

11/26/15
Week 48: Fall Mission Feeding
Louie Giglio and Korie Robertson

James: Well, you look like you're a real happy audience and hopefully you are and hopefully you're grateful. I'm James Robison. Betty and I welcome you to *LIFE Today*. We are grateful! We give thanks to God for all that he's done. You know if you don't see God in everything you won't see him in anything. I go out and I behold the glory of God. It is just amazing -- all that he does! And heaven and earth declares his glory and it speaks to me.

I'm telling you what, trees talk to me. You know what they say? They say, "We're extending our leaves to the light, following the light. And we go deeply rooted to draw the water and nourishment that we need." And as Christians, we should be saying we're following the light, we're extending not only our hands but our hearts and our minds and our lives to the light so that that light doesn't merely radiate but absolutely becomes a release of the glory of God. And we follow his leadership and we get rooted and grounded in love so that we'll be fruitful.

Well, we have some wonderful guests on this incredible occasion to give thanks. Louie Giglio, who has inspired not only the Passion church in the Atlanta area but Passion Ministry Outreach, which touches college age students by the tens of thousands in incredible gatherings. And then the Duck Dynasty family, the Robertsons have just shown us some reality TV that makes sense. It's not like you look and say how on earth? What is going on there? What is happening? Is this a different reality? They seem like the last real things on the planet. But the Robertsons not only seem real, they seem like they're real in a way that's refreshing and wholesome.

Well, Korie is here, Willie's wife, mother of those five children and one of the family members of the Robertsons. Korie is here. Would you welcome Louie and Korie to *LIFE Today*?

I want you to know I'm thrilled to share this time with you because I'm grateful for both of you. I'm grateful for your family, your testimony.

Louie, man, I just love you. You're cool. I don't know how old you are but you've got gray hair and all this. You talk to kids and they like you. It's like you communicate with them. What's going on here? How do you do that?

Louie: This is a mystery. I don't know. I am old -- I am old but I have a young heart. Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever. So if he's the message, then I think you can talk to anybody anywhere any time.

James: Well, you're doing a great job. I've had my Bible open here because I want to read you a passage of the last days. People say, we're living in the last days.

Well, Paul said he was too. But here's what he says in this passage in light of this day of Thanksgiving. Get this: In the last days perilous times come. However long that is, whenever that is. Men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, they'll be boastful, arrogant, revelers, disobedient to parents.

Boy, you've been a great example trying to show people how kids need to learn to obey. Willie has done a good job. All of you have done a good job. I know sometimes it is touchy. In your book that you've got, which I hope everybody will get, you talk about how sometimes these kids can try your patience. Well, you're talking to them about character development and it's great.

Here's the word I want you to notice -- ungrateful. No gratitude. We go all over the world on the mission field. Every one that ever goes say people in America and the advanced countries, the civilized countries, in Canada, in much of Europe, they don't know how fortunate we are.

Louie, you work with college students, university students, you're a master at inspiring them to look at the master. You sense a spirit of ungratitude and ingratitude pervading in too much of our country right now?

Louie: Well, I think I do. But as you read that passage, James, the thing that was convicting to me is that I've been all of those things. I think we all have on some level done all those things.

The message of Passion and the message of my life and your life and our lives is Jesus. The central thing that Jesus did was give his life for us when we were dead. So thanks be to God that our story is we're not dead. Sin doesn't make us bad people, it makes us dead people. Jesus didn't come to make us better people, he came to bring us to life again. So when you wake up and you look at the cross; if you can just get your eyes off yourself for a minute, which is very difficult in this world. We're staring at our phones, staring at our Instagrams, staring at ourselves, basically all the time.

James: And a lot of people selfies.

Louie: If we can get our eyes off ourselves for one instant and look back at what Jesus has done for us, gratitude is born at the foot of the cross. Because the story there is I'm not dead anymore. I don't know what else is going on in my life today but what a gift to have the gift of life!

James: And I see these young people in these conferences that you're blessed to host praising God from the highest in a holy harmony that is a heavenly sound. I believe when we're talking about Thanksgiving and gratitude, we have so much to be grateful for. And the spirit of ingratitude is like a deadly cancer; it can destroy a nation. May God show us all those things for which to give him praise.

Korie, you know that you pointed out when you were talking to us earlier this week and in your book that you and Willie came from two different worlds, and yet you came into a world that was centered in Christ, and your family has been blessed. I sense that all that has happened has not captured your heart because God already captured your heart. I feel like you've got a real sense of gratitude for what you're watching God do and you want other people to see it. Am I right about that?

Korie: Absolutely. I think the prayer at the end of the show is just us sitting down and saying thank you to God and being grateful for what we have and acknowledging him. And that was the thing that made the impact about our show. It is not that we're so great and so funny and we have beards or whatever. But that prayer at the end, I think, is what I've seen an impact in that. We've actually had kids who -- we've had people write us and tell us that their kids have a Duck Dynasty club at school where they say a prayer around the lunch table. Things like that. It's really just about gratitude and being grateful and giving it to God.

