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Week 12: Mission: Rescue Life

Jimmy Evans #2

James: Y'all are great! Come be with us when we tape. Check with us, find out about our guests.

Our next guest, Jimmy Evans is a gifted preacher and he's a person who communicates. Some people preach and it is like noise. But then some people preach and communicate and penetrate the heart and the mind and he does.

This book, *When Life Hurts* is where Jimmy is encouraging people to open up about the pockets of pain in their life, and he talked about what happened to him, things that stick and they fester. Paul talked about it being like gangrene that even words can spread like gangrene. It is amazing how people say things, do things when we're young that become a pocket of pain.

Jimmy talks in the book and we're going to start out talking about today the whisperer that talks to you when you're hurting. And then talk about iniquity, what that means and about vows we make that bind us. I think you're going to really be blessed by the content of the book and what we talk about. I want you to welcome Jimmy Evans to *LIFE Today*.

Jimmy, it's good to see you.

Jimmy: Thank you.

James: I want you to pick up -- and by the way, if you miss a program, you can go to LifeToday.org, back up, and see what he was talking about because I've got a lot of hurt and I don't want to miss that. I want to get the book but I want to see what he was saying in that first program. Let's pick up on this whisperer that comes when you've

got a pocket of pain. You talk about being hurt by all the things that happen to you when you were shuffled around as a kid and how you took it out. You became really foolish in your pain -- downright stupid -- and then when it carried over in your marriage and your wife is telling you you need to open up and admit it, you just didn't. I want to know why you didn't. And you talk about this whisperer; is that whisperer helping you keep this pocket of pain well-preserved and protected?

Jimmy: Well, everybody has pain and you're going to experience pain in life. I don't think the worst thing about pain is the pain -- it's the message in the pain.

A silly story of when I was growing up but something that defined my life to a certain degree. I was extremely tall. My two-year-old grandson is in the 100 percentile in height; my family is very tall. My son is 6' 4". I have a cousin 6' 10"; we're just tall people. Well, I was taller than my second grade teacher. And my friends were -- they came up to here on me. So I grew up very self-conscious about how tall I was. I had a - - I was in a rock fight one day and got my tooth knocked out and so they put a big silver cap on it, the dentist did. You know how grow into clothes --

James: Man, you would have been cool today!

[Laughter]

Jimmy: You know how you grow into clothes he gave me a tooth I could grow into. It was a big silver tooth and my brothers called me Bucky, the silver tooth beaver. So in the second grade I've got this huge -- I'm a huge kid, big silver tooth and I'm real self-conscious. And so in class, I'm sitting next to -- I'm always sitting next to the teacher. I don't know why. But I'm sitting next to the teacher and there's another girl next to me, just about as big as me, and I felt sorry for her but she was, and then the rest of the class.

So we had a Christmas party. So in this Christmas party, everybody got a coke and a cupcake except for me and the girl next to me, and we got a NuGrape and a cupcake. And as a little boy I remember looking through the desk of everybody in the room and I was thinking, this is the freak section. Evidently, freaks can't drink cokes, we have to

have NuGrapes. And there was something spoken into my spirit that said, "You're a freak." And from that moment forward I had this tremendous self-consciousness about my appearance.

In Genesis chapter two, when God told Adam and Eve, don't eat the fruit of that tree or you'll die. Okay, Genesis chapter three, they're tempted; the devil tempts them, they eat the fruit. The next thing that happened is they're hiding from God -- they hide themselves with fig leaves, they're hiding from God. God walks up and says, "What is this you've done?"

He said, "I was afraid because I'm naked."

And then God asked Adam a question, "Who told you you were naked?"

God doesn't ask questions to get answers. God was saying to Adam, "I didn't say that to you, son, I created you naked. You didn't say that to yourself. That serpent, as soon as you sinned, he used that as an open door to speak to you that you were defective. And that's who told you, this is why you're so devastated right now."

