

4/28/16
Week 18 Water for Life
Andy Andrews

James: Thank all of you! I'm excited. I really thank you for being here.

I'm leaning in because you want you to know -- I'm James Robison, this is Betty but we've got Andy Andrews. And I'm looking at another one of these incredible books. You know when we gave *The Butterfly Effect* book away years ago it was simplicity but it was powerful. I mean the wings of a butterfly, the motion can start a hurricane. Every one of you that think I'm not important, I'm not significant, I can't make a difference, if a butterfly can move that with those beautiful little angelic wings, what might we do if we moved in harmony with the power of the spirit?

Well, Andy Andrews, he wrote *The Noticer* and *The Noticer Returns*. What did you think about *The Noticer*?

Betty: Oh, wow! I'm ready for another.

James: And you read the return too.

Betty: I did!

James: And you're reading it to me.

Betty: I was!

James: She is so excited. Because what did you see in the one that was being noticed? What did you see in that old man?

Betty: Well, its saying, hey, stop! You can be a noticer. You can be a noticer of life and be out there doing what God's called you to do.

James: But did this old man not show you a very clear picture of the Holy Spirit speaking through that man as a yielded vessel? Weren't you just hearing God through this very ordinary person that noticed and taught others to notice?

Betty: Absolutely!

James: Andy Andrews is an amazing writer; isn't he?

Betty: He is.

James: Here is another beautiful book that is very sharp. If you don't want to get bogged down, you know you say, "James, I got Indivisible and it just kind of bogged us down." This one won't bog anybody down and it will brighten your day. This one is called *The Perfect Moment*. Here is his family, and then there's another picture back here, if I can just flip to it of this beautiful family, and it's right here. It's toward the back of the book and there it is. It's a beautiful family.

Would you welcome Andy Andrews to *LIFE Today*? Andy, glad to be back home?

Andy: I'm so glad to be with you guys!

James: You like us?

Andy: I love you guys! Polly and everybody said, "Hi!" Austin said to say to Miss Betty and Papa James, "Hello!"

James: I appreciate it. Hey, Austin. Your other son's name?

Andy: Adam.

James: Adam. Hey buddy! Listen to me. I talked to you a lot when Austin was with us and I said to your dad and I said to some guests that we had tonight, you were checking on your brother every day. There was no envy. I know you wanted to be there. But you were so happy for him. Son, that is an incredible trait. And the way you two brothers loved each other just the way I watched you all communicating, it blessed me.

And you and your wife, great, great deposit in those kids.

Andy: Thank you.

James: So I'm glad to have you here. Tell me about this book, *The Perfect Moment*.

Andy: This book really came out of an experience I had with Austin. He was a little guy, seven, eight years old. As what we laughingly referred...

James: This is before I met him. How old was he when y'all came to spend time with me?

Andy: He was 13 years old.

James: So this is seven years before that.

Andy: This was years before that. As we get busy doing what we're doing and as we get to be adults, some things are not as amazing to us and we tend to overlook some things and we tend to say, "Come on, come on! Hurry! Hurry! Let's go!" This little boy taught me a lesson about perspective. It is amazing because this is what Jones said, *The Noticer*. He talks about perspective. And perspective is different than perception. What you perceive is what is. When you walk in a room you perceive it to be this way. Well, that's the way it is. But your perspective about this room is about what it means. What it might mean. How you see this might take us one way or it might take us another way.

So this day, I was out in the backyard with Austin. It was just to me a normal time. I'm spending time with my little boy. We're throwing the football.

He says, "Come on, Dad! Let's stand over here and you be Peyton and I'll be Eli."

And I'm like, "All right!"

And he says, "Oh, we've got to turn this way. The sun is going to be..."

So we're throwing. And finally, we've got a Nerf football and he says, "I'm going long!"

And I said, "Okay, go!"

I throw the Nerf ball and this little skinny kid with elbows and knees is going. He reaches out and that ball lands like right on his fingertips and he rolls on the ground. And he goes, "Touchdown! Touchdown!"

I'm laughing. I kind of ease toward him and I say, "Okay throw the ball back."

He says, "Dad, wait. Do you see?"

I said, "What?"

He said, "Come here! Come here!"

So I walk over and I said, "Give me the ball!"

He said, "Dad, don't you see?"

I said, "No, buddy, what?"

He said, "Daddy, the sun is behind the house now and it's still light, we can see but it is not in either of our eyes. It's not too hot out here and it is not too cold out here. And it is just you and me together. Daddy, it's just perfect!"

I thought, oh, my gosh! I just flashed on immediately how many things. This was a little moment I provided for my boy. And I flashed on how many things my heavenly Father had provided for me that I had just kind of ignored.

