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Week 42: Rescue Life

See it: Lisa Bevere

Chris: Hi everyone! Welcome to *LIFE Today*! Well, obviously, I'm not James or Betty. My name is Christine Caine from the land down under and it is my privilege to be hosting you today. I so love *LIFE Today* and the ministries of *LIFE Outreach*; I feel like family.

Well, today we're going to jump right into *Wednesdays in the Word* with my Sicilian sister, Lisa Bevere who is going to teach us how to *See It*; how to look at life from God's perspective. I know she is going to bless you!

Begin video clip

Lisa: Our marriages were never meant to be a power struggle. Marriage was created to be a power union. The fall is what created the battle of the sexes. But even before there was a fall there was a problem and you know what that problem was? That problem was: It is not good for man to be alone. God looked at everything that he had created that was in a state of perfection and yet he said, "Adam alone is not good." He didn't say, "Adam wasn't good." He said the position of aloneness is not good.

It was God who said, "The woman needs to come out and she must have voice and she must have expression outside of Adam." So Adam goes to sleep.

We know that God removed Eve from Adam's side so that she could join alongside of him. And when he saw the two of them together he said, "This is so very good."

So I just want to say this about women because there is a lot in our culture that would hint that being a woman is a less than. You need to understand, being a woman is an answer. You are actually, as a daughter, God's answer to the very first problem.

I want everybody to look at their neighbor and say, "I'm an answer not your problem."

[Audience Repeats]

Now look at your neighbor and say, "You're an answer not my problem."

[Audience Repeats]

When women think being a woman is a problem they try to act like men, and we have had the whole culture of feminism say, "If you want to be powerful as a woman, act like a man." Well, I don't want to act like a man I want to act like a woman because God said that "woman needs to have an expression."

Now that's great to understand that we're not each other's problems but the second thing is if you're an answer, you need to begin to act like one. So tomorrow morning when y'all brush your teeth, I want you to look in the mirror, I want you to get a little sister attitude, kind of get your hip out, going like this, take your toothbrush out, point it at the mirror and say, "There is a problem out there I am the answer to."

You need to begin to see yourself as a God crafted answer to relational problems. You are an answer in a world that is desperate for something that you carry. And men and women together are better answers than either of them are apart.

My husband is X and Y. God's like, "I'm going to make the man. He's going to be X and Y, that's his chromosome structure." But then God's like, "That's awesome but I just want to know what might happen if I could isolate the X, raise it to the second power, XX. Okay that is the woman." Because we are XX God said, "She will multiply everything. She will multiply everything I give her."

My husband gave me a house, I gave him a home. He gave me his last name I gave him four boys with a last name; I'm trying to claim the grandkids. I mean everything that he gave me I gave it back to him, multiplied and in strength.

But women that are broken don't multiply, they divide. So it's really important that we allow God to change the way we see ourselves; that you understand that you are an answer. You say, "I'm not an answer, Jesus is the answer." Well, Jesus is in heaven. You are going to be the only Jesus a lot of people will ever see; you are his hands, you are his feet. Jesus didn't just take your place, he gave you his. He gave you his name, he gave you his authority, he gave you his perspective. We need to actually walk out what Jesus gave us.

And even stats prove this is true. They did a study about single men versus married men and how it was not good for men to be alone. Men that are married lived ten years longer than men that are single. I don't know why the girls are desperate to get married. The guys need to be desperate to get married.

[Laughter]

The women need to be like, "I don't know who I'm going to add a decade here to. I need to see who is worthy of this amazingness that I will bring to them."

[Laughter]

Men that are married have twice the earning potential than men that are single. Men that are married, when they only have a college education, it actually gives them the level of a masters -- I think we just teach them.

So they did all this study about men and what women added to them. I love how the world will spend thousands, maybe millions of dollars to do a study that God actually said, "I've already told you guys that. It is not good for men to be alone." 80% of the violent crimes are committed by single men. Why? -- Because women add purpose to their labor. If you're just working and you have no legacy and you have no relationship, then you just don't understand the why behind things.