What makes the devil so dangerous is he is stealthy. The Bible says that the devil took the form of a serpent. Well, that's his nature. The devil doesn't want us to know it's him. When you're going through a divorce, when there's the untimely death of a loved one, when you're being abused, when you're going through poverty, when you're going through something in life, the devil speaks through your pain, "You're defective. God doesn't love you as much as he loves other people. You've made too many mistakes. You're not worth anything. You deserve this to happen to you."

The problem with pain isn't the pain, it's the message in the pain and we have to wake up one day and realize the enemy only comes to steal, kill, and destroy. And pain is his open door to speak to us that God doesn't love us, God loves other people more, we did something to deserve this and on and on and on. So what perpetuates the pain in many cases is we believe that lie -- and for me, as an example, feeling like I was a freak. I was popular with the girls, I never had a problem getting a date. I was popular in school; so other people didn't see me that way, it was the way I saw myself.

In many cases, the pain that we go through when we're growing up is lodged in us by a lie. What we have to do is wake up one day and compare what we have heard or what we believe with what the Word of God says because that's not what the Word of God says. The Word of God doesn't say that I'm a loser. The Word of God doesn't say that God loves other people more than me or that I deserved that or anything like that. And once you take -- you get these things out into the open, and then you have to compare them to the Word of God, and anything that doesn't match up to the Word of God, you've got to expel it and understand it came from the devil.

And the devil, there are no junior demons. The devil is the devil, and little kids, very young little kids, he'll speak to them. He will use the pain in their lives to bring a lie into their spirit that will define the rest of their lives if they believe it.

Most of the girls involved in prostitution, y'all help a lot of people in sex trafficking and things like that, a lot of these people feel like they're human trash. They don't feel like they're worth anything. The devil has used the pain of their life to speak a lie into their spirit that they're not as valuable as other people, so on and so forth.

So one of the things that you have to do -- and in this program we're talking about breaking the cycle of pain -- you have to understand we have an enemy and he is the arch enemy of our lives, and he uses pain as his opportunity to speak into our spirit to perpetuate the pain and to drive us away from God and any healthy relationship in our lives, and even get us to hate ourselves. Once you understand that and you just begin to say, "You know something? I was sitting at so-and-so's funeral and I was sitting there and all of the sudden this voice just came and said, 'Where was God?' Or the preacher said, 'Well, the Lord took so and so home.'"

He says, "I hate him! Why would he take so-and-so home?"

These voices here, we have to get to the point where we understand there is a devil, he speaks to us in our pain, bring these things into the light, anything that doesn't compare to the Word of God, we reject it from our lives. We understand I'm not a freak; I'm the person who God created in my mother's womb. That even though I was

taller than all my friends, thank God I got to protect my whole neighborhood because I did -- I was the protector. God made me big for a reason; I wasn't a freak. Once I understood that, it helped to set me free from that pain, and that was a silly story but there was a lot more than that.

The other thing that I want to talk about too is iniquities. This is another thing that perpetuates the pain in our lives. There's generational pain and iniquity. In Deuteronomy five in the Old Testament, God told Moses and the children of Israel that he would visit the iniquity of the parents, the father, to the third and fourth generation.

The word *iniquity* means bend -- it means to bend or twist. It means a bent. An iniquity means a bent to a behavior because of what your parents did wrong. An iniquity... when you are raised by parents who are godly, and all parents are imperfect -- but when you are raised by parents who are godly and they teach you how to live, how to love God, how to love each other, how to think and the values in life, you grow up straight. When you are raised by parents with anger issues, chauvinist, racist, sexist, verbally abusive, physically abusive, alcoholics, drug addicts, so on and so forth, you grow up with that natural bent. And you see families, generation after generation after generation, they pass their pain on and on and on.

So when the Bible says God visits the iniquity of the fathers to the third and fourth generation, it just means unfortunately, when I'm growing up, I've got the audio and video recorder going. You're teaching me how to live. And when you get mad, you're teaching me how to process anger, whether that's forgiveness and talking things out or whether it's throwing a dish against a wall or hitting somebody.

James: And your actions will speak louder than your words. You may be saying one thing with your mouth but if you're demonstrating something else, those actions will speak more loudly than the dishonest words. Is that not true?

