

2/10/16
Week 7 WFL: Last week
Wednesdays in the Word
Beth Moore: To Hunger and Thirst for God, #2

Randy: Do you ever wonder if there is more in life than what you have right now? Maybe you grew up in the church. Maybe you're a Christian but you're thinking there's more. You know what that is? That's a hunger and a thirst for more. That's what we're going to hear about today.

Sheila, glad to have you here.

Sheila: I'm glad to be here. Honestly, I do get that. Beth's teaching today is going to be really important because when you have that longing, I think what we're really longing for is for Christ. But sometimes we think it is -- we try and fill it up with other stuff and other stuff will never take the place of Christ himself.

Randy: Sometimes we hear that and we don't know what that exactly means. What does that mean to hunger and thirst for Christ? That's why I think Beth's teaching is so important. This is part two, I want to tell you if you missed part one you can go back and catch that on LifeToday.org. And be sure to set your D.V.R. so you don't miss any more of Beth or any of the shows. But let's go hear Beth Moore right now.

Begin video clip

Awaken Now Conference

Beth: No one in this room is in severe a drought than the one who cannot remember the last time you cried a tear for a broken world. That's drought. What if we got courage enough to go, "Bring back my tears for the lost. Bring back my tears for the captives, those imprisoned, those dying on planet earth. Bring back my passion for what you, Jesus, are passionate about."

As we cry out for a downpour and I'm going to tell you something, I believe it's coming. You know why? Because I believe the truth is we are thirsty. And if the only thing we have to do, James, as much as I understand, the only thing we have to do is just go, "I'm thirsty. I'm poor and needy, Lord and I'm just crying out. I'm just crying out."

He says if you do that, I'll pour it out on a thirsty land. But a land that says we're just like plenty wet here, you'd just scare us half to death. We don't want anything new, just as long as you do

what you've done before, we're good with it. But you know how we are here.

[Laughter]

Amen? I'm just tired of saying that to him. I'm going with him. You know what? I don't even know where we're going. Right here.

Not very recently -- I mean just very recently, rather, I just wrote a post just going, "I'm sick to death of telling him where I want it to go. I'm just going where God is going. I'm going where God is going. I'm going where God is going."

Well, the next morning I was putting on my mascara at my mirror and I set the mascara wand down on the counter and I just turned around and I said, "Where are we going?"

[Laughter]

"Because I want to go where you're going; if you could tell me where we're going." Because I don't know about you but I'm always -- faith is such a blast to me. I love the adventure of it but I always love it best in retrospect. Looking back I go, now that -- that was an exciting time! I loved that! There you're just kind of going... because suddenly it is not concrete, it is like water under your feet. Water! Water! So you don't know where you're going. We just want to go with you, Lord.

I believe that God placed it on my heart to tell you that as it comes, and it will if we'll own our thirst, it will, if we'll be willing to stop telling him what it has to look like, it's coming, it's coming. But we must be prepared in advance for scoffers. I will say that again. We must be prepared in advance for scoffers. I want you to look at one another and say, "Be prepared for scoffers."

[Audience repeats]

And here's the thing. The unbelieving world scoffing is not going to bother us that much. We're used to them thinking that we are idiots. Can we just own that one? We're used to it. Of course, they think that. We've got that one down. That's not what's going to bother us so much. What's going to bother us, and I believe God is saying, "Get prepared for it so you know in advance it is coming" so when it does happen you're not all disturbed and all rocked by it because it is going to come from some in our own Christian realm -- our own brothers and sisters.

We're going to have people that are honestly going to want to debate and argue with us about awakening and downpours. What do you want here? They're going to say, that's not the way it

should look. You know what, dude? I'm just asking you, are you thirsty? Are you hungry? I can't think of the way to the semantics to get it like you want it. But I will say to you, I'm just thirsty and I'm hungry.

But there will be scoffers and they will be the far bigger threat, the one within our own brothers and sisters, our own family of God -- far, far more demoralizing. And yes, it will come from bullies, and yes, it will come from the mean-spirited.

I want to tell you, I've learned so many things. I could have spent the whole evening on what I have learned from these two people but they have lived something. They have taught me something over and over again and I've watched them live it.

James says all the time, "You know what? When people hate you, just love them. Just love them. You just keep loving them. The more they hate you, you just keep loving them -- just keep loving them. Get it in your mind that they cannot make you stop loving them. You just love them all the more. They hate you, you love them! You love them!"