James: I think it is a tremendous inspiration. I think, Betty, that's probably one of the things that moved you and touched you as much as anything when you started watching the show.

Betty: Yeah! Absolutely. I think it's just being still and knowing that He is God, and saying, "God, thank you for being in the center of my life when sometimes my heart is hurting, my heart is so heavy, and I feel alone. I know I can call on you and I'm grateful that you're there before I get it out of my mouth." So just being aware of his presence.

James: There are so many people with a broken heart. One of the things that we experienced with the loss of our daughter was I had preached freedom, that Christ came to set captives free, but I had kind of overlooked that first phrase in Isaiah that he came to bind up the brokenhearted. But you know when your heart is broken, you suddenly realize how essential -- and because you talk about it in your book so clearly, and this book on *The Comeback*, you had a shattered heart. You had a broken heart that carried over into where it was like you said a basically mental or what some would call a nervous breakdown to where you had to have a comeback. You had to find out, as you said in the subheading, it is not too late and you're never too far because you were wondering. And yet you were able to reach up and find that here's a God who would bind up and heal your broken heart.

We realize right now, there are many of you as you -- this has been a tough time for us. Betty has said, you get around the holidays and boy, we really notice Robin is not there because she was the greatest party giver. She wanted everybody to come, the church to come, everybody, because she just loved to bless people. And when you feel that hurt from loss, you really need somebody to heal your broken heart. And you found that and I feel like you're offering that right now in your book. Is that not one of the desires of your heart?

Louie: Absolutely. We're talking about Thanksgiving and Shelly, my wife's family lives in Texas. Three Thanksgivings ago we arrived at our family ranch here to a diagnosis that her dad has incurable cancer. And at the onset of it was so rapid that when we arrived at the farm that night, that Thanksgiving holiday, we were just -- we didn't say it out loud but we were looking at each other like, this is like now.

I think that for every family that is watching right now that's going through Thanksgiving and into Christmas with cancer, it's a different journey, it's a different road, it's a different walk. Praise God we're about to celebrate Thanksgiving as a family and her dad is with us. We're still in the fight of that and he really has a resolve and a faith in God. But nothing is for sure in our lives. So every day we say to God again, "Thank you for this day." Isn't that The Lord's Prayer? Give us this day our daily needs. The Psalmist said: Teach us to count our days are right that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Help us to remember that this is what we have so let's live it, let's cherish it, let's use it for the glory of God.

Then when the dark day comes, let's trust. Let's trust that that same Jesus who stretched his arms out for us, that same Jesus who bled and gave his life for us, who loved us in that day, that he still loves us in this day. That somehow he's still working to accomplish his best.

James: Thank you for that. I praise God for the healing and the restoration of your heart and your mind because it is beautiful to watch and to see the glory of God.

Korie, your family was blessed as a family. Now it's monetarily been blessed. You already had a really good business, it's become like a dynasty, it's all part of -- the funny part of the opening of the show. This is a really happy dynasty. It's not like some of these J.R. Texas/Dallas types that we've had over the years.

But when you see the children being exposed to so much of what the world would call "monetary/material" blessings, is there anything you do to try to instill a sense of gratitude or do you just see it in your kids? Do they have enough of an awareness of God to realize that really, it came from God? It's not look what we have done, but look at the blessings of God and we're blessed. How do you reconcile those challenges of the material and the monetary with the

gratitude that is so important?

Korie: Well, we have talked about that from the very beginning. We recognize that this is not about us. Whatever success or fame or anything that comes through this television show or whatever we do here on this earth, it is not about us, it is about God and about what he is working and how he is working through us. So that's the most important thing to our family.

But we're talking about young people today and the attitude of gratitude and all that. And having young people, our kids are right there at that age, college age and high school and a little bit beyond, and I do see an uprising in young people. They want -- they are grasping for something bigger than them. They want to know, like what can we do to make a difference in this world because our world is so much bigger now and broader and we know so much more. Used to we could live in our small little world and feel like, everything is okay in my world so I'm good, but we can't do that anymore. And I think that's what I'm thankful about for entertainment and social media and the way that the world has broadened.

We were in Haiti last week and we can go and we can be there and we can see it and we can know. We can't sit back and not do anything about this. If God told us to love our neighbor we have to actually do that. What does that look like? I think young people today are really searching for that. Hopefully, they'll use that and they'll actually live it. Not just talk about it but they'll do it. And they might use social media and they might use things that we would never even dream of using to do those things to actually change the world and actually live out Christ's message and how he asks us to live on this earth.

