational prayer after me. Oh, my gosh, it's 10:00! I'm a Christian, I turn into a pumpkin. If you want to look like me, sing like me, dance like me, next Sunday, 10:00 come and visit me."

And we come over here and then we put up our little defense fortress, another notch on our Bible, praise God, Hallelujah, I did my evangelism. And evangelism is something that someone else does because that's not me, and that's someone else's responsibility because it is not mine. And we forget that Jesus says that we're all called to be his witnesses.

Jesus said in John 18:37: For this cause -- there is a cause, church! For this cause I came to earth that my life would bear witness to the truth, not that I would give a series of exegetical truths or great little discussions about my existence, my death, my resurrection, but my life would bear witness to the truth of this word. Not we are given strength to do witnessing, we're given strength to be witnesses.

And what we have done is while we sit over here on the other side totally disconnected from the very world that God called us to, then we just continue to think, I do not have a responsibility. I'm too busy doing church over there to be the church over here. And God, loud and clear at this conference has said to us it's time for the

church to be the church, not just to do a bunch of religious rituals. And to understand the lost is not somebody else's responsibility, it's why we're here. And when you get off mission, you have to distract yourself with a whole lot of dissensions to justify your existence until Jesus comes back.

God never called us to a comfortable, safe, risk-free Christianity. Jesus didn't come to make us safe. Death is the ultimate statistic, one out of one will die so get over yourself -- we're all going to die. So the fact is, Jesus didn't come to make us safe, he came to make us dangerous to the kingdom of darkness. He came to make us dangerous.

I'm going to read you this. It is a poem I came across years ago. I don't even know who wrote it; it says "anonymous" but it's called "The Pit." It says: A man fell into a pit and could not get himself out.

A subjective person came along and said, "I feel for you down there."

An objective person came along and said, "It is logical that someone would fall down there in the pit."

A Christian scientist came along and said, "You only think you're in a pit."

[Laughter]

A Pharisee said, "Only bad people fall into the pit!"

A newspaper reporter wanted the exclusive story on the pit.

A fundamentalist said, "You deserve your pit."

Confucius said, "If you had of listened to me you wouldn't be in the pit."

Buddha said, "Your pit is just a state of mind."

A realist said, "That's a pit!"

A scientist calculated the pressure necessary per pound and square inch to get him out of the pit.

A geologist told him to appreciate the rock strata in the pit.

A tax man asked if he was paying taxes on the pit.

The council inspector asked him if he had a permit to dig a pit.

An evasive man came along and avoided the subject of the pit altogether.

A self-pitying person said, "You haven't seen anything until you've seen my pit."

[Laughter]

A Charismatic said, "Just confess you're not in the pit."

An optimist said, "Things could get worse."

A pessimist said, "Things will get worse."

Jesus seeing the man knelt down, reached out his hand, and pulled him out of the pit. That's what we're called to do in Jesus' name. Amen! Amen! And amen! God bless you, church. Thank you.

[Cheers & Applause]

In the studio

James: Well, I am so glad that you, if you didn't get to attend the conference, you are attending it right now and many of you who did have been saying for some time – I mean, we heard from a lot of people who say, "When do we get the DVD's? Because we ordered them there. And of course we got them all ready and edited and packaged beautifully, so that we can get them to you."

But many of you who did not get to go to the Awaken Now conference are now going to get to attend virtually every session of it, hear all the truly anointed speakers and if you will make a gift to help us drill water wells of \$100 or more we're going to send you the DVD's, CD's, and a transcript, a written transcript of the messages. I'm telling you, this is something you will want to share with your church.

I really believe if you were to take Sammy Rodriguez message, which is really in total about 20 minutes, and then the prayer that I pray with him at the end, if that was played, Betty, in every church of America, I believe we would experience awakening. I really believe that.

Dr. Tony Evans – what a message! Governor Mike Huckabee really speaking as a pastor, a leader, as a statesman to a nation. Dr. Ben Carson, gifted neurosurgeon. All of the other speakers that were there, so truly anointed of God and you get these messages.