Blessed are you. Blessed are you. We've got to be ready. We've got to be ready.

What God began to show me is that it would not just come from the mean-spirited it will also come from people who are just genuinely concerned about us.

[Laughter]

Not mean about it. Just "Man, I hate to see that happen!"

[Laughter]

I'm so glad y'all are laughing. I wanted to be funny so bad today.

[Cheers & Applause]

Thank you! Thank you!

Because they're going to go, "Bless their hearts! They were really balanced for a while." What is balanced exactly? Because I'm not sure I've ever met anyone like fully -- on full throttle spirit effectiveness and abundance that I could walk away from and go, "Now that's a balanced person." Maybe! If you're here, I'll meet you afterwards.

[Laughter]

Well, just don't know where we're getting that, that that's the big goal. Let's all be balanced in Jesus' name. Let's all be balanced!

[Laughter]

They're going to feel sorry for us. They're going to say, "What a shame! What a shame!" In that early downpour of the New Testament church, Paul said in Second Corinthians 6:8: We are treated as imposters and yet are true. That's going to be us.

The scoffers, I believe that God put on my heart, please test the spirit, pray and see if this is confirmed to you in prayer and in the study of the word. I believe that he placed it on my heart that the scoffers will have an alternative answer for everything; an alternative for every single thing we see, there will be an alternative. They will not see it as the hand of God, an alternate answer.

Unity will be called defection. Brokenness will be called instability. Grace will be called compromise. And the genuinely prophetic will be called false teaching. You see if this does not happen. And because of those things, defection, instability, compromise, and false teaching, because those things will be simultaneously in effect, you and I, who are believing God for a vivid downpour of his spirit and recognize it as it comes, we will have to be taking the risk of being lumped in with the ones that really are defecting, unstable, compromising, and false.

And it will be hard for us because we don't want to be mixed-up with them. We will want to say over and over again, "No, ours is the true."

Listen, people are not convinced by us going, "No, we're really true here -- we're really true here." That does not work. They won't take it by our words.

We're going to have to risk being lumped into something not of the Holy Spirit to endure in that which is of the Holy Spirit, and this will be the hardest part, is that the weeds will be among the wheat. And just exactly as Jesus said in Matthew 13:24-30: To pull up all the weeds and cast them out would run the risk of pulling up the wheat. So you and I have got to be prepared to be mixed-up with the false as we're trying to be the true. And we're just going to want to say it over and over again, "No, this is really us." And it won't do any good because the only test will be -- please stay with me here -- the only test will be endurance. What endures -- what endures - - what endures!

You and I will have to be patient while the spirit is tested, while our trials are used by God -- please hear me when I say this -- to prove us genuine. At the same time with the greatest

outpouring of God on your entire life, you will simultaneously be entrusted with trials for the express purpose of proving us genuine.

[Applause]

I've watched my good friends for the last six months. I don't know people of more faith than them. I don't! I don't! I don't know anybody -- James will say this with me, I don't know anybody that prays like Betty. I don't! I don't. They knew God could perform a miracle with their daughter. They'd seen him do it. They'd seen him do it. They'd seen him do it. They know he is miraculous, they know he is able. God chose to bring about a different triumph. Now here we are and I couldn't help but think today, James and Betty, here we are after all that suffering. It's been hard.

You know, when I knew that their beloved daughter was dying, I just wept and wept and wept because I was with my daughter Melissa at the time and I'd been on the phone with them and I tell you, Betty and I were talking for a few minutes and we were weeping and I could hear her, James, weeping. I heard groanings.

I told my co-workers, I said, "I may never get that sound out of my ears." I tell you these people have suffered -- they've suffered. But I cannot help but think that this is part of what has been entrusted to them to be proved genuine in a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit. You have been proven genuine through what you have endured and it's broken our hearts to watch your brokenness. But you have remained steadfast before the Lord and you have been faithful. You have been faithful.

[Applause]

He, James Robison, he is going to bring that back to you in souls. He is going to bring that back to you in souls. He has heard your cry. You have asked him over and over to retain a fresh work -- to always return a fresh work to you and he is doing it. I saw it today. I know nothing going on right now on the cutting edge that was more powerful than what I watched this afternoon. I know nothing!

You and I are going to have to do it too. I don't know what it will look like. We need not be afraid because on this earth suffering is not just for those who are saved. This planet is hard to live on but we have to know that while we're seeing like wild, wild, wild things of God, that simultaneously, we will also be entrusted with trials that are proving us genuine. You wonder, why are you doing all this but this is not happening for me? Why am I going through this suffering? Well, to show that you are different from the weeds.

