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Week 19: Spring Mission Feeding
SQuire Rushnell and Louise DuArt

James: Oh, boy! Thank you a lot. I'm James and this is Betty; we welcome you to *LIFE Today*.

Divine Alignment -- this is the guy that has the Godwink -- he's a guy that's just had tremendously successful shows on television. His wife, Louise has -- she can just be any comic you want. If you want half a dozen or two dozen, it doesn't matter, she can cover them all. They are incredibly gifted; SQuire Rushnell and Louise DuArt are with us.

But I'm holding this and I'm intrigued by it. It's got a beautiful rainbow and I've actually seen... as this is a double rainbow, I don't think they actually just drew that up, I think it probably actually happened. In other words, God can actually do that. It is amazing! And you capture them sometimes.

But *Divine Alignment*, like God has something to do with things going on. What if he really did line it up, instead of us spending so much time messing it up? -- And especially the powers that be messing it up and getting things out of alignment. I'm interested to see exactly how he wants us to see it because he gets a buzz out of a Godwink. He can write a best-selling book on that. So let's find out what he's talking about.

Louise, she may have to say something funny. If SQuire gets too serious, she can lighten the load.

Would you welcome SQuire and Louise back to *LIFE Today*?

Good to see you.

SQuire: Thank you very much!

Louise: Great to be back!

James: Can you get anywhere without a cap on? Do you realize, we said a prayer or something, you take your cap off. I didn't even know you! You took the cap off, I thought who is this guy?

[Laughter]

You always have a little advertisement up here.

SQUIRE: I always wear my cap.

JAMES: Well, it's a Godwink. Why don't you put *Divine Alignment* up here? You going to get one like that too?

SQUIRE: Well, Godwink is the brand name that has been developed. But let me just explain what a Godwink is for those who may not know. A Godwink is a word that came into my mind when I was writing my first book about those so-called coincidences that happen in everybody's life; those little things that happen and you say, "I know that must be God because the odds are so extraordinary that they couldn't be anything but God!"

JAMES: Is it something that can't be explained apart from God?

SQUIRE: I think so. Mathematicians will try to always explain it. They put me on C.B.S. Sunday Morning a few months ago and they had two mathematicians trying to explain it. I thought, I've got the easiest part of this because a Godwink is a person-to-person message directly from God to you out of seven billion people on this earth. And when they happen you know they are special. You might have thought of them as coincidences, you might have brushed them off, you might have dismissed them, and so forth but my job is to try to get you to pay attention to them.

As a matter of fact, I say, I believe that every single one of us have Godwinks. They are left like gifts on the doorstep. And my job is to get you to open the door and open your gift.

Now *Divine Alignment* came out of, after six Godwink books, When God Winked books, and collecting all of these astonishing stories that just underscores the point that I'm trying to share. I realized that if you pull back on the lens and you start looking at all of the Godwinks you start realizing that they're connected in a pattern and there is divine alignment. So that when you go through life and you happen to run into somebody and you just happen to be at the right place at the right time for God to move you to where he wants you to go, that is divine alignment.

JAMES: See, I think everybody wants that. Is there a key to getting into divine alignment?

SQUIRE: I think the key is allowing Godwinks to happen in your life -- allowing your eyes to see.

James: In other words, don't just shrug them off as insignificant -- as nothing! It might be big something.

Squire: It might be very big. As a matter of fact, what I always try to get people... at the very beginning stages, just make a list of all the Godwinks that happen in your life, every time you get that phone call out of the blue, every time that that one little thing happens that makes you say, "Wow! That's a..."

Write it down on a piece of paper on the refrigerator door and in a month you'll see that you've got about eight or nine or ten or 20 Godwinks and you start saying, "Wow! These are amazing."

We often talk about the fact that we live our lives forward but we understand them backwards. And it's when you look back and you do kind of an archaeological dig into your own self and start saying, "Wait a minute. Remember when we got married that... somebody happened?" You can start realizing that Godwinks were always at every significant crossroads in your life.

