

7/15/16
Week 29: Mission feeding
James and Betty Robison

James: I want to welcome you to this very special program. I'm James Robison. My wife, Betty, we've been married more than 50 years. It's hard to believe. Most people say she doesn't even look like she is 50 years old. "She can't be a grandmother!" But she is a great grandmother.

I want to tell you something. We're pretty excited about this great grandbaby. We're pretty excited about all of our grandchildren. We actually said to the 11 grandchildren, "We're going to have a great grandchild." I said, "But of course, we've already had 11 great grandchildren because you are, in our opinion, great." You know why we can say that? Because they really love God and they love one another. Those who are married love their spouses and they really have a joy.

When I talk about that joy it makes me sad when I realize that there are so many people who can't say that about their family. There just seems to be so much unrest and so much tension between not only political parties and individuals and church groups and religious factions but even within marriage relationships and families. I want to see a miracle of transforming power.

Betty, the world seems to be on fire right now. It is a world of crisis. It is a world in which carnage prevails with terrorism as a continual threat. And you see the headlines of these horrible events happening all over the world. Let me ask you a question. If you had the ability to stop the carnage; I mean you could put to rest the threat of terrorism and these blind suicidal or well-planned out attacks that just destroy innocent life, if you could stop it, if there was something you could do to literally stop the cycle of pain and death would you do it?

I have often asked people who watch Betty and me on television, "Do you want your prayers answered?" Have you ever considered and I want you to really consider this, becoming an answer to prayer? -- That you could, in fact deliver the answer or become in some way the answer to prayer.

Betty, we all want our prayers answered. A lot of people are asking, "What do we do to get our prayers answered?" One of the things I've said to people who watch us on television is seek to become an answer to prayer and your prayers will be answered.

I'm really reminded of this passage in Isaiah 58. God begins by saying, "If you really want what I want, the chosen fast, not just going through the motions of religion but really setting people free, seeing the yoke of bondage broken and you begin to notice the poor, the hungry, the homeless and you reach out to them, then your salvation, your hope will come like the dawn and your wounds will quickly heal. Your godliness will lead you forward," not just discussing God but Godliness, "and the glory of the Lord will protect you from behind and then when you call the Lord will answer, 'Yes, here I am,' he will quickly reply.

Remove the heavy yoke of oppression. Stop pointing your finger and spreading vicious rumors." Quit attacking one another. Stop the dissension and the division.

"Remove the heavy yoke of oppression. Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine from the darkness and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon. And the Lord will guide you continually, giving you water when you are dry and restoring your strength and you will become like a well-watered garden, an ever-flowing spring."

Betty, we are here to be fruitful as Christians to share the love and life of God. I think when people realize that once I begin to do that then suddenly I find God's presence is prevailing in my life and I begin to see miracles occur. And I can see the cycle of death broken and pain and misery. And we have the opportunity to be as I said earlier, an answer to people's prayer.

Betty: We do, James. What more could we want? That just pleases me to know that I can be a part of what God wants to do. He wants to reach out. He wants to touch those but he likes it use his own children to do that. And to be a blessing, to give out a blessing because you've been blessed is such an opportunity for all of us as Christians to reach out to those that we see a real need, James.

James: Well, I'll tell you what. If you realize the horrible things that happen with terrorist attacks, and the scores are hundreds that have been killed and even thousands at the World Trade Center, 9/11. There is a carnage taking place in the world that all of these numbers numerically pale in comparison to. We're talking about hundreds of thousands of people that really face the severe reality of painful death, destruction, and there is a way to stop it right now. I mean totally stop it. In other words, the miracle, the prayer that people are praying, the heart cry answered.

I want you to look in. I want you to see the situation that causes more death and more suffering than all the terrorist attacks added together -- more losses than the world wars and there is a perfect solution. I want you to look, I want you to see the reality of the situation as it is and then I want you to recognize I can -- yes, you -- I can be the answer to that situation. I can actually be the miracle. I can actually be the answer to prayer, the solution to that crisis. Watch closely.

On the mission field

Announcer: Right now Angola is experiencing one of the worst droughts in years, destroying crops and impacting the lives of nearly two million people. As a result, over 100,000 children under the age of five are suffering with severe malnutrition. One of those children is named Elaina; she is almost two years old but she only weighs 18 pounds. Elaina's mother, Rosalina came to a malnutrition clinic desperate for her daughter to be healed.