Flesh gets bored easy, the spirit endures. We'll know it is of the flesh if it lasts like ten minutes. Like we have a downpour tonight and we are dry tomorrow. Spirit endures. Flesh dries up like this. Whatever we do, we must not try to manufacture a downpour of the Holy Spirit. Whatever we do, we cannot speed God up. What scripture tells us to do is own our thirst. Say, "Our land is dry; our land is thirsty." We cannot help God make it happen. All we can do is cry out.

Anybody have one of those little noise makers where you can set it on any sound you want to? You can do it like a fan to sleep with? A lot of us who travel, travel with this. I've got one on my iPhone. I can play any kind of sound you can imagine. I can play a storm, wind, rain. I can play a heavy, heavy rain and I play it all night long, seven hours long, the sound of rain and I wake up every morning completely dry.

[Laughter]

We can't just go to our churches and make the sound of rain. We're going to make the sound of rain, we're going to manufacture... we're going to make the sound of rain. We're going to get a sound system; we're going to make the sound of rain. We will still leave dry -- we'll still leave dry because it cannot be manufactured. We can play the sound of rain all we want in our churches and never get wet.

Isaiah 45, verse 8: This is God speaking, I love this. This is God himself, the Lord. It says: The Lord said -- in the very first verse of 45 in one. So it is God talking and then he says in verse eight, "Shower O heavens from above and let the clouds rain down righteousness. Let the earth open that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit. Let the earth cause them both to sprout. I, the Lord have created it.

What is it we're going to do? We're going to ask God, "God, you speak to the heavens." Speak to the -- I love the way the N.E.T. Bible says it: O sky, rain down from above. Let the clouds send down showers of deliverance. Let the earth absorb it so salvation may grow and deliverance may sprout up along with it. I, the Lord created salvation and righteousness. Let the earth open.

I believe it is talking about an openness -- an openness. And as we cry out with our hunger and our thirst, I believe he says that the earth will be open, people will be open to salvation. So many more people are open to it than we think. They're having a hard time out there. People need Jesus! They need Jesus! Let's stop being ashamed to say, "I think I may know what you may need. Because I needed him myself, his name is Jesus.

End of clip

In the studio

Randy: We do need Jesus. Not just us, not just you, but people all around the world.

Sheila: One of the things that really touched me, Randy that what Beth said there is why would we ever be ashamed to speak of what we know because we know what people are longing for is Christ. I think we're living in days where it's time to stop kind of hiding. If you hear somebody talking and saying, my life is really not working. We know what they're looking for -- they're looking for Jesus.

Randy: I wrote something down recently for a book that I'm working on because it occurred to me. Someone who doesn't wear their religion on their sleeve is like a man who doesn't wear his wedding ring. Right?

Sheila: Ooh! Yeah.

Randy: We do need Christ and we need to be able to let our light shine. That's why I'm excited about what we're doing all around the world. For years, I think it's like 17-18 years now we've been drilling water wells around the world and we do it -- yes, we do it because people need clean drinking water because people are thirsty and frankly, too many people are dying because they don't have it but our motivation is not just humanitarian, though it is humanitarian, our motivation is to share Christ because people need more than just that single drink of water. They need that drink from that well that will never leave them thirsty again.

I want you to take a look at this and see how you can become a part of something very important in sharing that love and life of Christ. Watch this.

On the mission field

James: If you were thirsty in Africa or in many of the remote parts of the world, you'd walk up to a stream like this and say, "Oh, I've got great water!" Well, what you don't realize is in this area alone, thousands of people got cholera, serious severe diarrhea. Many people, it cost them their children.

Tammy: This scene is so typical around the world. This is their water source. And yet you can see that it is filled with trash, it is filled with cow manure that is flowing into this stream. But she has no option, this is it.

Kathy: This is filthy, dirty water and they're drinking this stuff.

Marc: You have to understand, in every single village around the globe right now there is a hospital with a dying child that is related to water.

Rhonda: There is so many children and babies that die every day because they have no clean water.

Beth: Now I want you to understand what that means as that translates into lives in all the rural villages of mothers and children that are drinking filthy water.

Betty: And they can't do anything about it because it is all the water that they have. I can't even imagine. This little baby is so precious, so beautiful! Her mother loves her so much. I want to see this little baby live healthy because we've given some fresh water to them.

