

10/09/15
Week 41: Rescue life
Mission special #1

James: Welcome to *LIFE Today*. I'm James Robison; this is Betty.

I want to just try to get your attention right now in such a way that you might actually recognize that you're about to receive a blessing in your life that's hard to imagine, because you're going to see what the power of a loving God and a heavenly Father can do to restore damage. And in that restoration process, that miraculous process, actually give such a beautiful expression of the love of God that it is transforming in its effect.

Betty, whenever I'm speaking to our audience, and I know you communicate it too, that if we want to be blessed seek to be a blessing. Our pastor, Robert Morris has taught so much on the blessed life. He's been one of the most powerful voices emphasizing the importance of giving or sharing, to give, to share not to get -- not thinking about ourselves.

One the most powerful sentences in the best-selling book of all time, non-fiction book apart from the Bible was written by Rick Warren and it was Purpose Driven Life. One of the most powerful sentences very early in the book is, "It is not about me -- it is not about you." Once we learn that it's amazing what happens.

Now we're going to show you a very young girl, 10 years old who actually came here to just visit from Georgia and what God had done in her life was so miraculous. We talk about rescuing people from starvation, from waterborne illnesses. We rescue people from bondage and sex trafficking -- little children.

This precious girl right here in the states was abused. Well, what happened to that broken heart? What happened to her damaged heart? What did it take to heal it? And what was the affect of that healing, and what about also hearing it from a grandmother's point of view, Mimi? Why don't you watch, listen, and see if it doesn't make a very positive and a profound impact on your own life.

Begin video clip

>> There is so much bad stuff happening in the world today and so I'm like, well, why don't we try to just stop some of it by helping little by little?

>> Well, she's been through trauma herself. She suffered some abuse as a toddler and she's always wanted to help other people since then. We knew things were not right in her living situation and I used to cry a lot and pray for her.

And she was laying beside me one night and she started crying. I just reached over and touched her, and she stopped crying instantly. I prayed silently, Lord, I just wish you could just reach down and touch me so I wouldn't be afraid either. I'm sorry.

She sat straight up in the bed from a sound sleep and said, "Mimi, don't be afraid." And laid right back down and was asleep.

I thought, God, that's you. I hear you. I thank you, Lord. He eventually delivered her to us. She's in a safe place now.

>> It kind of made me want to do something to help other people too, and to tell them that God actually can do miracles and change lives and stuff. So then Mimi, she saw the video of girls being sold for human trafficking and it kind of touched my heart a little bit, so it made me want to help that.

>> When she saw the girls who were also suffering abuse, then that -- she just made a connection there. She's just that kind of girl. When she wants to help other people she sort of stands up for kids that are being mistreated at school.

>> We're also getting donations from churches, and I go speak at them.

>> Riley said, "Well, my first goal is \$1,280."

I was like, "What?"

But it came quickly -- it came quickly with people giving donations and selling the donuts, was a great fundraiser. I just knew God's hand was on it when it was so easy. We thought, why doesn't everybody do this?

>> And then I got three standing ovations. I'm like, "You guys are just making me feel at home." It just touched my heart how much money that everybody gave just because I spoke.

>> It is just such a blessing to have her full of the Spirit of God and in our lives because she prays for us a lot of times and helps us and encourages us. It's wonderful!

>> God can fix this. He has leaded you through the hard times. He already got you here. He can get you through the rest of the way to freedom -- to living a good life.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Riley, I hope you're watching. I just want to tell you, honey, you are so beautiful. Betty, it is hard to imagine that precious girl, when she was just very small was abused. When you see the love that's in her heart and the sincere desire to help others, then you understand the miracle of the healing and restoring power of God.

Betty: James, it's evident that God was protecting this little girl's heart because she could have been greatly damaged for the rest of her life, physically and spiritually because of what happened and took place with her.

Thank you, Mimi for loving her and bringing her to a place where her heart is healed. I'm a Mimi too and it would break my heart to know that one of my grandchildren were going through something like that. I just want to hold them and put my arms around them as it is evident that you are doing that.

But just to know that this precious girl's heart has been healed and now she wants other young children to know that their hearts can be healed and that they're not alone; and there is a safe place for them if we, James, and others like us, will reach out and hear the heart of this young girl that has been so changed because somebody cared.

James: You know Mimi was reaching out to comfort her. I know longing and praying for the healing and yet she looked up and she comforted her own Mimi and said, "Don't be afraid." The little girl released the healing power of God's love.

Betty, she raised enough money to take care of 10 girls or children that are trafficked. If you watch *LIFE Today* or you know what we do, not only in trying to give people fresh clean water and food if they're hungry, and reaching out to children who don't have a home, then you understand the importance of all of us working together to share the love of God.