And if you go back and you start looking at the Godwinks, that's when the invisible threads connecting Godwink by Godwink starts to become visible to you and you see divine alignment.

Now the other meaning for a Godwink that my readers led me to was answered prayer. There was no word in the English language for answered prayer. I never thought about that. But when people started getting their prayers answered they said, "Well, I just had a Godwink."

That was easier than saying, "I just had my prayers answered." See?

So that's the second meaning when that word goes in the dictionary; it will be answered prayer.

James: Now what do you do with this guy? Do you just go around and help him change caps? You used to be an entertainer.

Louise: He's got them in every color.

James: You don't iron caps -- so it's not too big of a problem. What are you good for? I want to know?

Louise: Well, *Divine Alignment*, as Squire said, happens to everyone but sometimes our path has many twists and turns, many peaks and valleys. I was married once before and I thought I was marrying Mr. Right; didn't know his first name was "Always."

[Laughter]

But we were happily married so I thought -- to make a long story short, found out he was on drugs, got fired from his job, and then he was having an affair with another woman. We had two kids together, he leaves me, now I'm a single mom. I don't know what to do. I'm about to lose the house. Thank God for the Lord and for neighbors on my street who are all Christians. All these ladies would come over every day for prayer meeting and we would have a little Bible study. I would always throw in impressions of like the crossing guard, Sybil Sokalski. She had just a little bit of a lisp. People like that, you know what I'm saying?

[Laughter]

James: That's why they came over.

Louise: It's like a two drink minimum with coffee at my house. And I would throw in, hello, I'm Joan Rivers, can we talk? I was saying Fran Drescher, hah hah hah hah. Or some dumb as Bart Simpson man, "Nobody lay a finger on my butterfinger, man!"

[Laughter]

So I would do these impressions. But this particular day I said, "I need prayer desperately. I'm losing everything." So girlfriends and I start praying and my girlfriend Janette says, "Louise, I think the Lord spoke to me. You know all those crazy voices you do? I think you should go down to one of those comedy clubs and see if you could do this for a living."

[Laughter]

I thought her cheese slipped off the cracker. I said, "Are you kidding? I'm a housewife in the San Fernando valley!" Something inside me, and I know it was the Lord told me to go. So the next week I'm driving down to the Comedy Store on Sunset Boulevard in Hollywood, driving down, and I don't know why in my mind I started thinking the two greatest fears in life I just read about were fear of death and fear of public speaking -- and I was afraid I was going to do both simultaneously.

[Laughter]

So I get to the comedy club and as all these guys, there was open mike night and they call me up on stage. I'm shaking like a leaf and I said, "God, you've got to help me!" And I got up on stage -- now this was a Godwink -- what I didn't know, God had planned this, divinely aligned

this, unbeknownst to me, Star Search scouts were in the audience to see ten other people. I was on right before them.

[Laughter]

They saw me, they put me on the show! I go on Star Search, this housewife, going from the frying pan to the fire. I'm on Star Search.

Now here's another Godwink. Donna Summer, the diva of disco, Donna Summer is switching the channels. She stops on the channel, sees me, calls her manager and says, "Get me that girl." I became Donna Summers opening act for two years; that's how my career began with her.

So is that divine alignment? Right?

SQUIRE: That is divine alignment because --

JAMES: I know now why you're successful. I'm telling you. I'm sure you understand just how aligned this is. Don't get this "right" business, because we already know about him. He's gone!

[Laughter]

SQUIRE: And you can understand me when I say, I never know who I'm waking up next to.

[Laughter]

JAMES: But you ain't bored!

SQUIRE: I'm not!

LOUISE: First it was George Burns though, unfortunately.

[Laughter]

SQUIRE: Oh, dear!

JAMES: Buy it for Louise, buy the book. It's out there. Go get one. You'll hear more of her than more of him.

