

3/8/16
Week 11 rescue life: Last week
Sheila Walsh #2

Betty: Thank you so much for joining us on *LIFE Today*. I'm Betty and this is James; and we've got Sheila with us.

James: Sheila Walsh! And you'll just be knowing her as Sheila here pretty soon because she is part of the *LIFE Outreach* family, *LIFE Today*. Sheila is going to spend this part of her life journeying, and we hope it is many, many years of journeying as we are definitely, probably have some portion of the better part of our life behind us as far as time. Sheila is much, much younger than me and Betty but she has been around a little while.

Sheila: Not much.

James: Welcome Sheila Walsh to back to *LIFE Today*. She's going to be around. You're going to be seeing a lot of her. This week in the bookstores is *Peace for Today* and every day. If you get it today you'll want it tomorrow.

This woman is gifted by God, and in the program that we did earlier this week, I talked about how you can have the understanding of the Holy Spirit, have experienced the power of the Holy Spirit but not be carried by the spirit, living filled to overflowing with the spirit, and bearing the fruit of the spirit even though you may have some characteristics that seem to be part of it. When you're filled with the spirit, carried by the spirit, those characteristics are all there like a single cluster of grapes and you abound in those things as you are walking in that power, which the enemy will do his best to keep us from being there.

But there are also the gifts of the spirit and the gifting by the spirit. When we say Sheila is gifted in so many ways -- let me just tell you this, I'm just going to brace you. In the first week in heaven, you're listening to me sing. You got that? I shall sing like Caruso. I shall sing like you've never heard a man sing. Are you ready for that?

Betty: I'll be there for that!

James: That's right! You will be. Because our daughter, when she was three, she would go get

the neighbors and say, "Come over here and hear my daddy sing. It's so funny!" And they would come from all over the neighborhood. So I'm going to sing.

But Sheila can sing. She can teach. She can share. She can host. She can write, for heaven's sake! She's got all these gifts. What are you going to do with these gifts the rest of your life, Sheila? We want to know. *LIFE Today* audience wants to know.

Sheila: You know what I think would be amazing? If something -- I feel and I don't know if you guys feel the same, that something new is stirring up like this tidal wave of love.

Wouldn't it be amazing if, we've all done different things, you've all done different things in your life, but what if we all stood in this one place and just said, "Let's be so filled with the love of the Father that it overflows and that we see across our nation like this tidal wave of love?"

James: The Father's love manifested!

Sheila: I watched some footage of a tidal wave that hit an island and how everything it hit on was taken out. It destroyed everything in its path. I'm thinking, but the tidal wave of the Father's love would remove barriers, it would remain chains, it would rescue. I think --

Betty: And then come toward it. You don't have to beg. Them becoming one.

Sheila: I really want everyone who watches and everyone in our studio to join and tell other people about it. Let's make this commitment that in 2016 we won't be known as much for what we're waving our finger at but in whose name we come because God's love changes everything.

James: You can speak the truth in power and the power of love. You can speak it with authority in love. You can speak correction in love. If you want to discern the spirit, one of the greatest ways to discern what spirit is functioning and in play, is it a spirit of redemption or a spirit of destruction? Is it something that wants to tear down or build up? And if it is the spirit of the living God, it is redemptive and it can carry us beyond our circumstances.

Love lifted me. It literally can. It's not water to wade in but it's manifest love that carries us that we are filled with the Father's love to overflowing. It can't be held back. It can't be denied. It can't be ignored. And just as with the word, it will have its transforming effect when it impacts people.

Sheila: I'm like a huge fan of Romans. I'm just like good job Paul and the Holy Spirit! I love Romans. But Romans chapter eight, what I love about it, it begins with no condemnation and it

ends with no separation. A lot of people struggle with that because he said there is now therefore no...

James: She's over here grinning because she read it to me this morning. Y'all have had a meeting before we got here.

[Laughter]

Sheila: But I love that! And so many people say, "Well, what's the difference? Because I do feel condemned." To me the difference is the Holy Spirit brings conviction and conviction draws you closer to the Father. The enemy brings condemnation and condemnation pushes you further away. That's what makes you think I have to clean up my act before I ever come home.

Whereas God's love says, "No, come as you are. Just come as you are and we'll work on this together."

James: You know the wonderful thing is that he was always looking for that boy that was making a mess and fouling his reputation; he wasn't doing anything right and he looked every day for him. I'm telling you, the Father's love is so indescribable but we can experience it.