I talked to God later that night and I said God, I am embarrassed. I have managed to notice a lot of things. I've noticed every wrecked car that was along the road, as long as I've been driving. I watch the weather channel. I notice every hurricane coming out of Caribbean. There's bad news coming. I notice that. But if somebody leaves chocolate on the couch, I notice that! But man, I never really noticed the smile behind the chocolate on the little boy's mouth. And I never really took pleasure in that moment that my heavenly Father provided for me.

And I realized that this is something that we can do intentionally, guys. We can remind each other and we can teach each other to notice these perfect moments. And what that will do -- let me tell you what that does! What that does, that literally lightens our spirits. It makes us easier for the Holy Spirit to communicate with us. It makes us more pleasant to be around, more likable, and because we're more likable, more pleasant to be around God can use us with people who need to know him. And so it is an amazing butterfly affect of events.

So we're very intentional. And now our family, somebody will -- we have a bunch of perfect moments every day. We'll be riding bicycles and somebody say, "All right! Everybody stop! Come here! Come here!"

"What? What?"

"Right now! Isn't this just perfect!"

We go, "Yeah, yeah! It really is!"

At dinner sometimes somebody will say, "Wait! Wait! Right now! With all of us here, isn't this just perfect?" And we're noticing them.

Betty: Well, not only perfect moments, those perfect moments to me can become treasures -- precious moments. As you're talking I can remember so many times as our kids were growing up and today they're grown. We have a great grandson now. Our granddaughter can post a picture --

Andy: You don't look like you could have a great! Now James looks like he could have a great grandson but you don't look like it!

Betty: But our granddaughter posts a picture of him on Facebook and my whole -- I can feel it, my whole face just lights up. To me that's a perfect moment. It's really a God moment.

James: With the iPhone you can capture some of those perfect moments and we're getting to see that a lot.

Betty: I can remember growing up myself and I didn't come -- we had what we needed. My dad worked hard. We didn't have a big house. But you know some of the things that I remember is all of us being around the table for dinner and getting so tickled and laughing that dad would have to send us away from the table one at a time so that the others could eat because the other one -- and then bring us back. Those were perfect moments when I think about it, precious memories.

Andy: Because those perfect moments become those precious memories and we can build on those. Because there is a world in which we live that people, it's awful that people look at us sometimes and think, why do I want what they have? I think we need to display what we have in our spirits and in your smiles and our attitudes. Of course, it is easy to say, "Have a good attitude" but it is much easier to have a great attitude when you're having a great time and when you're noticing the things that are provided.

James: And that are too often unnoticed. What I was thinking awhile ago, notice the unnoticed and all of the sudden I'm hearing the Lord say most people feel like they're unnoticed. So when you notice those who feel unnoticed, and they are unnoticed, start noticing them and begin to be involved because you care about that person that's been overlooked.

I think that's what our viewers have found indescribable joy in doing for years. We see an impossible situation. We see an unnoticed person, a person that's overlooked and we're not

overlooking them because God doesn't, and all of the sudden we begin to express the heart of God.

Is that in line with what you're hoping will happen? Or am I just the goofy one that's going to read your book?

Andy: That is absolutely in line with it. Because one of the things that Polly and I try to talk to the boys about and this is in another book. I've got a book called The Seven Decisions and you've seen that. In The Seven Decisions, I'm talking about specific principles. This is one of these principles.

But one of the things that I talk to people about is finding the heart of God.

James: That's what I was just talking about.

Andy: So think about this now. Do we -- now think! Do we believe in God? Yes, we do. Do you believe that God wants his best for us? Well yes! Yes! He says he wants his best for us. Well, now you're a human being, do you want the best for you? Yeah! I really do. So let me ask you this. Now this is a good question. Do you believe that God has a better imagination than you? I think he probably does. So I wonder if what we imagine as the best and what God imagines as his best for us, I wonder if that's two different things.

Have you ever had with a child or somebody you loved that much or an adult child and they were set off on a task and you knew, boy, this could be really big for them. This could be good for their life or their career. And you watched them and they reached a point and they just stopped. You're like, "Wait! You could've kept going here. There was so much more for you if you had just kept..." And it was frustrating because you found that you wanted their success for them more than they wanted their success.

I wonder how our heavenly Father sometimes looks at his children and saying, there's so much more for you! We don't want God to roll his eyes at us.

James: I think he cares about our dreams. You heard me share something when we were back here visiting before we came out; that it is one thing to be excited about our own dreams because I think God is too, just like you were talking about the dad or the parent looking at the kids saying, "Why don't you come on? Get the best. We want the best for you." And this Father knows best, knows how to deliver best. But what I found great incredible indescribable joy in is not just getting my dreams fulfilled but focusing on his dreams. And what I found as I looked back through my life, the more I focused on what I believed to be the vision and dream of God the more my dreams were fulfilled because I focused on his.

