

4/07/16
Week 15: Spring Mission Feeding
Mission Special #1

James: Welcome to *LIFE Today*. Betty and I are so thrilled to be able to share this time with you. I'm James Robison.

I just wonder if you ever had a time or some challenge in your life that you just thought, I wish somebody would help me with this? Have you ever known that it would be possible for that help to come, and you just long for it? Maybe it is a relationship, maybe it is a family member, a child, maybe it is an illness, but you really wish someone would notice.

Betty, one of the things that I've told our viewers over the years is that we are able to rejoice that our children and grandchildren love God, get along beautifully. And I've said this many times because I don't think either one of us want to take credit for the miraculous joy-filled lives that our children seem to live and experience. I've many times said I think many viewers and many people who heard me preach in the stadiums or coliseums all over America actually took seriously praying for our children and for our family because they said, obviously, James is gone a lot; a lot of pressure on Betty at home, and you took seriously the fact that we could sure use your prayers.

Do you know that during this time frame right here that over 1,000 people will call our prayer center? Sometimes it reaches more than 2,000 who will call. You know what they're calling for? For prayer. For love. For someone to care. For someone to share the load. Betty, many people report that a miracle happens when someone prays for them. And we want that, don't we?

Betty: Absolutely. I think anyone would have to say anytime I could get a miracle in my life or in my situation, what's going on, I'll receive it because that's what I really want.

James: Well, you who may be in need of a miracle, it is our prayer that you find it. I can tell you without any exaggeration, one of the greatest joys in our life, we're grateful for our family, we're grateful for the blessings that God obviously has bestowed upon us even with the challenges, the pain, the loss that we do experience, we have found indescribable joy becoming a blessing to someone else intentionally, deliberately because of love. That's one of the things that we try to communicate with every viewer of *LIFE Today*, every day. If you want to

experience life fully express life freely. Let the river of life and the river of love flow. You're going to be amazed. You'll be amazed not only at what happens to those who are impacted by that love or that compassion or that expression but you're going to be amazed at what happens to you when you just touch someone.

We had a young man on, Reggie Dabbs recently, who found out his mother kept some of the kids and gave him away. Reggie and I could identify; why would your mother leave you? But he talked about buying a lady's little boy a costume because mom couldn't afford it. And he talked about the joy of watching how happy and grateful she was that he walked out or sent the lady out to give a package that was what she couldn't afford to that little boy. Reggie was so happy.

Well, we know what that feels like because years ago, we discovered situations that we had never seen. It was like something far away -- in the far away land; on the dark continent of Africa where there was so much pain and misery and suffering and dying and starvation and war, we saw death, we saw need. We saw hunger so close, so personal we couldn't walk away and forget it. We didn't want to. We wanted to touch those who suffer with love, and you made it possible.

Go with us when that all started. Just look in and know that the response, not just on our part, but mainly on viewers like you -- the miracles that followed. Go with us. Go back a few years.

On the mission field

James: There is no grip. The child was not breathing at all. We came in here and began to pray.

They just look like they're in a daze. They're coming here to get food.

God bless you little fella! That's great. The little children like this one here are so much fewer.

>> James, Betty, I can see how your hearts were broken through your many years of traveling throughout Africa. I will say this. It doesn't take long before you see a lot of beautiful work that's been done here through our missionary partners. I want to say we're not finished yet.

These children are dying. They're telling us every six seconds a child dies because of malnutrition.

Announcer: In Angola alone, the grim fact is malnutrition causes nearly half of children's deaths under the age of five. The sight of children struggling to live because they simply lack

enough food to eat is the reason *LIFE Outreach* continues to go into the areas of Africa that are crying out for help. And in place of death, a bowl of food a day can literally become a miracle of life.

>> We must do more. Please! Whatever it takes, we have to reach out to little children like Joseph here. I can see it in his eyes almost. You probably can too where he's just hoping somebody will believe in him enough to reach out and rescue his life. The solution is really a simple bowl of food through mission feeding so these children can live.