James: I think you're doing it and inspiring us to do it. The young people, the college students, a lot of times are considered a more difficult group to communicate with. When I look at them at Passion and look at them in all the clips I've seen what goes on there, it looks like the glory of God fills the house because the glory of God is filling these young people.

Is there that heart hunger for more of who he is and less of who we've pretended to be or attempted to be? Do you see that?

Louie: There is a real deep desire in this generation to experience the power of God. The things we read about. People don't want church as usual. They don't want business as usual. People are way past that. They've been broken, disappointed, walked out on. Their hearts have been trampled and crushed and they want to know is Jesus really as powerful as we've said and sung that he is? And is the power of the spirit really available to me to transform my life? And like Korie said, they want to be in the story. They want to be a part of restoration in the whole world.

James: You've inspired them. They've been inspired by the power of God. You're inspiring them.

Would you say thanks to this incredible pair of witnesses for Christ who have really and truly been a blessing?

Let me just communicate with you for a moment. Here's what I'd like you to hear. A lot of times we talk about how blessed we are. We talk about Passion, we talk about your family, our family, 11 grandchildren; they actually love each other. Our family is just amazing. Not that we haven't had heartache, we've already told you about some of that. But the thing about it is we have so much joy.

Betty and I have been married 52 years -- soon to be 53. And we like each other. We love each other. We have fun together. You know what? When I say that, I feel coming back a lot of people saying, "I wish I could say that. I sure wish I could say it." And I hear so many people who can't comment on their children or their grandchildren without it being a story of a broken heart.

Let me just say this to you, please. Our hope is in the Lord. Our help is in him. Don't ever give up. Let's agree right now and lift those family members or lift that relationship or whatever challenge it is up to the Lord. I want to pray for you.

Father, we're so grateful that you hear our prayer and our heart cry and you care. And you tell us that you will hold us, you will even prepare a table before enemies around us in the midst of pressure; you will lead us beside still waters. You will be the shepherd and there will be peace even in the valley of the shadow.

Father, I pray that for viewers today who have found it difficult perhaps to express gratitude because they hurt. I'm asking you to heal the hurt and heal their heart. Heal relationships. Transform and change children, grandchildren, family members.

Lord, heal our nation and give us some leadership that really trusts you because they know you are trustworthy; in Jesus' name.

I want to thank you for sharing this time with us. Express gratitude to God for all the truth that you hear. And we've been a blessed nation. You know how often our leaders say, "God bless America"? I find myself saying, "Let's add another phrase, may America bless God." It's time for us to bless God.

[Applause]

And we bless God by blessing others. It is more blessed to give than receive. Giving and blessing others is receiving. We don't give to get, we give to give. Because we're blessed we bless. I want you to look in and I told you we know what a broken heart feels like. I want you to see the glory of God in one of our grandchildren and you can see it in all of them, we believe, but this is the son, the oldest son of our daughter that we lost now approaching three years. I want you to see the glory.

Here's what I want you to do. I want you to be an answer to prayer. Be an answer to his prayer, be an answer to the Lord's prayer. You can be. Watch.

On the mission field

James: Wait a minute! I can't get them to stop pressing in on us so I can even get to the soup. These people are hungry! I mean the absolute desperation -- I can't even feed them.

Announcer: Unfortunately, too many children know what happens when the food runs out. They know it will quickly become a desperate situation where they are fighting to survive. Children and their parents end up scavenging for anything to eat to fight off their gnawing hunger pains. Sometimes the children will even eat things that aren't even considered food just to try and feel better.

Bruce: I'm sitting here with this little boy and when I came in I noticed he was sitting here and he's eating dirt. He's trying to fill his little stomach and he's trying to take that hunger away. It won't. I've never seen a child eat dirt.

Announcer: The impact of this type of food crisis is particularly devastating to the youngest victims. Once the effects of severe malnutrition set in desperate parents will try and walk for miles to get help in a clinic.

Chris: This is why we need your continued support for mission feeding because we do know she's been here about a week now and if you can imagine she's gotten better, she's improved. So if you can imagine a condition worse than this. Dear heavenly Father, Lord, I pray over this little girl. I ask that you heal her, in the name of Jesus. I ask that we help all these kids; in Jesus' name.

End of clip

In the studio

James: That little baby has never left Chris' heart, and all the other things when he said, "I will

never be the same." And to hear his dad say over and over, "Our son has just been so impacted" and he has.

Betty, how do you feel when you see the love and heart of Jesus that our daughter also had so beautifully, and you watch that need that can be met by love, and see how Chris is responding to it?

Betty: So grateful as a mom and as a grandmother that we see our grandson loving children, loving Jesus. That's what God wants for all of us. He wants his love to be expressed through us by caring and seeing the need and reaching out and saying, "We'll help. We'll make the difference. We'll help that mother save the life of her little child that she loves so dearly." So I hope you will join with us because you know Jesus and you know the love of Jesus. Express that love. Join with us!