Now most of my lifetime dreams personally are fulfilled. So my full focus, other than watching our grandchildren grow up and praying about them, is saying, "God is what's on your heart? Let me be in on it." I have an idea that's going to be the most exciting journey that I've had on this planet as long as I've been here.

I think if all of us would lose our dreams somewhat in the will of the Father we'd be amazed at what we would notice, what we would see and how things would become more meaningful and how we could make a more profound effect because of it.

Andy: I listen to that to what you just said.

James: Is it crummy or is it in your book?

Andy: I listen to what you said and that is so right. But I've got to tell you. I so admire you two. My wife thinks -- you remind her of her dad.

James: Is he a good guy?

Andy: Yeah! Sometimes I feel like James is better than I am because I want to want God's dream. But if I'm totally honest, I struggled for years with this. I would be literally like praying, God I want your will. I want your will -- whatever your will is, that's what I want. And I'd literally get up and I'd kind of think, but man, don't touch my boys because if something happens to my boys we're going to have a problem. I really would.

I would say, Lord, I want your will. Lord, I really want whatever your will for my life is, I want your will. And I would also like a boat at some time -- just at some time.

[Laughter]

I couldn't stop it. I couldn't stop.

Then I read in Psalms, God said David was a man after his own heart. I read a prayer that David prayed and it totally changed my prayer life. Here's what David prayed. David said, "God, help me to want your will so I can follow you more closely." I thought, boy, that's me. Lord please! I'm so aware sometimes I don't even want it. I want to want it. Lord, help me to want your will because I want to see God's dreams come true too.

James: That's good! We just wrote another book or two here. Do you all enjoy this guy? Do you like Andy Andrews? He is a noticer. He is a pursuer. You break down really difficult

subjects into simple thought provocative images. I just want to thank you for that. I think you are a treasure.

If you have not, let me just say this and you had no idea I'd do this. *The Noticer, The Noticer Returns*, what was the other book you just referred to?

Andy: *Seven decisions.*

James: Which other book?

Andy: *Traveler's Gift, The Butterfly...*

James: *The Traveler's Gift* was probably your first bestseller; is that right? Are those all still available? Can you go to Amazon and find them?

Andy: Absolutely!

James: Or would it be easier to go to your web site and order them from you?

Andy: No.

James: It makes no difference. In other words, if they got them from you would you get more money from it than if you got the royalty?

Andy: Don't worry about that.

James: I am worried about it. I care. This is my burden. God cares about you.

Andy: I appreciate that so much but my thing is I want people to have the books. So whatever is easiest for you... Now let me tell you this. If you go to my web site, if you go to AndyAndrews.com, I do a podcast every week, it's free. You can click on a thing, get four free parenting videos.

James: See I'm more concerned about taking care of you than you are right now. I want you to buy Andy's books. Let me tell you why. I want to bless Andy and this family because they are a fabulous family and this guy is a seeker and a noticer. He loves to share it. He's a wonderful communicator in virtually any setting. But here's the deal. The books will bless the reader. Am I right?

Betty: Absolutely!

James: It will bless you. This man has a gift to bless you. So those are the names of the books. You can go to Amazon, Andy Andrews, I hope you get everything he's got. You know what? I may tell you when we slip out but I'm going to send *The Noticer* and *The Noticer Returns* to a very well-known person that everybody in the metroplex loves and prays for, and I feel like the Lord told me as I'm praying for him with great love for him that the Lord said if he reads *The Noticer*, he's going to begin to notice more clearly what he needs to see. So we're going to send him the book. I may have you write him a note and we'll send it to him.

But see, what I was thinking just join with me here. I was thinking about what could I give somebody that I love, that I prayed for and I prayed with and I want to minister to them? I want to give them something Andy's got.

I think if you get you these books, now listen to me -- read them, or even when you get it you're going to know where it goes. Here's another one and this is in the bookstores right now, *The Perfect Moment*.

I'll tell you what, Andy. We've done this before. But we're drilling water wells right now and you've helped us. You've helped us do virtually everything God's put on our heart. You and your wife and family has said, "We really want to do that." But look, we're going to give this book to any of you who will just give a cup of water. You just say, "James, I'm going to be a miracle in somebody's life by giving them fresh clean water." And you'll actually do it for the rest of their life and it is so simple.

Watch closely because I think your heart is going to leap with the possibility and opportunity to do it.

On the mission field

Open captions:

I have one child left...

I had two children but the oldest, Mothsaman passed away. I don't know what caused my son to die. They told me it comes from an evil spirit.

Announcer: Punmom may not know what killed her son but we do. And it wasn't an evil spirit. It was the last thing Punmom would expect, the water from the family pond.

Open captions:

I feel so bad that I could not protect my son.

Janice: You've done a good job. Done good! You're a good momma.