Tammy: But don't think that you can't do something about it because it is so enormous. You can! Because it starts with one child, one family, one village at a time.

James: So we're not really talking about equipment. We're not just talking about drilling a hole in the ground. We're talking about saving lives.

Ruth: This one child you can see, wants the water, needs the water. And her little community now has it because of your gift. She will grow up with clean water. That's maybe a small item to you but to these children it is life. Let's not forget that. Please, these children need it now. And there are children all over the world who don't have it. So your gift will make a difference.

End of clip

In the studio

Randy: You can be that difference and you can be that difference today, right now, in the lives of so many. This is the last week of this current Water for Life outreach campaign so we need to hear from you. We have some nice gifts that we would like to give you.

But beyond that, when you look at the breakdown of what we do, \$4800 is the average cost of a well, wherever we drill it, around the world. You might be able to give the \$4800. Maybe you can give \$48 and help provide water for ten people.

I want you to understand that this is not just a one-time deal. This is investing for the lifetime of most of those people who need that water, the clean drinking water. You're not just giving a cup

of water in Jesus' name as he says we should do, you're giving a lifetime of clean drinking water.

Your gift today can go far beyond what you'll ever see and that's the great blessing of us coming together in the name of Christ and doing what we can. Sheila, I know you've seen us do this now for many years. What an opportunity!

Sheila: This is so doable! If you think about the well, yeah, a couple of you might be able to do that and that's fantastic. But \$48 provides clean water for ten children for the rest of their lives! I can't imagine my son having to pick up water like that in a bottle that is filthy.

Think about the amount of money you spend a week just going for coffee or even if the family goes to a movie. If you skip one of those and you could provide for just \$48 clean drinking water for ten children for the rest of their lives -- we can do this people! We can't let this happen on our watch.

Randy: We always tell them why we're there. We don't just give them water, we give them the water of life. So go to the phones, go online, make the best gift you can. But more importantly, just be a part. We need you to be a part, the hands of Christ as we reach around the world and we share Water for Life.

Begin video clip

Announcer: Every day millions of children are forced to make a dreadful choice: drink water filled with deadly disease or die from thirst. No child should ever be faced with this decision.

Mission Water for Life is one of the most exciting and viable demonstrations of God's love in the world today. Suffering can end because clean water changes everything.

With your gift today we can establish and drill 500 water wells for remote villages in over 15 different nations. Your gift of \$24 will help provide clean water for 5 people; \$48 will help provide for 10 people; \$72 will impact 15 people. And \$144 will help provide for 30 people for a lifetime!

With your gift we would like to send you James Robison's book, *God of All Creation*. Through his personal observations of animals and wildlife, James shares heartwarming stories and spiritual lessons of God's love and grace.

With your gift of \$100 or more, be sure to request *Majesty*. This beautifully illustrated book teaches you the blessing and significance of the names of God, including Jehovah Rapha, your healer and Jehovah Jireh, your provider.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1200 to help provide water for 250 people or a gift of \$4800 to help sponsor a complete well.

And you may request our beautiful new “Majesty” bronze sculpture.

This is the last week! Call, write, or make your gift online!

End of clip

On the mission field

James: This mother has four children. Last summer a year ago, they had an outbreak of intestinal disease from contaminated water. Two of her children got very, very sick.

Now she's got a little baby just a few months old and this baby is living on her mother's milk, this baby is nursing. Betty, pretty soon this little baby is going to be drinking that water and oftentimes it takes their lives.

Betty: It really does, James. And they can't do anything about it because it's all the water they have. I can't even imagine! This little baby is so precious, so beautiful! Do you know that there is 10,000 people a day that die from the waterborne diseases, and most of them are children five and under? We can stop that. We can make the difference by doing the water wells and giving them a fresh cup of water.

James: I'd like you to be one of the hands to reach out and dial the telephone number and take your bankcard and use it like a check or write a check and make it to *LIFE* and say "I want to give life to children like this and keep them healthy."

End of clip

In the studio

Randy: Thank you so much for being with us. Do go to the phones and call. Thank you, Sheila for being here with me.

Sheila: I've enjoyed it! Always love the opportunity to sit in for your amazing mom and dad.

Randy: Well, it's wonderful to have you here. In fact, if you've missed any of the programs

this week, I want you to know you can get them at LifeToday.org. We're also on Roku if you don't have that channel. Be sure to set your D.V.R. every day for *LIFE Today*. Thank you so much for being a part!