End of clip

In the studio

James: I'm so grateful. Betty, we look back and we've just recently celebrated 53 years of marriage and we look back and that 25 years has really passed very rapidly.

Betty: Yeah, it's gone by real fast!

James: But aren't you glad we went over there and saw up close and personal the incredible need that could be met by love?

Betty: So much so, James! I never get used to what we see because the need is so so great. It touches my heart every time because there's still children out there that need food.

It is a disease that we can help get rid of if we'll just give them the food. Some diseases we try and we try and we go to all the doctors and everything and nothing can be done. But there can be something done with this one. If you'll join with us, we can save the lives of these children.

James: The expression of sharing that we all have been inspired to do when we give food, that's the miracle that is sure to work.

The thing that I wish you could understand is the depth and the focus of the missionaries. I watch those kids and I know what happens when you love them and you give them something. We're not only saving them from dying, but those missionaries are so focused on everything being right that they stabilize the children to health, and then you talk about brilliant, you talk about wisdom that comes from God, is the missionaries that realized when you have such a difficult time getting children in these impoverished areas in third-world countries to go to school consistently, because they don't even have any way to enforce their truancy laws, or not showing up, they can't really keep up with all that but the way to get the kids to school is to feed them at school.

So our missionaries began to move once they're healthy and stable and even get their parents healthy enough to grow their own crops and their own little gardens and they can hold a job because health is restored or they're not having to watch over a dying child, and they can become productive again. The missionaries know how to do this. The school feeding programs affected the world food banking program where they began to do that.

Congressman Tony Hall, a democrat from Ohio years ago was appointed over that. I remember praying with him and he was a very close friend of Peter Pretorius and said, "When I saw what love does and how it works, and it was up to me to try to help that happen so that we don't ineffectively use the money that we have collected in taxes. We can do something effective."

There again it is amazing what you can learn from people who are full of love and the miracle that occurred. So we're asking you to participate in a miracle. We're asking you to take on the statistics that the world reports as so devastating that you can hardly bear to look at them if you realize we've got the answer. And the answer is so effective that even when national leaders or governments see what really works, not just doling something out, but getting involved with the situation with love and compassion, it is amazing what happens.

Just look at some of the real facts about what's going on in the world but the real miracle fact is what love does. Just watch this and just say okay, what's the answer? The love of God through us, through you, that's the miracle. Watch.

On the mission field

Announcer: Each day we're bombarded with troubling headlines about different tragedies around the world. And unfortunately, events ranging from natural disasters to terrorism claims several hundred innocent lives each month. But beyond the headlines lurks one of the world's deadliest killers. It has become so common and proficient that it is no longer considered front page news.

Each day thousands of children under the age of five die from the effects of malnutrition. These children weren't victims of an act of war or just in the wrong place at the wrong time. They simply didn't have enough food to eat.

The early effects of malnutrition can be seen in the children's hair and skin condition. Later their bellies will become painfully bloated. And if they still don't get enough food, a child will end up in a malnutrition clinic or even worse.

This doesn't have to be. There is a simple solution. *LIFE Outreach* and its mission partners are providing life-saving food to hundreds of thousands of children. This daily bowl of nutritious porridge is the difference between life and death for these precious children.

Be a part of the good news and help save a life today because without your help, this overlooked tragedy will continue to spread pain and devastation around the world.

End of clip

In the studio

James: You're amazing! Viewers like you are amazing! When we first started, the children would come with old tin cans. And most of them would be bent up. They might be an oil can. And they would bring plastic bags and we would pour the soup in and sometimes it would burn through. Or you would see them, Betty, go away and it was burning their hands. And sometimes they would actually drop the little can and spill the soup.

And our viewers, there again, this is what the love of God does. I mean when you are in touch with God, you get insight and wisdom. So our viewers said, "Give them some heat-resistant bowls."

Do you remember what Peter said? He said it wouldn't work. Why did he say it wouldn't work?

Betty: Because we've got to have the food first.