Announcer: This is the story of Punmom. But it is not just her story it's the story of countless others in Cambodia. While we can and do educate those here about the death of their water, education alone cannot save them when they have no other water source. However, with your help, fresh life-saving water can become their source.

End of clip**In the studio**

James: As we watched those little kids at the end drinking the water, the clean water, and you think about what it would have done for that mother that we first saw.

Betty: James, a mother feels so responsible. She loves her child so much. She does all that she can do, these mothers, but they take them to the only water source that they have knowing that that water, James could possibly kill their children. But what do you do? They have to have water in their bodies.

So this mother is just feeling the load of not knowing what to do but yet she knows there is something that we must be able to do. That's where we can step in and make the difference. We can drill those water wells that will last them a lifetime and then the children can come and drink the fresh water.

James: Well, we can actually do it. It is what Jesus referred to that "if you give just a cup of water in my name you won't lose your reward." A lot of people I think unnecessarily waste a lot of time trying to determine what is going to be the reward if I do this? That powerful passage of "giving and it will be given unto you, pressed down," that powerful passage is preceded by giving with no thought of return as the greatest, perhaps expression of love. You're not giving thinking about what you're going to get.

Our Pastor Robert Morris is teaching on *Hearing God*, he began teaching on *The Blessed Life* that has grown one of the fastest growing churches in history, and one of the largest now in the United States and one of the most influential worldwide.

He said the blessed life is not getting it about getting. It is about getting about giving. First giving all to God, and giving him the first fruit of all your increase and keep God as the overseer of all that he's entrusted to your watch care and you'll find the blessing by being a blessing. So when Jesus says, "You just give a cup of water you won't lose your reward," how about we leave it in the hands of God to determine the reward?

I'm telling you. For Betty and me, just to see those children drinking that water and it's clean, and to know the mothers are happy and their hearts are not being broken, that's all the reward we need. We're not looking for a money tree. We're not looking for a cash flow to suddenly come our way. We're saying, "Look at that! Look at that!" And the viewers of *LIFE Today*, God bless you! You say "Thank you for giving us an opportunity to be a part of a miracle."

That's what we're asking you to do right now. 500 more wells this year. We drill them one well at a time in 15 nations. Could you drill a well? I believe if you can, you will. I believe you will do it with a grateful heart and a joyful heart. So \$4800 is still the average gift of a well. \$48 toward that well will give 10 people, when you break it down, 10 people basically water the rest of their life. Could you do that? That's how most of the income comes. It comes from people who give \$48 to give water to ten or they give \$144 to give water to 30. Those are the numbers that come in. But if you can give \$1200 and pray Lord, get three more to join me. Or \$2400, Lord, send another person to join me here. God will hear your prayers and you're sowing seeds of blessing.

Can you do it? If you can drill a well, I believe you will. But your \$48 means a whole lot to mothers like those you just heard and like that one with a broken heart. LifeToday.org: Go online right now. Use your bankcard like a check. That's how you use them. Or dial the number, it is a prayer line but also it is a help line. You call, you say, "Here's my gift." We have some gifts to send you. The book by our Pastor Robert Morris, *Frequency: Tuning in to hear God. Hearing God*; a beautiful journal to go with it; a beautiful pen with the names of God and scripture, scriptural truth on it that will be a blessing to you as you journal. Also the beautiful bronze "Majesty" to say thank you for doing what God put on your heart.

Thank you for giving just a cup of water in this instance together a well of water for his glory. Thank you for doing it.

On the mission field

Announcer: Globally, contaminated water extinguishes hundreds of thousands of lives every year and nearly half of those lost are children under the age of five.

In Angola, mothers face an awful choice between giving their children dangerous contaminated water or watching them suffer from dehydration.

In Cambodia, waterborne diseases are wiping out entire families. Our team encountered parents who have lost as many as seven children.

In the Amazon, disease-causing organisms are not the only danger families face in their daily quest to quench their thirst. In this village, sending your child to the only available source of water means exposing them to a harrowing array of deadly creatures that lurk in and around the water. The vulnerable children who depend on this water for survival must run a daily gauntlet of danger risking their lives just for a drink of water. These odds are far from fair, yet parents reluctantly run this terrible risk with their little ones day after day because there is simply no alternative.

At *LIFE Outreach International* we can give them an alternative, one that will give them clean, clear, life-giving water but only if you act with compassion today before it's too late.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Well, in addition to Robert's book on Frequency: Hearing God, this will open your eyes. This is a very simple read but it's inspiring. I think it will help you experience what Andy is hoping you'll experience, A Perfect Moment. I think that perfect moment will be in some way very obviously in the presence of God.

Andy, I love you, appreciate you! Would you tell Andy Andrews thank you? Thanks for being our friend. Thanks for helping so many people.

Thank you for watching *LIFE Today*. Please, please, for your benefit and to bless others, go to The Stream every day, stream.org. Make it your home page.