SQUIRE: Yes, indeed. So all of those divine alignments that happened to her, if she had come the day before at that Comedy Store, it wouldn't have worked.

James: She needed to be first. She needed to be first!

Squire: That's exactly right. And if Donna Summer had been working that night doing a concert and not watching TV, she wouldn't have seen her. So all of God's divine alignments are amazing.

James: Even the person who said, "I think you are ought to go to the club. You've got a gift." That was a Godwink. You said you wanted to tell us a story or so in here. You told me there was at least one story in here that we all would here.

Squire: Absolutely. Well, this is just an amazing story of showing how Godwinks, as answered prayer, works powerfully -- works powerfully. This is the astonishing story of David Espinoza and his wife Tony. They live in McAllen, Texas. A lot of people may not know that McAllen, Texas is all the way down at the bottom of the tail of Texas on the Mexican border. When we were first invited for a speaking engagement there I thought we would drive there from Dallas.

[Laughter]

I didn't know Texas very well.

James: No chance!

Squire: I didn't know that. Anyway, when we met David and Tony they told us this story and David had gotten terrible, terrible medical news. He had a congestive heart failure and the doctor said, "I don't even know how you walked into this office. You have got to get a heart transplant or you're going to be dead in a matter of months."

So they traveled up to Houston to DeBakey Heart Institute, it was reconfirmed. They said, "Well, we can work on getting you a donor. It might take about nine months." It's not an easy process to get a donor.

David and Tony went back to McAllen and Tony was the prayer warrior in the family. She organized everybody to pray for David to get a donor. But after a few days she started feeling conflicted. She was praying for somebody to die in order for her husband to live -- and that just didn't seem right. It didn't!

So she decided to speak to the Lord and say, "God, I'd just like to have my husband healed -- just completely heal him. And I'd like a confirmation, God, if you don't mind. I know you're

going to heal him but I'd love a confirmation. If you can make it snow in McAllen, Texas on Christmas day."

Now she told this to one of her school-aged friends, a guy who knew her from when she was in elementary school. He said, "Tony, you've lived here all your life. Have you ever even seen snow?"

And she said, "No."

He said, "It hasn't snowed here in 109 years and never on Christmas!"

She said, "Okay. God is going to take care of it."

At 11:45 on Christmas Eve it started to snow. And it was amazing! Now the next day --

James: And it was an all-time record snow across the whole southern border of the state.

Squire: And so the next day kids get up and make snowmen and fan angels. The news papers say: First white Christmas in the history of McAllen... and so forth. So nobody knew until she blabbed to us that she was the one who prayed for it. Now she knew it was her sign.

When she went into the backyard and she saw that snow coming down, there is a picture of her with the snow in her hair and she looked up and she said, "Thank you, God!" Because you knew that Godwink was answered prayer. Hadn't been fulfilled yet but it was -- she was convinced.

Three weeks later they had their regular appointment up at DeBakey. They went up and the doctors looked at the reports and shook their heads and said, "I don't know how to explain this but David, you're going to live for a long time!"

James: Isn't that great! It's just like snow! No big deal! That is wonderful! God is so anxious to speak to us when we ask him and trust him. But you say, "That doesn't even sound like God." It sounds very much like God. Give us another real short illustration. We've got about a minute or so left. You've got another little quick one you can tell us about *Divine Alignment*?

Squire: The first time I ever had a Godwink was when I was -- that I remember, was I was a kid who grew up in a little town in northern -- I used to listen to radio and I loved speakers and I'd listen to people on the radio. There was a guy on the radio called Dean Harris. I used to love him because he would always say, "Get up and march around the breakfast table!" And then he would play a record and I'd come down to the kitchen and I'd do the same thing to my brother

and he would throw the Wheaties box at me.

[Laughter]

About two years later, after I had spent two years talking into a broom handle and pretending that I was David Brinkley and everybody else, I was hitchhiking from my little farm community in northern New York up to the only TV station up the road ten miles, and it was safe because there were no other cars on the road; a couple of hay bailers and that was it.