Now, I want you to look in on something that I know beyond any doubt is going to grab your heart. Betty and I have found the greatest joy in becoming a helper, a servant to people, who feel like no one ever notices. Now, you may feel that way. I know there are people who feel like, "Nobody notices me." But God does! And you are so vitally important in his kingdom purpose. You are the ones that can show the most overlooked, forgotten people on the planet that God notices, God loves, and God cares. What you are about to see is going to inspire you to take the most profound, positive, transforming action possible. You are going to be moved by love. Watch very closely.

On the mission field

>> Such innocence. Such helplessness. They didn't choose when or where they would enter this world or the circumstances that would meet them. Born into uncertainty, into scarcity; in the womb they were nourished and for as long as possible they find this too in the arms of those who bore them, drinking in love at their mother's breast. They wander little from this dependence, for it's a powerful force, this love, this sustenance. And for a time it is enough but then arrives the day when it no longer is and their bodies' immune systems, still young and weak, are introduced to a poison, diseases borne in the only water available.

Water, stagnant and shared with animals, contaminated and lethal. Their systems are shocked, attacked, and assaulted. And love finds its limit, as a mother's care is undone by a substance meant to sustain.

[Child crying]

The simplicity of clean water offers life in such abundance. Though it's something we give almost no thought at all, water, clean water for these mothers is everything because what they hold in their arms is their everything.

In the studio

James: I'm really grateful that God moves my heart. Sometimes I think I feel a little bit embarrassed because my heart is tender and because I weep. But I guess I'm grateful.

I remember when Lazarus died and Jesus came to the graveside and everyone was weeping. The question comes up, why did -- that brief verse, "Jesus wept," is two words -- why was it there? What's the significance of it? I think the significance is, and I really believe it is important to grasp this, was not that he wept but why did he weep? Because he knew he was about to solve the problem; he was going to raise the dead.

Why did he weep? Because they were weeping; He felt their burden. I honestly believe this and I believe it is a supernatural thing that God does in our lives. I believe he will give us compassion, like a mother has for a child with fever; you suffer with them. I believe God lets us feel the broken heart of mothers, grandparents, family members who have lost a loved one for whatever reason and I believe we can feel that pain.

Many of you told us, "We feel, at least to some degree, what you and Betty felt when you lost your daughter, especially around holidays, Christmas, New Year's." And you really meant that. That lifted a heavy load, just the fact that you cared.

Now think about this. If you have compassion and you care, and you have the solution to the problem, and we do, it is literally as Jesus said, just a cup of water in his name -- that's literally how we give it. We show them his love. We show them he cares and we meet their need, and you make it possible.

Betty and I could weep and care with the missionaries but we couldn't drill water wells if you didn't help us. We might drill one or two but with your help we're going

to drill 500 in targeted areas in 12 nations. If you will help us, some of you can drill a well. Please do -- \$4800, that's the average cost. Some of you could give \$2400 and immediately pray, "Someone join me!" We've got a well. Some give \$1200. This happens frequently. And then three others step up and we've got a well.

But the majority of our support comes from people who give gifts of \$48 and \$144; \$48, 10 people water the rest of their life; \$144, 30 people water the rest of their life. If you make a gift, we're going to send you, for any gift you make, the CD's of the Awaken Now Conference. If you make a gift of over \$100 we're going to send you the CD's, DVD's and the transcript; the written transcript of the messages. These are going to be a treasure that you're going to share because you shared the treasure of life through Water for Life.

Would you dial the number right now? Take your bankcard or go online, LifeToday.org and make the best gift you can. Please do it! If you write a check make it to *LIFE* because that's what you're giving.

I want to thank you in behalf of every family member you help, every child whose life you save and touch, in behalf of all the missionaries for making that call. Don't be distracted. Go to the phone or go online, please right now, and make 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 5 people. A gift of \$48 will help provide for 10 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 sculptured glass statue, "The Blessing."

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

End of clip

In the studio

James: Well, it is no exaggeration to tell you you're going to be blessed by every speaker and teacher in the Awaken Now Conference. This is something you'll want to share. You will treasure it and you will share this treasure. Thank you for helping us share Water for Life -- 500 wells, that's the goal.

"The Blessing," the glass sculpture -- beautiful! You will be amazed at the different areas you put it in how it reflects the color. And you and I are an expression of his life, his light, his love and we release a river of living water. Thank you for having a part. Thank you for sharing God's heart.