But I want to open up and move away from theory and kind of unpack a little bit of what John and my's marriage looked like and why I think marriages are so important. When we first met each other, John led me to the Lord on our first date so I was like, "This man and I are put together by God. We will never ever have a problem. We will never disagree about anything."

[Laughter]

We went to marriage counseling just out of obligation and we just kind of rolled our eyes and said, "This is for people that God did not put together. God put us together. It is going to be amazing."

But about three months into our marriage I had a vision. I had a vision of a perfect man and this man looked like John but he did not act like John. I decided the reason why I was in John's life was to change him from the man he was to the man he could be if he would just work with me. At first I was gentle. At first I made suggestions but

then I started to get a little bit more forceful with this mission of my life to change my husband.

But John had visions of his own; visions of a sweet supportive, submissive wife and we began to fight like you cannot believe. You know when you have no children at home to watch you, you will do a lot of stupid stuff. I remember one particular night we were having this disagreement and John said, "Sit down!"

And I said, "No!"

And he decided to block my exit from the bedroom. And so he put his body in the doorway like this, like an X. And he was like, "You're not leaving this room until we talk."

What do you think that would do to me? Would that make me -- would that make me say, "Oh, I'm going to sit down now." No!

You know what I did? I went to the furthest corner of the room and I ran as fast as I could and I tackled him. And he was down. And I said, "No man tells me to stay out of a room I don't want to be in!"

[Laughter]

We've been married for 32 years, our kids are all safe -- they're all safe!

[Laughter]

Some people start getting scared -- this is the first couple of years.

Another time we were having a disagreement and he said, "Sit down!"

And I said, "No!" And I started to move and he pushed me. Not like being mean but pushed me to try to get me to sit down but I had so much forward motion going that only half of my bottom made to the bed and I fell on the floor. And I came up with a lamp in my hand.

[Laughter]

Now I would like to say this was a little table lamp but it was a floor lamp. It was like a full on lamp and I was like, "Faaah!"

And my husband is like, "Oh, my gosh! What are you going to do with that?"

And I was like, "I don't even know how it got in my hand!" So I just put the lamp down, backed away from the lamp.

Invited one of my Christian sisters who is newly married out to lunch and I just tried to open up with her. I'm like, "Have you ever been in a disagreement with your husband and all of the sudden you had a lamp in your hand?"

She was like, "No!"

I was like, "Me neither! Me neither! We have never -- never would anything like that happen!"

[Laughter]

And I felt like I was living such a lie because we would fight all the way to church, and then we would hit the church parking lot and a miracle would happen. All of the sudden we would be waving like Ken and Barbie. "Hi! Praise the Lord! Let's go to lunch!"

During church service we sat in constant physical contact with one another. We held hands. People thought, how affectionate! No, we were communicating. When the pastor would say things like, "Husbands, love your wives." I would take my hand and I would do the knee clench on John's leg like, "Did you hear that?"

When he would say things like, "Wives submit to your husband." My fingers would almost be broken.

[Laughter]

People would watch us and say, "What a cute couple! I can just see the hand of God on their life." Yeah, he was hovering over us to smack both of us. He was like stop this!

During that season, John's favorite scripture, we're not going to put it up there, I can quote it from memory was, "It is better to dwell on the corner of a rooftop," it's Proverbs 21:9, "than with a nagging, faultfinding wife."

And I'd be like, "Just get on up there because I am not going to stop. It is not stopping! It is not stopping!"

My favorite was Malachi 2:14, "You're dealing treacherously with the wife of your youth!" We just cut each other up with the Word of God and we found ourselves living in ruins. We found broken places.

I remember we couldn't even pray together without arguing. He'd have my hand. I'd be like, "Stop holding my hand so tight! When are you going to let me pray?" It was like ridiculous. I was like what is going on? These two people that were so one in purpose and heart, we found ourselves so diminished, so divided, so broken. We just didn't know how to do it.

And about year four we said, "We need to stop this." I had a baby. We were like, "We can't be doing WWW wrestling in front of our baby. We need to stop this nonsense!" But actually it took us the first eight years before we began to rise and build. And I need you not to see your marriage where it is right now, I need you to see what your marriage might be. I need you to begin now with the end in mind, not with today in mind, but to begin to write differently.