Then suddenly, a little green Volkswagen pulled to the side of the road. A balding man beckoned me in. He asked me where I was going. I told him not only where I was going but the purpose of my mission.

He said, "When you talk to that fella at the TV station, tell him I said hello. I'm an old friend of his. By the way my name is Dean Harris." The guy that I listened to march around the breakfast table!

[Laughter]

Now think about this. A kid with a dream on a country road hitchhiking. What are the mathematical odds that my hero would come along and drive me to my first job interview? I got the job! And that began a four decade period of time that I worked in broadcasting. That is *Divine Alignment*.

James: Isn't that good? Don't you like that?

Betty: Don't you think we would see the blessings more of God if we would become noticers?

Louise: Exactly!

Betty: His miracles, Godwinks around us all the time!

Louise: Be a noticer! And that's what he wants. He's always standing at the door knocking and we don't let him in. He says, "In all your ways acknowledge me and I will direct your paths" but we need to acknowledge him. And when these Godwinks happen, we need to thank him for that. It's from him!

James: If we would look through his eyes, Jesus said, "I only do what I see the father doing... say what he says. I've got my eyes fixed on him but I can see you clearer because I see you the way the Father sees you."

I think if we would be looking and asking God to see and feel as he does, we would be delivering a lot of those so-called Godwinks because you actually pointed out people that had a direct connection in delivering to you something you needed from God or you might still be standing by the road and you still might be sitting over there in the house waiting for somebody to come over and say hello.

When you have an opportunity -- what if you were the one -- I say this to our viewers a lot, I think they get it -- if you want your prayers answered, seek to be an answer to someone's prayers. And that's what our viewers do.

As a matter of fact, our viewers all over the world love to be an answer to someone's prayers. I want to remind you, this is in the bookstores or you can go online. I'll tell you what. If you'll help us just do what I'm about to show you and you'd like to have this, if you'll become a Godwink for someone, like a miracle, a resurrection moment, a come-to-life moment and you'd like to have it, we'll be glad to send it to you. I want you to look and listen, and when you see what someone has done when they've been through so much, see if you wouldn't like to be the hands of Jesus right here in this situation. I'm not exaggerating, you can be. Watch.

On the mission field

Announcer: No parent should outlive their children. Behind Daruka's eyes a sadness has weathered into stoic acceptance that her children are gone from this world, taken too soon because of the lack of food. It was on a journey to Uganda in search of a better life when the tragedy struck.

>> We went to Uganda, which took us many days. On the way some of my children died, we had very little to eat, which is why they died. When I saw my children were dying, I came back to my own village.

Announcer: For many, a mother's love could have ended with the death of her children. What more could someone give who has lost so much? But today, these children all look to Daruka for care and guidance; though not hers by birth, she has taken them under her wing out of love. But with a new family comes old problems.

>> I am worried, because when they fall sick, I have no medicine that I can give to them. And, if they are hungry, I have nothing to feed them. I am worried.

Announcer: For Daruka the scenario is all too familiar. Without a proper food supply these children are more vulnerable to disease and their survival will continue to hang in the balance.

>> If someone could help me, life would be better. If we get help, these children will live.

End of clip

In the studio

James: There's a mother that has lost her children. And now she's taking others and wanting to help them. What does your heart say?

Betty: The thing that got me there at the close is she says, "I want help so I can continue helping."

That's what I thought she was saying because she's taken those children in because they have no one else. But she has come to the end of the rope, so to speak, as far as the food they need. She knows that without the food these children are likely to die. And she's one example of the many needs right around in their area of children and women and everyone that's without the food.

We have the answer. We can fill that need. We can give them that hope that they're looking for. Let's reach out and do that together. Will you join with us?