James: Chris is expressing not only a prayer to Jesus but the heart of Jesus with that baby, "Suffer the little ones to come unto me and forbid them not. And of such is the kingdom of heaven. When you did it to the least of them, you did it to me,"

Jesus said. How many of you would have wanted to give him a drink of water when he said, "I'm thirsty" on the cross. Wouldn't you have loved to alleviate the pain that he suffered for you? Well, Jesus says, "If you'll touch those little children with my hands of love and compassion," you saw how desperate they were to get the food.

Betty, so many times we ran out of food and we'd watch little children crawl down in the barrels and scrape the edge of those big old 55-gallon drums trying to get a little bit left to eat. It would sometimes fall on the ground and they would scoop it up and try to get the nourishment. There were thousands there where we were feeding. We saved thousands of lives. Those people, Betty, when they got on their feet, they began to care for thousands of other people because we taught them how to grow crops. It was amazing. They not only grew the crops, then they helped others; they didn't just feed their family. It's unbelievable what love can do.

Here's what I want to ask you to do. We've got 400,000 right now in need. Chris was seeing some of those that reach the most desperate point but he had also been out where they were doing the feeding and where we fill those little bowls and we turn them around and get them healthy so they don't end up in a malnutrition clinic. We're asking you to help us. We actually need right now something desperately. We need eight more ten-ton trucks; four-wheel-drive trucks to deliver the food. We've got to replace some and we've got to add some. We need over 70,000 more of those heat-resistant orange bowls. All of that is an expense, in addition to feeding the 400,000 that they've organized where we can feed them.

Now we've got to provide the food, and the ability for the missionaries and relief workers to stay there. Here's how it breaks down. \$30, \$50, \$100 enables us to feed three, five, or ten children. That single gift keeps giving for months.

Would you make a gift? Could you give \$1,000 or several thousand dollars toward those trucks? The bowls cost about a dollar apiece. Could you help us with that? At whatever level you can help, please do.

Father, I pray everyone would have the concern that our grandson had with that little baby. Make this little baby well -- take care of this little baby. There are so many of them like that. God help us to get them before they get to that condition and that state; in Jesus' name.

Would you reach out right now and touch someone with love? Would you go to LifeToday.org, take your bankcard, use it like a check? Make the best gift you can. Please do it. You're giving the greatest gift, you're giving life. Or you can dial the phone number there. It's a prayer line if people's hearts are broken or you need help. But right now it's also a help line. You dial that number. Take your bankcard, use it like a check, make the best gift you can. Please do it.

We have some gifts to send you to say thank you and to bless you. But the greatest blessing is blessing others. Please do it. Please give them life. Would you share life today right now? Go LifeToday.org or dial that number and respond as God leads. Thank you for doing it.

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 -- and those at greatest risk are the children.

Life's mission feeding program is there able to feed and care for over 400,000 children in crisis areas of Angola, Mozambique, and Sudan. With previous food reserves gone and malnutrition levels in Angola rising due to increased food scarcity, we desperately need to replenish our supplies for our feeding programs immediately. Your life-saving gift of \$30, \$50, or \$100 will help feed and care for three, five, or ten children for the next three months.

Also, please consider an additional gift toward our \$316,000 goal to provide eight all-wheel drive trucks and 76,000 new bowls for the children.

As our thank you we'll send you this soft-covered journal Bible featuring the gospels, Psalms, and Proverbs for your devotional time in the word. With your gift of \$100 or more to help feed

ten children please request the complete Holy Bible Journal edition perfect for keeping notes and insights as you read and study.

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 Thomas Kinkade.

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

End of clip

In the studio

James: Betty and I want to express sincere gratitude for being able to spend this time with you. And thank you for looking in on heartache and recognizing that there's healing for broken hearts and bodies and lives. And there is food that's nourishment.

Those gifts that we offer to send you, the Bible, the journal, it's to bless you. It's to help you find the spiritual food and nourishment that God so freely offers.

Korie's book, *Strong and Kind*; important character traits your children need to succeed in life.

Louie Giglio, *The Comeback*. This is an incredible very personal story of an incredible impact that so devastated him he wondered is there anything? And he found it. It's an incredible story. He's blessing many.

We will send you these books, both of them. You can get them in the bookstore or online. But you just help us see Chris' prayer answered, our grandson's, see those missionary's heart cry for the needy, and that mother praying and those others, would do you it? You want these books? We'll send them to say thanks.

Would you join Betty and me in saying thanks to Louie and Korie?

You all are a blessing. Give our regards to the Robertson family.

Have a great Thanksgiving! Your family, all those young people in your church!

Thanks for watching *LIFE Today*! Thanks for expressing gratitude by blessing others. Thanks for watching.