Here's the thing that I'm convinced of. It is what I hear your heart longing for and I think without a doubt God's does. We can not only experience it we can express it. We can release the love that fills us and that really is what we need to do and I think we're going to see that.

Sheila: I had a really interesting -- I was overhearing a conversation between two young girls. It was Sunday, it was after church. We were all in one of our favorite coffee shops and they were talking to each other and holding their Bibles.

One of them said to the other, "I just don't watch television anymore. I'm so over the news and all this bad news."

And the other goes, "Yeah, I just watch reruns of *The Office*."

And even though I kind of understood I sat in my car and I thought, Lord, what's wrong with this? Because I thought, we're not -- we were born in this day for this moment. We're not saved to wait for Jesus to come and get us out of here. We are redeemed to reach out his love to other people.

I think we need to be a bit of a shift in our understanding of what's the purpose of our life? It's not -- one of my friends, Guy Jason who is lead singer of Building 429. He said, "It's not Jesus against the world. It is Jesus for the world through us."

And I think when you grasp hold of that and rather than think, I don't want to know, think Lord, how can I be an answer to this? How can I be your love in a place where there is no love?

Betty: Well, and I think we tend to because of whatever reason: Hurt, loss, disappointment, circumstances of life that we're going through, we kind of check out as Christians. We just kind of get in our own little world and our surroundings and we're missing the blessings of God through our life to other people and to our own lives.

Sheila: One of my prayers every single morning without fail is Father, give me eyes to see today what I'm going to miss and give me ears to hear what people are not seeing.

There was a woman that came up to me and I was signing some books and she kind of cut in-between me and the woman whose book I was signing. And she said, "I'm so fed up hearing about your perfect family!"

I said, "Then come home and meet us. Spend a little... tarry a little!"

And there was something about her anger that the Holy Spirit said, "Pay attention."

So I said to her, "Would you just hold on for a moment?" After I'd finished talking to the other lady I said, "Let's go for a walk."

So we went for a walk outside. I said to her, "What happened to you?"

And honestly, at first I thought she was going to deck me. But she collapsed into my arms because she's buried two children. And every time I get up on a platform and I talk about my darling son, it was just like a fresh knife turn in her heart. I think, Lord, we can't be reactionary as believers, we have to be responders. We have to be first responders. So that we ask, we intentionally every day say to the Holy Spirit, "Help me see today what I'm going to miss. With my natural eyes I'm never going to see that. And help me to hear the cry of someone's heart rather than what's coming out of their mouth."

James: I want to say something to the audience that's sitting here as well as at home. It seems to people who watch that maybe Betty and I get along, maybe we actually like each other and we didn't just hang in there and let the rough end drag. Maybe, this pretty little smile, I get to see it a lot. We do, and we have beautiful, beautiful joy.

Sheila, I never tell people in this audience or in a coliseum or a church about the blessings of God on our 11 grandchildren, our family, or on our marriage that I don't realize all over the audience and all over the world there are people who will lower their head or a wife say, "I wish I could say that about my husband." "I wish I could say that about my children." "I wish I could say that about my grandkids." I feel that.

When I express the gratitude to God for the great things I've experienced in the midst of pain and hurt and misery, I want it for you. And when I talk about the greatness of God and I realize the hurt and the loneliness, I want to bind up the broken heart. I want to heal you. When I hear about a sickness, I want it well. And I want to be a part of the healing process.

If that's in me, a fatherless kid that had no chance and I can't fix everything, imagine what God feels and the love that would give his only begotten son for our redemption and for our healing in our life, and the one who can bind up the wounds and who can help us carry the load and make it light. Imagine what he feels for you.

Where you are, just ask him to lift you. Ask him to strengthen you; to fill you with his love and grace and spill it out through you towards someone else.

Sheila, I want us together, and as a team and working now, you're with us, I really want us to not only see God get his arms around people but I want those people to become his arms. I want you to tell us, and it is amazing how we're talking about peace but we haven't talked about your book. It just came out this week. I know you want to help people.

But what inspired you to write the book? And why would it be important, you think, for people to get it and get into it?

Sheila: Because I wanted to put something in people's hands that would help them worry less and trust more. Because there is a lot of stuff going on in life that is not good; you've just talked about that. Over the last 20 years I had the privilege of speaking to over five million women but when I go out and I just wonder on the concourse and I listen to their stories, there is so much that is going on in people's lives. It's driven me to my knees saying, "Lord, what can we tell?" Because for it to be true, it has to be work in Calcutta the same way it works in Chicago. If it is the truth of the gospel, it holds up in the worst of circumstances.