James: I guess when I look at the situation, Betty I think, well, like you just said, let's do what she's asking. I find myself thinking, Lord, if they don't hear what I'm saying or what Betty is saying -- but really, Lord, if they don't hear what you're saying, if they can't hear you speak into their heart then no one is going to reach out.

So it really comes back to God, I can try to say the right things and that precious woman said the right things but if you don't move God on the hearts so the people respond then we're just talking. And I don't want it to be that way. I want to somehow be able to express to you that this is the will of God to help. Just like that mother, having lost everything, is now reaching out to others who have lost everything themselves.

All they're asking us to do, because believe me, the missionaries are right there in the very pit of hell in pain and suffering, and all the missionaries are saying, "Would you not leave us empty-handed so they don't have empty stomachs? They're sick and we want to help them and show them there's a future. We just need to give them a life." They're not asking for a lot. They're not asking for entertainment. They just want to live -- and you may not believe it but they can live happy.

I've seen those kids with so little have so much fun -- if they just feel good, if they can just feel good. A kid will find a way. That woman in pain is finding a way to express love. Would you do it? Would you go to LifeToday.org. Go and get your iPad or go online, however you do it, or go to the telephone and dial the number and just say, "I want to feed them. I want to help that mother."

We've got 425,000 right now located -- 25,000 right where she was. That's in an area of South Sudan where all hell has just broken out in a terrible way. That's why they lost so much. That's why she was saying, "Look what's happened here. But I want to take care of them and I will."

Would you please, if it's medicine or food... and we not only take food, we take in the medicine, because the missionaries know what they need. Would you right now go online or dial that number, take your bankcard and help us? \$30, \$50, or \$100 we can feed three, five, or ten children for the next months. I would ask if you could give \$100, or even \$1,000 to feed 100 children because that's what \$1,000 will do. \$100 will feed ten, \$50 five, and \$30 three.

We have some gifts to send you but you're giving life to those precious ones. Please do it right now. Would you do it? Thank you so much!

Begin video clip

Announcer: Disease, malnutrition, starvation -- all terrible human atrocities being faced every day by people living in remote and impoverished areas of Africa. Those at greatest risk are the children.

This month, 400,000 children are depending on us for survival. And now in South Sudan the suffering has intensified and our feeding efforts are desperately needed by an additional 25,000 children. Our mission teams are in place but your support is critically needed to replenish and distribute food supplies immediately. When you call or go online today and make a life-saving gift of \$30, \$50, or \$100, you will provide urgently needed food to three, five, or ten children for the next three months.

As our way of saying thank you, we'll send you *Heirs to the Kingdom*, four powerful messages on audio CD or U.S.B. flash drive. You'll also receive the award-winning book, *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made*. With your gift of \$100 or more to help feed ten children please request *The Story*, a running narrative Bible to help you engage with God's Word more easily.

And finally, with your gift of \$1,000 or more to help feed 100 children you may request this beautifully framed canvas print of the "Forest Chapel" by the Painter of Light TM, Thomas Kinkade.

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

End of clip

In the studio

James: I know we've made it very clear that we want to send you some tremendous blessings; this is on the body. You will learn so much about how wonderfully God has made us, *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made*, and what he wants to do with the body of Christ, his whole family. And the other Bible, that's The Story, it'll bless you.

If you'd like to have SQuire Rushnell's book, *Divine Alignment*, I think just from what you've heard you say, "I want to learn more about it and I want to be a part of delivering those insights and Godwinks as he puts it and be a blessing to someone just like someone was for them." I'd like you to join Betty and me in saying thanks to SQuire and all these other women that are here with him.

SQuire: Thank you!

James: We thank you. You all are a blessing. You know you're welcome to come back any time. You can come just bring a whole bunch of women with you and entertain us. Thank you so much. We really appreciate you.

Thanks for watching. Thanks for helping.

Announcer: Be sure to visit stream.org, a rich and lively source for breaking news, analysis, and entertainment! Stream.org