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Week 24 Spring Mission Feeding last week
Wednesday in the word: Volume 3, Session 1
Beth Moore: Jesus and the Man with Demons, #2

James: Thank you so much! Betty and I really do consider it a privilege to be able to share time with you. I'm James Robison. We welcome you to *LIFE Today*.

I want to mention something that we're offering to all of you. It is just an incredible book, *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made*. Dr. Paul Brand was one of the most gifted medical doctors. He had won many awards. Philip Yancey is a best-selling author. He wrote *What's So Amazing about Grace*, *The Jesus I Never Knew*, 15 million copies sold of his books.

He asked Dr. Brand if this incredible doctor would talk about the human body, the miraculous and uniqueness of it and the diversity and supernatural unity in it and let him take the body and teach on the body of Christ. It is phenomenal.

We're sending it to those of you who will simply help us feed some children. I hope you have been visiting the stream on a daily basis.

Betty, we go there virtually every day -- sometimes several times a day. The news is current. But I get inspired and educated in so many ways that people just absolutely can't imagine the beauty and the stream of wisdom and love that is flowing freely for the benefit of everyone.

The Stream is there to be a blessing to everyone by sharing the most blessed gifts God has and brilliance and wisdom and love and truth that can just totally change individuals and the entire culture. So visit there. Will you? And pass on what you read.

Beth Moore is teaching on Jesus and the man with demons. All of us are assaulted by evil spirit deceiving spirits of darkness and even death and destruction. So we're in a battle and Beth really does know how to help us with this.

Here's Beth Moore. Would you welcome Beth?

Begin video clip

Beth: So as you and I look at the scriptures in this coming series, we're going to be talking about what the opposite of the kingdom of light would look like. And we know it would be a kingdom of darkness; the antithesis, a place of depravity instead of righteousness, of chaos instead of peace. And instead of joy there would be torment.

I want to say this to you and I hope so much you're still standing there because this may be some of the best news you have heard all day long. I promise you that the enemy is not getting his full sway with you or you would not be standing there on the other side of that screen. I want to say that to you in this room as well. I can tell, based on what we're going to see in Luke chapter eight, you're going to see what a shape this man is in because I want to present to you someone under the full sway of the devil.

So this I can tell you. What we're going to see is if we'll look at what life looks like, what an environment looks like when the devil has his full sway, then you and I will get some insight about what happens when he has some of his way. Does that make sense to anybody? If I can see how he's working blatantly it gives me some insight into how he's getting to me personally with some oppression.

So let me say that to you. We're going to look at the opposite of Christ's desire for our lives. Sometimes we learn by contrast, sometimes we learn by comparison; both of them are very good and effective learning tools. But this particular series we're going to look at it by contrast. Sometimes we ask ourselves, "What do I really want out of life?" -- Very good question. And sometimes it's fair to ask the question, "What do you not want?" If you said to me, "I can tell you this is not what I want to happen with my life," that's the question we are bringing into the scriptures today.

So what we're going to be doing and so we'll do this over the next couple of weeks on our Wednesdays, we're going to build four statements together and they're all going to begin like this: Where Satan has his way -- where Satan has his way.

So the first one begins just like this: Where Satan has his way, people live among the tombs. I want you to jot that down and let's see if it is so. Where Satan has his way, people live among the tombs. Jot down beside it, verse 27, so that you will have your reference for it as it tells us that this man, who had been inhabited by all of these demons lived for a very long time not in a house but among the tombs.

I was thinking about how many parallels that has to us because how easy it is for us to begin living just still wandering around the gravestones of things that are now dead and lifeless to us.

How many of us are doing that? -- An old relationship? How many of us like perhaps you got a divorce back in 2006 but you cannot move away from that tomb. Anybody? I want you to just picture the grave marker. I want you to picture the names of those relationships that have been over for years. Anybody know what I'm talking about? You've got a day it started on it, a day it ended on it, and we're still just wandering around the tombs.