Open captions: I used to give Elaina my milk. She started getting sick when I ran out. Elaina cries when she's hungry but I have nothing to give her. I am very worried that she is still losing weight.

Announcer: Elaina's skin disease can be a fatal symptom of malnutrition. When a child is not getting enough food, the lack of protein results in large painful lesions all over the body.

If treated early enough the skin lesions can be healed but the long term effects of malnutrition will be with a child for the rest of their lives.

The cure for malnutrition is simply food. A daily bowl of food will keep children out of the malnutrition clinics and give them the life they deserve. That's the miracle of mission feeding.

End of clip

In the studio

James: When the missionaries and relief workers have been told by the national representations and governments all over the world that they have helped save over 10 million lives, just by giving people nutritious enriched, vitamin-enriched soup mix or porridge. And we've been doing this now for more than 25 years. We have seen the miracle of love and answered prayer because people just like you -- and by the way, it does depend upon you. Each person saying, "I'm going to do what I can do." It is not a matter of waiting for someone else to do it.

I want you to consider this reality because of the way the mission and relief workers are able to function and yes, utilizing food grants of raw substance like corn and other beans that are actually donated, when they then process it and vitamin-enrich that based upon the need of the area, we're able to give to children and their family something that totally stabilizes their diet, and begins to restore them to a normal life. And then move them into being productive, not

dependent and actually getting to the place that they can help others. This is what happens in villages all over the entire continent of Africa where the desperate needs are being met by love.

Here's what happens. If we're able to receive \$30, \$50, or \$100 for mission feeding outreach because it works, we have found that people see a need and a realistic effective way to meet it, people leap at the opportunity of stopping that carnage, stopping that death cycle, and really becoming the expression of life. A miracle of love in action, not just discussed, not loving in word only but in deed.

When we do that and we make these gifts we can actually feed for \$30 three children for the next months, for \$50 we can feed five, for \$100 we can feed ten. There is a level at which everyone watching right now can help. And if you won't just say, "Well, I hope someone does it." You're the hope. You're the answer to someone's prayer. You're the answer to the heart cry. You can be the miracle they long for. And this is not an attempt to find the solution. We know the solution. This is the delivery system.

So what we're asking you to do right now is to dial the number on the screen or go to the web site that you see on the screen and we're asking you to take your bankcard and make the gift, we believe if you pray, God will impress you to give. I'm always going to say if you could possibly help feed ten children make that \$100 gift that just keeps giving for the next weeks and the next months. But \$30, what does that mean to three children? What does that mean? What does that gift that you're giving mean to those children? Well, it means everything! It stops the death cycle. It becomes the miracle that has been longed for, hoped for and needed. \$50 will give life and hope to five, \$100 to ten. Right now would you make that gift?

I want you to look in at a scene. Some of you are already moving to go online or to the phone, I'm glad you are. But I want you to see something when one of our missionaries, along with a wonderful friend, a Christian recording artist and a great writer and communicator, Tammy Trent asks a question of mothers in Africa.

On the mission field

Peter: Have any of you mothers here ever lost a child because of malnutrition, of a lack of food? And if you've lost more than one, then show us how many you've lost by showing us how many fingers.

Oh, my God! I mean look at that. That woman has lost five. That one has lost five. Seven! Oh, Jesus! I mean nearly all of them!

I think it is beyond words. I think it is absolutely horrible! I mean I struggle even for words to be able to explain what feelings are in my heart and I've never lost one of my kids, I've never

lost one of my grandkids. And I just think if one of my precious little grandkids, if I lost them, what it would mean. And imagine if I lost them to starvation and I couldn't actually do anything about it because I didn't have any food; I didn't have any means to be able to help my child, and watch that child die in front of me. Well, this woman watched ten of them die in front of her. Please, James, let's do this and let's do it now!

End of clip

In the studio

James: Boy, I'm so grateful for Peter Pretorius. We've been working with him for 25 years. He's over all the mission outreaches on the continent of Africa. What he was talking about there, Betty, he was shocked to see how many had lost several children, some of them five, some of them even more. You and I have lost a child. We know the pain.