Jimmy: You bet!

James: Jimmy, because there are so many people who are saying, "Okay, buddy, I'm

hurting. There may have been a bunch of reasons, I'm glad to know the reasons but I don't know what to do about it. What do I do?"

Jimmy: Well, related to iniquity, you have to first of all call it what it is. If it is substance abuse, racism, sexism, abuse, whatever, and then examine your own life and see if I'm doing this. It may have been done to me, and if it's done to me, it's a crazy thing but you would think the last person in the world that would abuse a child is a person who was abused. But many people who are abused, that's what they do because it is preprogrammed. It is you showed me how to deal with anger and now when I get angry I do this. You showed me to control -- you showed me to manipulate in all those things.

The second thing you have to do is to repent of it in your own life. In other words, I can look back at my parents and despise them for what they did. Many times I'm doing the same thing so I have to take responsibility.

The big one, the mother of all issues of freedom is forgiveness -- is the mother of all issues. Where there is pain, there is almost always someone associated with that pain. I have to give them the same grace that God gives me.

My dad was a workaholic. He never came to one of my sporting events as a child, and I was in all sports.

I would say to him every day, "Daddy, I've got a football game today."

"Daddy, I've got a baseball game today."

And he never came to a game. He was a good man; he worked hard.

One day I was with my aunts, my two aunts, my dad had nine siblings; I'm with my aunts and they were telling me stories about my dad. They said, "Well, your dad slept outside every night."

I said, "My dad slept outside every night?"

They said, "Oh, yeah. We had one room in the house."

His father was a sharecropper; there were ten kids. My dad slept on a cot every night and in the wintertime he slept with the horses. He ate meat once a week because they were dirt broke. And in the first grade he went to school and when he went in to school he didn't have any shoes on; they didn't wear shoes. They had overalls and they were barefoot but he didn't know they were poor, they lived out in the country. When he went in to school he saw other children with shoes on and it embarrassed him. And he went to the front of the school and grabbed a tree and wouldn't let go until his parents came to get him.

And my dad couldn't talk about his past without crying. I'd say, "Daddy, tell me about your daddy." He'd just start crying.

So here's what I know about my dad. My dad was not a bad father; he wanted me to have shoes and sleep inside; that was his value system. And I always had shoes and I always slept inside, and he didn't want to risk coming to a game and losing his job. When my aunts told me that story it helped me. What I'm saying is give your parents grace. They may have done something to you but they had their own issues and their own baggage. You can look back generationally and you can see that something happened to them. It wasn't that they just walked up and slapped you, somebody slapped them.

I want to be the end of all iniquities in my family. Karen and I said this when we got married and we heard this teaching: We are the end of all iniquities in our families and we're going to break this and we're going to forgive everybody that did anything to us. And our children and our grandchildren are going to be free from this generational pain that's been passed on generation to generation.

The last thing, which is critically important, is to submit that to Jesus. I grew up around horrible racism. You come to Jesus and say, Lord, I'm bent! Because of the environment that I came out of, my tendency is to hate, my tendency is to hit, my tendency is to drink... to whatever. I bring this area of my life to you and I submit it

and I want you to teach me how to treat women, treat men, deal with anger, deal with money... whatever.

What happens is Jesus takes bent and makes it righteous and we're healed. Not only are we healed -- and there is a spiritual thing about this too. When you're breaking iniquity, you can just say, "I break this in the name of Jesus. I break the spiritual power of this over my life and over my family and over generations to come."

But the practical part of it is, Jesus said when the Holy Spirit comes, he'll lead you into all truth. He's called the spirit of truth. He can teach you how to be anything.

So one of the things that changed our marriage because we almost divorced is when we were on the brink of divorce I said, "Holy Spirit, teach me how to be a husband." He taught me how to be a husband. I never read a book, I'd never been to a seminar, but he helped me to break that.

James: I really pray that you're not just hearing words of truth from Jimmy but that it is impacting you in your spirit, in your heart because it doesn't matter what's happened.