God has healing for us. He has healing for us! And it is not his desire that we live our lives just wandering around the monuments to what was devastation and destruction to us. It happens constantly. We'll have a split-up with somebody. It can even be a good friend and we'll just over and over and over again just wander around, circle around that tomb, circling that which is lifeless and dead.

You know sometimes I've thought in my own life, one reason why the enemy has so much that he can really bring back to me with accusation, I've said this a number of times on *LIFE Today*, but I need you to hear it today in case you've never tuned in with us. I just want you to know -- listen -- I have lived my life in the pit. I know what this is like. I've said so many times that the accuser has been able to come at me so effectively because I gave him a lot of material. Anybody? -- A lot of material!

So one of the things I would do because I would just talk about it so much -- just talk about it. I kept trying to give C.P.R. to something he had already forgiven and gone off from. It's dead to him. Those are dead works to him. To me, I'm just still giving it C.P.R. Why? Why? Why are you trying to give your old dead self C.P.R.? Anybody? Anybody but me? Maybe it is just the neurotic here.

[Laughter]

This has been me. Just living life around -- just visiting the tomb of our old deadly mistakes. Anybody? The place -- something that was just killed in our lives. I'm not talking about somebody so precious. I'm talking about something that we cannot seem to walk away from and it is dead to us -- it is death to us. It is a grave to us. But here we are, the living, walking around the tombs. So when we see the devil at full sway, when he's got his full way, he has people just living around the tombs.

So here's what we're doing because you and I are getting some insight into where he's getting a little bit of a way. We've already established he's probably not getting his full sway with any of us because here we are. I mean you've got a sound enough mind to be on the other side of that screen. But we can see where he's got some of his way. And we're about to take that ground back. Amen somebody? We're going to take some ground back.

[Applause]

I want you to notice something. This is very important and it is easy to miss. When the man saw Jesus, verse 28, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me Jesus, son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me."

What's talking to him? -- The demonic is talking to him. This is so important because the man has no voice. The enemy has taken over his voice. Listen. You put point number two down in bold letters where Satan has his way, people have no voice. Where Satan has his way, people have no voice.

That point, as well, makes me think of the things that come out of this ministry, the Outreaches of Life. How often, if there is anything that James and Betty are passionate about it is in Jesus' name, giving people who have no voice a voice; giving the poor a voice, giving those who are trafficked a voice, getting people back where they have a voice. You know it is the work of the enemy when there is a people, a people group or there is a person who has completely lost any voice; that is not of God.

I want you to know something. I want somebody to have a revelation today that you have nothing more intimidating to the enemy than a divinely gifted voice. Your mouth is a powerful instrument; it is powerful for good, and it is powerful for evil but it is one powerful instrument. You have no -- and neither do I -- we have no more powerful built-in instrument in our humanity than our mouth. And I want you to hear something. The two most prominent words that the enemy would want to speak over a believer in Christ are these, "Shut up!" You can take that one to the bank. That if he has two words to say to a believer, he cannot take our salvation so what is he going to say? If he just gets two words, do you know what it's going to be? It's going to be -- what are those two words? You tell me?

Audience: Shut up!

Beth: Shut up! Because he does not want us to open our mouths. We are a people called to tell, to teach, to proclaim, to declare, to speak, to praise, to give thanks.

Second Corinthians 4:13 says: I believe therefore I speak.

That because we believe we are called to speak and we have a powerful voice that God has given us by way of his Holy Spirit; we have a voice that can say, "Get thee behind me Satan." We have a voice that can say, "Jesus is Lord; and by the power of Jesus' name." We have a voice that can say, "If God is for me..." Would some of you finish that for me?

Audience: Who can be against me?

Beth: Who can be against me? A voice that, according to Psalm 18:29 can say: For by you, I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. That's what we're talking about.

He comes for the voice. He loves the people who have lost their voice. And let me tell you, Jesus is coming in this series to give somebody, a man or a woman, a young person, whoever could be on the other side of that screen, someone who has lost her voice, lost his voice, loose that tongue in the mighty name of Jesus, and watch what he will do.