So I'm going to unpack some of the strengths a woman has and the strengths a man has. A man gives something called "structure." Structure is very, very important. When my boys were little, I bought as many Lego's as we could afford to buy.

John would travel and come home from a trip and he would call me from the Orlando airport, this is before we had cell phones, and he would call me and say, "Hey babe! I'm on my way home." What he was really saying was, "Sweetheart, I know you have no concept of time and you have 45 minutes before I come home. Clean the house."

That's really what was being communicated but I would hang up the phone. I'd be like, "Okay!" So I'd be like, "Boys! Oh, my gosh! Your dad is on his way here. Clean the house. Get some clothes on."

I let my children run in their underwear. I'm like it's less laundry. We lived in Florida, it was warm. I was like why? Why do this?

So my children would be running. They would all like go into scampering mode. I would brush my teeth, and try to get myself so I wasn't a hygiene nightmare and just

kind of try to get everything ready. And my husband would be getting ready to come. My boys would stand in the window waiting for him to come because they were so excited because they always built him something. They would be like, "We're going to build dad a Lego tower!" And they would build these towers that were really, really high. And John would come in and he would have to judge the towers.

As a mother, I didn't understand. I was like, "Why does somebody always have to lose? I don't get this."

But he explained to me, "No, that's just the way it is. We have to have people that lose. Every son's dream is to beat their father." He's like they're not going to get it handed to them. They have to rise to the skill. I'm like, "Okay."

So they would have these towers and of course, the younger sons were always at a disadvantage. They just couldn't get as high. They would get the towers and he would be like, "This is awesome! This one is really high. This one, I like what you've got going on down there."

Then my boys would take a car out of the toy box, back it up, and crash it into the Lego towers. It was all about building big, and then a big crash. I've kept all of those Lego's so I could be the best grandmother. I'm trying to win the contest.

Anyway, one time and it was only one time I was allowed to babysit my friend's daughter. She came over and I put her down on the floor and she didn't build towers, she built rooms. She actually built rectangles and she dug through the toy box and she found the Lego chairs and tables and the people. My boys were okay driving cars without people in them. What is that? My boy's were like, "We don't need people. We just need cars." So anyway, she would turn out the Lego man and the Lego woman who never got any play time at my house. Get the Lego person out. She would sit them at the table. She would make them hold Lego hands.

My boys would watch her in horror. Like, "What are you doing with our Lego's?" She knew she had some kind of power. I remember seeing her take the Lego girl and the Lego guy and in full sight of my boys she had them kiss.

My boys were like, "Ah! We're going to have to burn that! We're going to have to burn those two!"

[Laughter]

Well, guys build big but women build safe, and we need both of those if we're going to be healthy in our homes, and in the house of God. We need the voice of mothers and fathers -- not just fathers, not just mothers. The man guards the house and the woman guards the heart.

End of clip

In the studio

Chris: Wow! What a powerful teaching on marriage. I think she is the only woman that can talk faster than me.

You know what? I love the fact that we've got some fantastic resources available because the other thing that Lisa and I both share in common is a great passion for helping to rescue the victims of human trafficking around the world. There are young women and children that are held in bondage and sex slavery and we partner together with *LIFE Outreach* to help, to reach, and rescue and restore the lives of these girls. You can help us do that today.

We're going to make available for you, we never sell product but we can help have some resources available for you based on today's teaching on how to see it, looking at life from God's perspective. Everything can change in your life if you change the way you look at your life. So we want to make these available for you. We'll tell you how as soon as you just see this video with us.

On the mission field:

Announcer: This is a prison. Not a real prison run by a government and police officers but it is a prison nonetheless. Room after room contains not much more than a bed. Depraved visitors to these types of prisons pour millions of dollars into human trafficking worldwide. The prisoners are scared young girls held captive by violent slave traders but the prisoners that live here did nothing wrong. They have broken no laws. The girl in cell 4D is innocent.