If you watch, you know we try to free children and women from sexual trafficking and bondage and see their heart healed. It costs an average of \$128 a year to take care of these that we're

rescuing. This precious little ten-year-old girl, for the healer Jesus, Rapha, for the healing Christ, she raised \$1280 from her friends and those at church to rescue and take care of ten who had been trafficked. So it's a real miracle. I think when you watch that you had to notice the power of God's love not only to heal her but then for that love to be released in behalf of others who have been hurt.

So here's the inspiration we get from one who's been hurt, found healing. It's an illustration of what we're trying to do in *Rescue Life* when we rescue and restore those who have been damaged so deeply. You can see the healing to where they become a new person. Only God's love can do that. These have been so damaged.

By the way, you need to always pray for those who are using these children because they too are in bondage and they need those shackles broken off and you pray to that end. But we can set these precious children free. Here's something that's happened and I know some of you are already thinking, look, maybe I can help 10 children with a \$1280 gift. Well, if you can, do it; or \$128 and at least help one that way.

But let me tell you the miracle that's happened. We've got an opportunity right now to build a rescue center, a safe house where we can actually get the girls and the children out and move them to a place that they can't come get them back, and then where we can give them a whole future. This has become a very important outreach, this safe house. It is in addition to all the other things we've been doing to rescue children before the predators get them and take them into that bondage. This now is a way of total escape and healing.

But this safe house is over \$1.25 million and we're going to, by the grace of God, build that safe house. One family has given -- think about this miracle -- one family has given \$820,000 toward it, which means we only need, to finish that safe house, \$410,000. They said, "We believe that we want others to join with us so we're asking for this" and I'm asking you.

Here's what I want you to look at right now because already I think you're saying, "I'm going to do it." I believe you want to do it. You want to be part of the healing process. You want to release the love of God that transforms. I want you to look at the situation though. I want you to look in right now and remember the girls you see, you can rescue just like Riley did. You can share God's heart. You can share his love.

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: Now we can, and this is in no way an exaggeration, we can rescue many of the girls in that situation but we need to complete the safe house.

Those of you who watch *LIFE Today* and

I have to think in a moment like this, Betty, if someone is sitting at home or wherever they might be watching, and you're still focused, there is a greater power that has gained your attention than two people talking or images. I believe it is the power of God and the desire of Father God to transform and change lives, to literally set captives free. In the great announcement Jesus said that "I've come to bind up the brokenhearted." Those girls are brokenhearted. Everybody that knows them are brokenhearted.

But he also said, "I came to set the captives free." He uses love to break the shackles and he uses people filled with love to make it possible. If the church and people who trust Christ and people who know him are actually the body of Christ as a body of people, of believers, and that means together we express what Christ desires to express. We release the love and the life and the transforming power and the freedom that Christ offers. These people are trapped.

The tragedy of the men that are using them, they're trapped. I pray to God for their freedom because so many of us are in bondage and defeat in some area and God wants to set us free. And we need to love one another and help each other walk through our struggles and our battles. And in the clearest, purest sense of the word, that's what we're doing when we build this center.

So, Betty, for a family to give two thirds of the cost -- thank God for a family that's been blessed like that. And don't resent people who have wherewithal or means or even the freedom

that gives people the opportunity to have that because that gives everybody a chance to advance but pray that greed and self-seeking or envy or covetousness would not possess people's lives. But here's a family that's been blessed and they say, "We want to give \$820,000 to build that safe house. We know what the cost is and we believe others will join with us." I do too.

Betty, it is not often that you can make a gift that triples in its impact. For instance, \$1200 would now be \$3600 in the impact and it will be multiplied. You take a \$40 gift and it immediately has a \$120 impact.

So if everyone who is watching would just have that spirit of love that this precious little girl who had been restored from abuse as a child, and see that sweet spirit, if we would just do what she's inspiring us to do, Betty, we would be able to rescue the girls that we saw in that situation. I honestly believe that God is going to make it happen because I believe people have his love and they're looking for a way to express it effectively.

Betty: I do too! And whatever God lays on your heart, whatever gift he prompts you to give, it's very, very important. It may not be as big as what's already been given but it's very important to complete the building of this safe haven that they so desperately need. When I was just listening as you were, I heard them say they feel forgotten, they feel lonely. I want to take that away from them. I want them to know that they are not forgotten. They are not alone and there is hope. They have a way out if we will offer it to them, and be there for them and bring them out of that danger that they live in continuously -- threat of death and all of the abuse that goes on. Please help us do this!

James: I think you're asking right now, Betty, and you just really, I feel like driven the point home. Because I feel like you're saying, "Okay; what do I do?"

You can go to LifeToday.org online and take your bankcard and use it like a check and make the gift God puts on your heart. Or you can dial the phone number and take that bankcard, use it as a check, but let us know what you want to give. I'm asking you to let the spirit of the living God and the spirit of his love lead you. It may be a sacrificial gift. It may be a challenge. But you're going to do it in joy, whatever it is.