And what is so clear to me is that Christ himself has promised us his peace. Not just a good feeling, not something that can move with the circumstances. He has promised.

Where I've discovered it is, you remember the man that was delivered of demons? They said, "My name is legion, for we are many."

If you think about that scene you have the disciples who have traveled all night in a boat, they had a terrible storm, which I believe was demonically turned up to stop them getting there. They get to the edge of this place they've never been, tombs -- and it's very unholy for Jewish people to be there. This crazy dude comes running down from the tombs, cutting himself, yelling, and then Jesus casts the evil spirits into the pigs. They go running off the cliff.

There is one place in that whole chaotic scene where there's peace and it is at the feet of Jesus where that man is found clothed and in his right mind. So can there be chaos going on around you and still find peace? Yes! Where do you find it? -- At the feet of Jesus.

James: And if you want to know what real prosperity is, it's when you have peace with what the world doesn't recognize as prosperity. It is where when you have none of the material possessions that people see as a measure of prosperity or gain, and it's where that peace still prevails if you have an abundance of what the material world and what the world calls "prosperity" is. You're not controlled by it. You're not defeated without it. You're not defeated with it because you are possessed by a peace that passes our comprehension apart from God.

Sheila, it's what I think you've broken out fairly neatly in devotional style where people will go to the Word, they will see experiences that you share that they can identify, how they can find the peace that God offers.

Sheila: Each day is just a short devotional, a takeaway thought, and then five scriptures which I copied out for you in case your dog ran away with your Bible.

[Laughter]

But it is doable. You can do it if you're a car pool mom.

I actually wrote it after an encounter with -- I went into a women's prison and I talked to some of the prisoners. The one woman I talked to in the end said, "I wish you could give me something that I could concentrate on. I have a hard time concentrating."

So I actually wrote the first book really with this prisoner in mind because I thought, I want to put something in your hands that's just not my thoughts. Yeah, I'll share it.

It's like Paul said when he wrote to the church in Thessalonica, "We've determined to share not only the gospel but our very lives." So there's a little bit of my life but then there's the Word of God that will sustain you in the midst of difficult times.

James: And it is very interesting that you were inspired to write about peace while you were in a prison. One of the most powerful messages that I ever preached that God blessed was called "Prisoners in the Promised Land." You remember in Nehemiah, we came into the land that you gave us and behold, we're slaves in it.

People have lived in slavery in the midst of what God has given us as the opportunity to abound in grace and with the wherewithal to be blessed and bless others, and yet, people live in bondage to something or without something. God wants to give us peace in the Promised Land. A lot of the prisoners, most of the prisoners I find are not in those prisons with bars, they're sitting in churches and they're defeated and they're in bondage and God wants to set captives free.

I think this will be a blessing to you. Do you love Sheila and what she brings to us as a gift? You are a gift. And a treasure!

I want to ask you to do something now. I'm asking -- I've really been praying for the people who watch *LIFE Today* and I've actually been praying that God would give us an opportunity to talk to everyone on planet earth that would like to experience *LIFE Today* the reality of the life that is abundant, not a life with abundance but abundance of life with or without substance. Where Paul said, "I've got peace whether I abound or I'm abased, whether I have or have not." Boy, that's the peace that passes understanding. It is what Sheila is talking about and sharing from the word.

But as I've been praying, I've really been inclined to ask you, who reach out, to receive a blessing and rightly so. I'm asking you to pause and join a host of people that are the most magnificent remnant I've ever come across. The missionaries around the world tell me when I compliment them on the greatness of their commitment and what a great Christian they are, they say, "No. The greatest Christians are the people who love God and allow us to be here sharing the love of God and not be empty-handed."

I want you to pause and be part of that remnant and I want you to look in with the eyes of Jesus, not check out and go somewhere else, but say, "Jesus, what do you want me to do about what I see?" That's all I want you to ask. Watch.

On the mission field

Kirie: I've been told that people will come here and offer the mothers hope for their children in the way of a job in a hotel, offering them a trade.

Open captions: *My mom let me go with my aunt to Phanom Peah to work as a servant in a karaoke bar.*

Kirie: But in reality, that's not what happens. They're sold into trafficking. They become slaves somewhere.

Open captioning: *My family is very poor. At age 12, my aunt told me to go to work. That is when she sold me to a brothel. I'm depressed and have no self-esteem. And the cruelty done to me by my aunt makes me feel I have no reason to live and it would be better for me to die.*

Kirie: Listen to the girls talk about being tricked and sold into the sex traffic trade and how shameful they are and how broken they are, how they're beaten and locked in rooms for two years at a time, how they long for their mothers, I'm brokenhearted over that. I don't understand that kind of evil.