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

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

End of clip

In the studio:

Chris: Well, it is so easy to become overwhelmed by looking at that. I think of my own daughters' bedrooms and then I look at those prison cells and I think no girl was designed to live like that! And just said, "God, if you're there, please help me."

Right now we get the opportunity to answer that girl's prayer. For only \$128, you and I can make a difference. We can help to reach, to rescue, and to restore the lives of those young women. We can literally pull them out of those prisons and put them into a place where they can know their dignity in Christ, where we can help to see every aspect of their lives restored. Only \$128! What wouldn't we do if this was our own child? Well, she is God's daughter and she is our sister and we have the opportunity to do that.

I wonder would you partner with us? Would you partner with us to go into those places and to help to pull those girls out of that pit of hell and bring them into the life and the light of God?

They ask, "Is there a God?" We get the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus. I wonder would you help us perhaps rescue ten girls? For only \$1280 we could pull ten girls out of that pit and help to give them a new life, a hope, and a purpose and a destiny.

Sometimes you think maybe I can't do \$128. Well, could you do \$64? Could you help us and perhaps your contribution and somebody else's together, we can partner to help to rescue these girls.

She said, "Is there a God?" There is a God. We have the opportunity to show these girls right now there is a God. He has heard their prayer and we are going into the depths of despair to pull them out of the pit into the life, the light, the hope, the mercy, and the justice of Jesus Christ -- \$128!

Would you partner with us? Why don't you go right now? Pick up the phone; perhaps you could go online, do whatever you need to do. If you help us, we will keep going. We will go to the uttermost places of darkness to bring those girls into the light and help to restore their dreams and to help them fulfill their God-given destiny and purpose. Thank you so much for partnering with us and helping give somebody a future.

Begin video clip

Announcer: Human trafficking -- it is 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. Your gift today of only \$128 will help rescue a child and change their destiny forever! With gifts of \$64 or \$32 we will combine your support with others to help rescue one more child from the shame and pain of this existence.

Today with your gift of any amount, we'll send you Lisa Bevere's powerful new series, *See It*, on audio CD, along with her companion book, *It's Not How You Look, It's What You See*. In this new series, Lisa equips you to see a new perspective for your life, one of great possibilities, not limited by the world but defined by God who sees your future and created you to be a unique blessing to those around you.

With your gift of \$128 to help rescue a child, you may request the book along with *See It* on CD and DVD or choose U.S.B. flash drive, which includes all of the messages in both audio and video.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1280 to help rescue ten children and you may request our 2014 commemorative glass sculpture, "The Blessing."

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

End of clip

Begin video clip

Lisa: I've spent the last few days walking the streets of Mumbai. I have seen brothels. I have seen children. I have seen women. But they all have one thing in common, none of them chose to be here. The women I've talked to, they were either kidnapped from Nepal or other places in India, brought to Mumbai with the hope of something bigger, something better, a future, an opportunity to improve their lives. And what they found was torture, captivity, and bondage. It is an overwhelming hopeless cycle.

But you know what? We can do something about this. First it's preventative; we want to spread the word to the people that are lying and taking these young women captive, these women that all they want is a hope and a future. We want to educate and equip them so they don't fall captive to this.

But secondly, the ones that are captive, we want to rescue them. We want to give them enough hope that they will be brave enough to step out, and when they step out we want to give them a place where they can be restored. We want to restore their lives. We want to give them skills so that they can have a dream. We need partners for rescue.

But you know what? We need you to go to the phone. We need you to go online. We need you to be generous. I know what you've seen, I know what you've heard is uncomfortable but we need you to move into action. Thank you!

End of clip

In the studio:

Chris: I sure hope you're going to partner with us and help to rescue these girls. I hope you pick up the phone right now. We've had an amazing day today. Thank you for joining us. We'll see you again.

Announcer: Are you concerned about your family being ill equipped to manage resources when you pass away? Do you want to leave a legacy gift that impacts the lives of others? As a free service to our friends and partners, Life Planning Services, a ministry of Life Outreach International, is here to help with your estate planning needs and chart your financial future.

Do not put off this important step to protect your loved ones and leave a lasting legacy. Contact Life Planning Services today!