I need somebody to tell me what we've got so far because somebody may be just joining us. We're in Luke chapter eight. We're studying about Jesus taking his disciples to the opposite side of the lake; going from Galilee over to the Gerasenes where there is tremendous demonic activity.

Here's what we have on the table. We are getting to see in this narrative what would happen if the devil had his full way. So we've already seen a couple of things. We've built two points already. The first one is what? Where Satan has his way... tell me.

Audience: People live among the tombs.

Beth: People live among the tombs! We found out, number two was this: Where Satan has his way...

Audience: People have no voice.

Beth: People have no voice. And that brings us to number three: Where Satan has his way, people feel outmatched. Anybody? People feel outmatched.

I want you to notice a couple of ways that he feels outmatched. Would you notice with me that it says in verse 29: For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time --) that is in the E.S.V. -- somebody say "many a time." [Audience repeats] Say it one more time and feel it. [Audience repeats]

(For many a time it had seized him.) -- Many a time. I never had a demon inside of me. I've been sealed, I'm in Christ. If you're in Christ, you're sealed but I can tell you he has seized me from the outside, tormented me.

Don't you think it is interesting that the demon says, "Do not torment me"? Do you know when the demonic is tormented? -- When they have no one to torment. You want to know what

torment is to the devil? -- When he has no one to torment. When he gets bound up, according to the book of Revelation for 1,000 years, you know why that would be torment to him? Because he has no one he gets to torment. Just try to put your mind around the kind of evil that is tormented when it does not get to torment because that is exactly what we have on the page. And many a time it had seized him.

Notice with me in verse 30 that says the other dimension of how he had been outmatched: Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him.

There are different figures for what a legion is. It is a minimum, it seems to be, in Roman terms that a legion was 1,000. But it could also be several thousand; it could be as much as 10,000. But legion, all of this -- what we can know from the story in Luke eight is that he had many demons. Overwhelmed, and he had been seized over and over and over again.

I just wonder, how many of us can step into that pattern? Seized over and over again by perhaps sexual addiction or lust? Over and over again going back to the same pattern: Substance abuse, anger and rage.

You know what God put on my heart today while I was preparing? I want so much for him when it blesses him and when it would bless somebody to get as specific as possible and speak a word to somebody that knows God is aware of your situation and sees. I felt like God placed upon my heart that there are people that are watching and people that are participating that have just been seized over and over again by rage and anger. And that you act out in that at times to where perhaps a child or perhaps toward a spouse or somebody just raging at what may very well be a loved one -- someone you love! The enemy is getting his way in that rage and in that anger.

I want to say to you, there is a savior who can set you free because that's not of God -- that's not his way -- that is not his way. I just implore you to see, as we look at that side of that where people are caught in something that seizes them again and again. I have so much compassion for that. I have been there. I have been seized even by addiction. But God through Christ sets us free out of what has seized us over and over again.

End of clip

In the studio

James: God bless you, Beth. You are so honest. I think if we all get honest we will have to admit too often the enemy has got his foot on us so to speak. He's got us in a yoke of

oppression, defeat, deception, some kind of a bondage, and the Lord wants to lift that, he wants to break the yoke.

You and I, Betty, as believers, as well as our viewers have an opportunity to lift off of people an unbearable load. Oftentimes, it's been placed there by the unkindness of others, by difficult circumstances, by famine or drought. In some instances, all of it combined.

I want you to look in on a scene and oh, how I pray that rather than turn away from something that looks stressful or perhaps heart wrenching, that you would look in and say, I wonder if there is a way that we could alleviate that situation and in this instance there is. And we, all of us together, we're the source, we're the solution together.

Watch and listen not only to what is said and what you see but what you hear from God in your heart as you look. Watch closely.

Open captions:

>> The fighting was coming here. My husband was killed by the rebels. They took our cow and our food. As we fled my child died of hunger.

>> She is holding out her two month old, a newborn little boy. We're just praying that God will bless them with a much more beautiful future.

Announcer: As our teams prepare to return with stories like these, they often only have a prayer of comfort to offer those who are hurting. But with your help we can provide food to Elizabeth's child and the thousands of other mothers whose children so desperately need our help.