I do understand that we can make a difference. And I do know that by supporting *LIFE Outreach* we can change these lives. We can rescue these girls out of this situation and teach them a trade and change their life. It may be one life at a time but it's their life.

End of clip

In the studio

James: It's such a touching thing for me to watch one of our friends; I actually did the wedding of Kirie and her husband, Jimmy some 30 years ago. They have a beautiful family and grandchildren; they're just precious. And from the time they began their journey and their marriage, they have supported our outreaches. And Kirie has gone to the mission fields with us now for nearly 20 years as a homemaker and a grandmother that loves her family as much as anyone we've ever seen.

And what she's sharing with you about someone being sold into sex trafficking, you can't imagine anyone doing that. It's hard to comprehend that a person that is poor or desperate could be misled or on purpose sell a child into that kind of slavery. How do you handle and comprehend that?

Betty: First of all, Kirie thank you for being there and showing us the need, the hurt that's going on with these children, these precious girls that are so trapped. They are lied to and then they're abused and they're sold, and they're degraded. They have no hope for life; they want to die. That girl said she wanted to die rather than living the way she is living. I can't say that I would blame her for feeling like that.

But I want her to know there's hope. I want her to know there is someone that's seen what she's going through. And from watching this, how could we not want to reach out and help these precious girls? To give them a chance to be girls, to be young children that never thought they'd end up like this. But just because James, they are told that there is a job out there that you can do and then they get them trapped into this kind of lifestyle.

Please reach out with us and let's help these precious girls. Let's show them the love of Jesus and the hope that they can have.

James: I want you to join in a very specific prayer, first of all, for those who are trapped in sexual bondage that they would use and take advantage not only in selling those precious people and girls but using them. Those that are trapped by that kind of addiction or compulsive behavior, God would you set them free through the miracle of your power and your grace and your love?

Then I want you to pray for the missionaries and relief workers that risk everything to be there.

But I want you to understand this. You're the ones, the viewers of *LIFE* who make it possible for the missionaries and relief workers to be there and for us to have the places to take care of them. It takes \$128 to rescue one of those precious girls.

Now I've had some people tell me, "Oh, my, I couldn't do that!"

Well, you can pray. But think about this. \$32, think about that, \$64, you get another person to join with you or three others to join and we've got another person we can rescue with the resources necessary to make it happen.

Is there a level at which you could help us? Would you not turn away and say, "Oh, that's not enough." Yes, it is! Because with that gift where you put that treasure, that's been entrusted to your oversight, you will put your heart and prayers behind it.

So would you right now go to LifeToday.org and just make the gift God out on our heart to give girls like that a chance at life and freedom? Would you do that? If you can give \$128, I believe you will gladly. There are even some of you who can rescue ten by making a \$1280 gift. Whatever you can do, I'm believing you'll do it.

I think it is very important that you remember this is the last week that we're asking for your help. LifeToday.org or dial the number there on the screen. Use your bankcard like a check -- that's how you should always use it -- use it like a check and make the gift God impresses you to make. Remember this, you're sharing love and you're giving life. Thank you for doing it!

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.

Through Mission: Rescue Life you can reach out to save children vulnerable to sex traffickers. You can help rescue those already enslaved and you can restore their lives with hope for a future.

Your gift today of only \$128 will help rescue a child and change their destiny forever. With gifts of \$64 or \$32 we will combine your support with others to help rescue one more child from the shame and pain of sexual slavery.

With your gift of any amount we'll send you the "Light of the World" scented candle. This beautiful encased in a frosted glass burns with a wonderful scent. Its flame is a reminder of your part in being a light to the world, especially to young women trapped in the darkness of human trafficking. Your gift helps provide them with hope and a way out.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1280 to help rescue ten children and you may request our beautiful new "Majesty" bronze sculpture.

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

End of clip

In the studio

James: In light of the gift that you've shared of love, we have gifts to share with you just to bless you that will remind you of what love does.

If you want *Peace for Today*, not just the book but peace for today that I think she points you to, ask for this. We'll send it to you. It's in the bookstores but we will gladly send it to you saying thanks.

Join us saying thanks to Sheila Walsh. Love you! Glad you're a part. She is part of the *LIFE Today* family. She is a part of *LIFE Outreach International* worldwide!

Thank you. We love you!