And by the way, Jimmy said a mouthful that I hope you grasp about the need to forgive -- you know cut them some slack.

Jimmy, you've known me for a pretty good while and you know my past is pretty bad, I had no family and I was hurt a lot. And then you also know, because you watched my journey, as I've watched yours, but you saw me when God set me free and set me on a course to go and reach out to all believers, not just those in my own quote little denominational group, or my tribe, or whatever, but to reach out to everybody. You saw me become a person spoken against. And one of the things I know happened in my life was the grace of God to only forgive those who accuse or misunderstood. You agree you watched that?

Jimmy: You bet.

James: Have you not seen the blessing of God poured out indescribably by doing that?

I shared with Beth Moore recently something she said really meant a lot to her. We must see all of our accusers as innocent; and you see you can only see them that way if you're filled to overflowing with the spirit of love and forgiveness. I really believe if people would grasp that because see, I was moved by what you said about your dad. You came to see him in a different light. You quit listening to those voices. The pocket of pain opened up but you've told folks in your book and when you're talking, we need to come clean about opening up, it's there, and let God cleanse that pocket and let him fill it with love and joy and peace. And that's what he does.

Here's the thing you need to understand. It's not going through a ritual; it's just talking to a God who is a perfect father full of mercy and grace, longsuffering, patient, and anxious to forgive, not willing that any would perish. So he is more anxious to forgive any of us and all of us than we could ever be to be forgiven. That father was more anxious to receive that prodigal boy than that boy ever thought he could ever be about coming home. That's the way God is for you.

So ask him to take away the pockets of pain and stop the enemy's voice. Forgive those that hurt you and say, "God, give me a new beginning today and I'm going to break the chain of iniquity right now -- it's over! I'm putting my foot on the back of the enemy and crushing him." Just make that announcement.

You want someone to pray with you? You see that phone number there? That's a prayer line. You want someone to pray with you? You don't hesitate to call. It's also a lifeline.

Jimmy, a lot of people are going to be calling to say, "I want help today." Do you know interestingly, and we're going to show our viewers some people in desperate need of help and beautifully, listen to this, we've got some viewers like you who say, "I so believe in the need to rescue people that have been trapped in sexual bondage by predators who sell them that if we can rescue them, we'll match anything anybody will

give. We'll match it! It's that important to get those people out of that bondage." So our program not only has a prayer line it has a lifeline.

I want to show you someone, a whole lot of someones that desperately need the love of God that only you can express by connecting with someone else that's in place to put the loving arms of God around a broken life and heart. Listen to God but also to the need.

On the mission field

>> There are a lot of things I dreamt I'd become. This was never one of them, but it is who I am now. They tell me I deserve it. They say my parents never want to see me again. I'm never alone here for long but alone is all I feel.

I can't keep them out because my door locks from the outside. I hear they've got my sister now. She's about the age they took me. She'll fetch a good price like I did. And of course, they say we're worthless anyway. There's no reason to smile here but I'm forced to. I hate this place but it's like we were meant for each other, filth for filth.

If I was worth anything, worth anything at all surely someone would have come for me. And though I'm all alone, I know there are many. I've seen too many come and disappear. Maybe they're the lucky ones.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Well, let me just tell you, we've become so effective that many of those shots were in Thailand where there's a lot of upheaval right now, so effective in rescuing girls and children that are headed there and we head them off or we get them out.

Betty, it's become so dangerous, even when our grandson went over there, and even as I'm talking to you now he's back on the mission field again, they wouldn't let us take the camera shots anymore of the children in our beautiful *LIFE* Center. It's one of the most beautiful places there in Thailand, which is known as the sex capital of the world. We couldn't show the children because once they might be seen and recognized

somebody might hurt them -- same with our workers. There were hidden cameras there to get those shots. And to rescue those girls, and to get them away, we've had to be very careful.