End of clip

In the studio

James: This is the last week that we are coming to you and asking for help. Betty, when you see that mother and you see that situation, what goes in your heart? What are you thinking?

Betty: To watch that mother with such heartache and such devastation, already losing her husband to war and all their livelihood being taken away from them, and now she is facing the possibility of losing what children, family she has left because they don't have any food. Everything is gone. It breaks my heart, James! Except for the fact that I know we can help her, we can make the difference. We can offer hope to her through the feeding program and let her

know that somebody is watching -- God is -- and somebody is caring -- we are! So please join with us.

James: If you could only understand the character of these precious people that have been hurt in so many ways because of warring factions for many, many reasons that are indescribably horrible. If you only knew what she is longing for -- would you just give me a chance and give our family and others a chance so that we can have a future. A future what? To live! But also to go back to work. These are not lazy people. And we're able to not only get them on their feet when we do it together but to teach them how to grow crops effectively. We have actually taught many of these people in these incredibly foreign village rural areas how to irrigate; whether they do it by bringing water by hand and putting it on a small little garden or whether they actually begin to learn how to move water. They are so teachable if you can just get them healthy.

And if we get them through these crises we'll watch miracles occur where we not only see lives saved but we see people come to Christ. We know we've saved 11 million lives from death by these feeding programs but we've won to Christ far more than that in the same areas because they've seen the love of God.

So what we're asking you to do as we reached the 25,000 in the Sudan area right now that are under horrific attack right now from famine but also from war, if we can reach them and the 400,000 other children and their families that we have located and we've organized to feed them, if we can do that -- and we can -- we're going to see lives changed, not only now but forever.

What we're asking you to do and this is a miracle, \$30, \$50, or \$100 will feed three, five, or ten children for the next months. But we've got a wonderful group of friends who said, "We so believe in this that we will match whatever you give." We've got a \$400,000 matching gift. Almost a dollar for each person given right now to double what you give. Here in this last week, would you dial that number? Or would you go to LifeToday.org -- go online -- and make that gift? Take your bankcard, use it like a check and make the best gift you can. If you can give \$100, not ten fed now, 20; \$50 would now be 10, not 5; for \$30 it will be six rather than three -- it will be doubled. You may even be able to do more than that. Thank you for what you're doing.

Know this -- you're giving the greatest gift, you're giving life because of the love that God put in your heart for the precious people Jesus gave his life for. Would you right now help us share life, as well as the source of that love and that life? Because that's what the missionaries do. Thank you for going online. Thank you for calling. If you get a busy, be determined to get through. We've got some very special gifts to give you to bless you in your spiritual walk, but

we're going to be changing the lives of these precious people and I know you want to do it. I want to thank you right now for your response. Thank you for your gift.

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.

As an answer to prayer, a group of *LIFE's* friends have set a \$400,000 matching gift challenge for Mission Feeding. This means your gift today can have a double impact! \$30 to help feed three children will be doubled to impact six children. \$50 to help feed five children will be doubled to help save 10 children. \$100 for ten children will be doubled to help feed 20 children. And \$300 for 30 children will be doubled to help feed and minister to 60 children.

With your gift, we'll send you *Heirs to the Kingdom*, four powerful messages on audio CD or USB flash drive. You'll also receive the award-winning book, *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made*.

With your double-impact gift of \$100 or more to help feed twenty children please request *The Story*, a running narrative Bible to help you engage with God's word more easily.

And finally, please consider a double-impact gift of \$1,000 and request this beautifully framed canvas print of the "Forest Chapel" by the Painter of Light TM, Thomas Kinkade.

This is the last week! Please call, write, or make your gift online.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Well, I'm anxious to send you *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made* and *Heirs to the Kingdom* to understand the riches of being a child of God, what it means to know God as father, even if you've not had a father or the best father, you can have the ultimate father. Incredible teaching. The beautiful Bible, *The Story*, will be a blessing to you. Thank you so much for helping us feed those precious, precious children and their families. And thank you for being with us. God bless all of you.