James: Yeah, he said, we can't be spending money on bowls. These kids are starving to death. So we can't be taking money for food to get a bowl. They'll get it if they have to hold it in their hands.

You wouldn't have it. You said to Peter Pretorius through us, "We will give them some heat-resistant bowls." And that's what love does. That's what creative thinkers do. That's the reason in the free world, that kind of wisdom has given us incredible blessings!

And the only way we're going to solve our problems in any nation today is to get that wisdom and that love that comes from above so we don't waste and mismanage -- and we really care about others.

Well, you've given the bowls and watching us put the food in those bowls, those little children lining up so patiently, waiting to get food so they would feel better. All of it happened, first of all because the missionary heard the call. But listen to me. I don't care how dedicated a missionary is, I don't care how full of love they are, all they could do is weep and watch them die if they didn't have the ability to meet the very real visible need. They need some food.

You're the ones that make it happen. You talk about witnessing living miracles, undeniable miracles? You're the ones that enable that reality to occur every day -- a miracle of love! And we're able to show them God's love in demonstration -- not just tell them about the love of God, show them the love of God.

So we come to you a few times a year and say, "Would you please help us keep feeding these children that need help wherever the missionaries find them, wherever there is a crisis?" And you've been saying, "Yes!" Would you say yes right now please? 400,000 children we've located. We've got them organized; the missionaries are there with them full of love. But we need to give them something to put in those bowls to give to those little children and to save them, stabilize them and give them a future. That's God's will.

Would you please go to LifeToday.org right now? Would you do that? It's a pretty simple thing to do today. Or would you dial the number, take that bankcard that should always be used as a check and make the largest gift you can knowing that \$30, \$50 or \$100 enables us to feed three, five, or ten children for the next months?

Some of our friends have said we will match 50,000 of those children; that means it will be doubled. What you're able to give will be doubled toward those children.

Would you please right now very prayerfully ask God what he wants you to do? And then would you go to LifeToday.org or dial the number and make the gift God put on your heart. Please do it! Knowing that even today your gift of \$30, \$50 or \$100 can be doubled in its impact. If you can give a larger gift than that, I know you will -- I'm confident that you will.

I thank God for people who have been blessed that they can make a \$1,000 gift to feed 100 children -- in this case now, 200. But no gift is too small because you're giving the greatest gift, you're giving the gift of life and you're giving it in love. Thank you for doing it.

Begin video clip

Announcer: In remote and impoverished areas of Angola, Africa, families are suffering, crops have failed. There is no food. And those hit the hardest are the children.

In response to this crisis, Life Outreach has received a 50,000 children challenge that with your help will feed and minister to 100,000 children over the next few months. With previous food reserves gone and Angola facing a severe food shortage due to crop failure, this challenge could not have come at a better time to help replenish supplies for the feeding programs touching the lives of children across Angola, Mozambique, and Sudan.

The 50,000 children challenge means more children can be saved and your gift will have a double-impact helping to feed twice as many children. Your gift of \$30 to help feed three children will now be doubled to help feed six children! Gifts of \$50 to help feed five children will be doubled to help save ten. And gifts of \$100 for 10 children will be doubled to help feed and care for 20 children.

With a gift of \$1,000 or more you can double your impact to help feed 200 children. And also request the “Majesty” bronze sculpture featuring a beautiful buck in regal stance reflecting God’s presence and majesty in all the earth!

Please call the number seen here, write LIFE, or go online today to LifeToday.org and make your life-saving, double-impact gift today!

End of clip

In the studio

On the mission field

Announcer: In a world of plenty, why do these children look like this?

>> I have no food here. I tried growing maize far away but the crops failed. I have no food for my family.

You can see it's not easy to talk about. My heart is broken. I feel weak, and it is difficult for me to walk.

I have lost my children. My children became sick and died. I had nothing for their hunger.

Announcer: Last week, Victoria lost two children to malnutrition caused by a lack of food over a long period of time. She'll never see them in this world again.

Mission feeding's goal is to prevent tragedies like these by preventing malnutrition in the first place. Because is there anything more precious than human life? And is there anything more miraculous than saving a life?