As a matter of fact, now, let me just say this, in Cambodia, where we have incredible ability now to reach these that are trapped, we need to build a safe house because we've got a *LIFE* Center where we minister to children that we've gotten before the predators got them and begin to help them -- and orphans but we need a safe house now because we're getting so many of them, Betty, they're actually trapped, we're getting them out. It's kind of a miraculous thing; scary for the missionaries but they risk it all.

So we've got two areas we're working to reach and rescue them and restore them and rebuild their future and teach them so they can go out and make a living. We need your help. It takes \$128 to rescue one; that's what the average cost is to do, wherever we're working, all over the world to rescue girls -- in India, any place that we are, in Nepal, all those places we're rescuing them, we find that average. So help us rescue one. Give any gift you can toward it.

Here's the miracle. We've got some friends, Betty, that got this so on their heart, they said they'll match what you give, which means if you can only give half of the \$128, I believe it's \$64, then it will be doubled and we'd have another person rescued. So whatever you can do. But if you can give the \$128, do it.

But listen, we've got to build that safe house and that's going to cost almost \$350,000 to create it, furnish it, and operate it for a full year. And we need some large gifts, several thousand dollars and thousand dollar gifts. We're sending you the beautiful glass sculpture, "The Blessing" to say thank you if you make a gift like that. We're sending *My Daily Gift* for any gift that you make. And then the beautiful side-by-side Bible; you know how much we want to speak into your life God's Word and his truth? Well, this is the Word of God in two versions: The Amplified expands so much of the clarity to understand, and then the New International Version, one of the most highly respected versions side-by-side to say thank you, if you'll make that gift of \$128. Please do it! We

want to bless you. But you're going to be rescuing these precious girls from a life of bondage.

Would you dial that number? Take your bankcard and use it like a check. Or go to LifeToday.org and make the very best gift you can. Please do it and I want to thank you for doing it. From the bottom of my heart, we want to say thank you.

Begin video clip

Announcer: Human trafficking -- it's impossible to believe but at this very moment innocent children, many very young, are being sold and forced into sexual slavery and exploited in every way imaginable. And someone must save them!

With your help today we can reach, rescue, and restore their hope for a better future. And now a miracle opportunity of a matching grant means your gift of \$128 to help rescue a child will be matched to help rescue two children.

Your \$64 gift will be matched to help rescue one child from the horrors of human trafficking. This year, with your help, we also hope to build a safe house in Cambodia where young rescued girls can find safety, loving care, and direction for a new life. The cost of this safe house is \$345,000.

With your gift, please request *My Daily Gift*, a beautiful new devotional describing the great love of God, who treasures you more than you can imagine.

With your gift of \$128, which today will help rescue two children, you'll receive the side-by-side Bible, which includes the easy-to-read New International Version and the Amplified text with its additional words and insights.

Finally, please prayerfully consider a gift of \$1,000 to help establish the safe house in Cambodia and you may request our 2014 commemorative glass sculpture, "The Blessing."

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

End of clip

In the studio

James: You're going to be blessed with a 100 promises for your every need -- tremendous truth from the Word of God. We want to help you grow in the word. And you know, Jimmy Evans has talked about the whisperer; you can really hear that still small voice as clearly as the sound of many waters.

But I'm going to tell you something, you've got to understand this, we need to live by every word that is proceeding from the mouth of God; in other words, he likes conversation with people. He wants to talk to you. He wants to hear your heart and he wants you to hear his.

If you want to know the voice of God, and the enemy, you must know the Word of God to recognize the voice of God because the enemy disguises himself. If you know the word, you'll recognize the sounds in the spirit realm; we're trying to help you with that.

Also, if you help us rescue these individuals trapped in horrible sexual trafficking, we'll also today, for any gift, we'll send you Jimmy Evans book, *When Life Hurts*. It will be a blessing to you. Thank you for your help.

You want to say thanks to Jimmy Evans for being so open and honest and helping?

Jimmy, we love you! Love Karen! Thank you for what you're doing!

By the way, there's Jimmy Evans web site. See it there on the screen? Go on his web site, find out where all you can watch him on television, hear him preach, attend his seminars and get material he has to help you! There's his web site. Thank y'all for watching!