Ask God. Remember this -- it will be multiplied three times. A gift of \$40 immediately has a \$120 impact. Think about that: \$80, a \$240 impact. I'm asking you right now go online, go to the phone.

Father, put in our heart the spirit of love we saw in this beautiful little ten-year-old girl and let us build a safe haven where your arms of love will reach out around so many who have been devastated; in Jesus' name.

Thank you for going to LifeToday.org or dialing the number. We will be sending you Sarah Young's Peace in His Presence. This is what we're offering in the safe haven; favorite quotations from *Jesus Calling*, the most beautiful illustrated book I think I've ever seen. And it will inspire you and bless you.

The Thomas Kinkade beautiful painting is there to also say thank you to those you're able to give a gift of \$1200 or more. Whatever you can do, please make that gift. Share and express the love of God.

Begin video clip

Announcer: Innocent children created to be happy, loved and cared for are being abducted and sold at the hands of violent predators; their spirit and bodies broken under horrific, emotional, and physical abuse.

Our dream is to build a unique child rescue center in Southeast Asia, a safe haven 100% dedicated to rescuing young victims from sex traders and helping them begin the recovery from the abuse they have suffered. This dream of a new rescue center can soon become a reality with your support, combined with a promised \$820,000 matching gift. All we have to do is raise an additional \$410,000 to begin construction. That means your gift today will be matched two-to-one having a triple impact! Gifts of \$20 will be tripled to \$60! \$40 will be tripled to \$120! \$80 will be tripled to \$240! And generous gifts of \$1200 will be tripled to \$3600 to help us rescue children from sexual slavery.

With your gift of any amount we'll send you Sarah Young's newest book, Peace in his Presence; favorite quotations from Jesus Calling.

Also, please consider a gift of \$1200 to help us build the child rescue center and you may request this beautifully framed canvas print of the "Forest Chapel."

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

End of clip

Begin video clip

Announcer: The fact that children and young women are being kidnapped and held captive is intolerable. But what happens next to these innocent victims is unthinkable.

>> I would scream and cry and say I didn't want to do that work. But the lady would beat me with a big stick. I still have the scars on my arm from her beatings.

One girl that was in there with me had her throat slit; another had her breasts cut off. After seeing all that torture, I was terrified I would get murdered too. So I did the work they forced me to do.

Announcer: Anjolie's story ended well because she was rescued from her captors and she has started the healing process. But there are thousands of other victims and children at risk who are not so fortunate. They are still waiting to be rescued.

>> I prayed that before more girls die in there we can get them out so they can have hope and a new life like me.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Thank you, Lord. Anjolie, Betty was rescued and that's what we want for so many others.

Betty: Such a blessing, yes, that we were able to get Anjolie free and to a safe place. That's what we want to do for all these precious children that didn't choose to be there, by any means, but they were taken there, taken captive and they're so abused and mistreated. Please join with us and help us rescue the perishing.

James: It's only love that breaks the shackles of bondage, the power of love. It is love that restores and gives hope.

Imagine the mission workers that have been there, the ones we're working with have been there now, many of them, for more than ten years, in the midst of pain and suffering but the love of God so controls their life that they just spend it like a mighty river bringing forth life. You make it possible.

You know the missionaries say over and over, "It is because of the love of God shared through the viewers of *LIFE Today* that we're able to stay in this and see people set free. And then have a place to take care of them and the support to do it." That's the miracle of love. We can't all be there in person. We may not be called or gifted to do it but they are. But we're the ones that make it possible for them to accomplish what God sent them there to do as missionaries to rescue the perishing and truly care for the dying, to set people free from the bondage they're in.

Would you please right now make that gift God put on your heart? And then begin to pray that God will meet every challenge and every need and we will see these precious girls rescued and set free from sexual bondage and trafficking. Thank you so much for going to LifeToday.org or dialing that number and making the gift God puts on your heart. Thank you so much for doing it!

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End of clip

On the mission field

>> So this is my first time in Southeast Asia and my very first opportunity to come face to face with the victims of sex trafficking here. The girls that I met in the brothel really expressed so much a feeling of being trapped, feeling hopeless, feeling like there was no way out for them. I can just imagine how hopeless that felt.

I even asked one of them what help looked like. What would it look like to be helped out of the situation? And she couldn't even come up with an answer because to her, there was no help, there was no option.

The body of Christ could totally change the world when it comes to modern day slavery. But we have to be willing to let our hearts be broken for these girls.

End of clip

In the studio

James: I'm telling you, I'm believing God for this miracle. I have the design here in my hands and you can see it there graphically on the screen. This just -- you talk about looking like paradise to people who have been in bondage, a safe haven.

You know what the most powerful thing is going to be? Not the place but the people who are filled with the love of God -- just like the little girl Riley and her grandmother. And just like the mission workers, they're going to see it and you make it possible.

Thank you for your gift. We're going to be sending you some gifts that will bless you as an expression of thanks and love.

And from the bottom of our heart, Betty and I both say thank you so much.