End of clip

In the studio

James: Wow! If you've ever lost a loved one, when you just knew a miracle could correct it, you would understand the incredible pain she feels to lose five children.

Father, I pray everyone watching will say, "I'm going to become the answer to the prayer and hope of some brokenhearted concerned mother"; in Jesus' name.

Betty, I'm just praying there wouldn't be a person watching that wouldn't say, "I'm going to help."

Betty: The many, many times we've gone and we've seen and we've brought back the need and shared it with you; and you so willingly, and so wholeheartedly given to help these precious children, you just keep doing it again.

I've had many people to say, "What did you feel inside, Betty, when you got back and you thought about what you'd seen? And the mothers, that their hearts were so broken?" I came away feeling so blessed. And thank you, God that my children didn't have to go through something like that or die because of lack of food and nourishment.

But yet, I came away blessed too because I knew that I was going to be a part of making the difference in the families that are over there watching their precious children die. Not only one child but maybe five like this sweet woman. Maybe even again she'll have to experience it.

So the difference is, we are so blessed here. Let's give of that blessing that God has blessed us with. Let's make the difference. Let's save the lives of these children.

James: I really believe that you will respond to what Betty just said and to the concern that that mother expressed.

And it is simple. You think about it, you can go out to a fast-food restaurant and spend \$25 or \$30 for just a few members of your family in a hurry. And yet, with these children that same amount of money we can take care of them for months: \$30, \$50 or \$100 is three, five, or ten children fed -- now it can be doubled to where you're going to have 6 and 10 and 20 for the same amount being helped. A \$1,000 gift enables us to feed 100. Now because of the matching gift challenge, we can feed 200 with the same amount. At some level I believe you can participate and I just want to thank you for doing that.

I want to thank all of you who are watching me right now because many times when you know someone is going to ask you to help, you just check out. I'll go somewhere else. I'll go

somewhere where my felt needs and my concerns can be addressed. We try to do that every day on *LIFE Today* with our various guests and the things Betty and I share or the various wonderful gifted teachers that come. We're wanting to bless you and touch you in the area of your need every day. But we have really found this to be a fact, the more we get interested and involved in lifting another person's burden, in blessing their life, the more greatly we are blessed. And I know our viewers have told us you've experienced that.

We have a great church called Gateway where Robert Morris, who was on our staff when he was a very young man for many years traveled with us, he began to teach "The Blessed Life." It's truly more blessed to give than to receive. When you are giving in love, you are receiving an indescribable priceless blessing. Thank you for doing that.

Would you right now just go get whatever communication device you use, go to LifeToday.org and use your bankcard and make a gift like you would with a check? If you want to write a check, make it to *LIFE* but call. Call the number and tell us what you're putting in the mail today because we're going to let the missionaries know, yes, you will have the food for the hundreds or thousands in that area; 400,000 right now that they have ready in place in need to be fed.

Would you make that call? Would you go online and make that gift? Thank you so much for doing it!

Begin video clip

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End of clip

In the studio

James: I haven't mentioned this a lot but this beautiful bronze, "Majesty," God creates these unique diverse animals that have such great character and look so majestic. And we know that it is God that makes all the beauty that we enjoy. We haven't talked a whole lot about the bronze but if you could make that \$1,000 gift knowing that it would be doubled, it sure would enable us to effectively feed another 100, now 200 children. Ask for the bronze. Many times people say, "Those bronzes become a way for me to tell people where I got it. And they get interested in missions." I think that's exciting. That actually is our hope and our prayer.

Thank you for whatever you do. No gift is too small because you're giving the great gift of love and life.

Thank you so much for letting us share our hearts, the heart of God, the concern of many, and you're the answer. Thanks!

James: How could this Friday be good when the darkest blight on humanity occurred? -- The death of Christ. Well, because that is when life won. Jesus did! -- Because he is risen. We celebrate that this weekend. What a great way to celebrate by sharing the life that Christ died and was raised to give us and to share through us. Thank you for doing it.