Betty: The devastation of the heart of losing one. Your heart breaks in two. I can't imagine losing more than one. And just the heartache of these mothers, their hearts are crushed and they're not done. If we don't get the help, we don't get the food to the children it will happen again and again and again.

Please join with us. The solution is simple. They need nutrition for their babies that they love so much.

James: I can promise you that if you had a child or a grandchild that was suffering with a disease and I knew that I could bring the absolute perfect cure to the hospital or wherever your loved one is being cared for or to your home, wherever they are, and I could deliver that perfect cure I would do that.

Let me say this to you because many of you who have watched Betty and me on television on our weekly program *LIFE Today*, you knew about the battle for our precious daughter's life. Not only did we receive the comfort of your love and your prayers and your concern, but I'm absolutely positive of this, there is not one person watching me right now that if you had the perfect cure -- and of course, we were praying for that perfect miracle cure and our daughter was trusting for it. We don't understand that but we haven't stopped trusting God even when we don't understand. We know our daughter right now is rejoicing in the eternal everlasting presence of our loving God and father through the faith in Jesus Christ as her Lord and her savior. There is no question about that. But I don't believe there is a single one of you if you

had the perfect cure you would not have rushed to our home. Rushed to the side of our family and our daughter and said, "Here's the cure."

Well, we have the cure. This is not wishful thinking. This is not just crying out to God for a miracle. This is actually becoming the miracle. This is actually becoming the answer to prayer. We want our prayers answered. Let's seek diligently to be the answer to someone else's prayer. The heart cry of those mothers not only for the comfort that missionaries offer those who have suffered loss but the assurance that the food is going to be there so they don't have to lose another child or another family member.

Would you right now go online, move wherever you need to go or would you dial that number knowing that the moment you reach out and touch those numbers you're touching someone with the very love of God and you're providing them the miracle cure that they need that is absolutely 100% perfect in its ability to solve the problem? To deal with the malnutrition, the starvation, to bring them back to stability, they need nourishment.

The missionaries and relief workers are there. They have planted their lives in the midst of suffering. All they're asking, their hearts are full, they don't want to be there with empty hands. Would you right now make that call or go online. Take your bankcard. And I'm asking, make the largest gift you can because you're in essence giving the greatest gift, you're giving life and hope and a future.

If you can give \$100 to feed ten children for the next months please, please do! There are some, I'm grateful to say, who can give \$1,000 and enable us to feed 100 children. Many people give \$30 or \$50 to feed three or five. Whatever you can do, please right now would you do it? Would you reach out and please touch someone with love? You're going to be the miracle that is hoped for, longed for and needed.

Begin video clip

Announcer: In remote and impoverished areas of Africa, families are suffering, facing death by starvation and those hit the hardest are the children. Life's mission feeding program is there ready to feed and care for these children in crisis areas of Angola, Mozambique, and Sudan.

With all of our previous reserves gone and Southern Africa facing its worst drought and food shortage in years, we urgently need to replenish our food supplies to reach 400,000 children counting on us.

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. Please also consider a special gift of \$1400 to help sponsor a school and help feed 140 children for three full months.

With your gift of any amount we'll send you the brand new audio series, Living Your Destiny. Hear five outstanding Bible teachers and women of faith share how to live the life God destined for you. With your gift of \$100 or more you'll also receive The Longing in Me by Sheila Walsh, and Unashamed by Christine Caine. And finally, with your gift of \$1,000 or more, be sure to request "Majesty," our 2016 commemorative bronze sculpture.

Please call, write, or go online today and make your gift of life to help feed and care for hungry children.

End of clip

In the studio

Luke: Father God I come to you right now. I ask you to perform a miracle in this child God. Please stop its suffering, Jesus. God, I ask you to put your hand on this child and heal him. Lord Jesus, you've made this child, you gave this child life. We ask that you will touch this body. Lord, give it the nutrition that it needs.

Ruth: We pray for a miracle for her. Lord, she needs food but she needs your miraculous touch too, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Jeanne: Lord, I just ask you to let the food we give him be a nourishment to his body and quickly restore him in Jesus' name.

James: I pray from the bottom of my heart that you would raise them up as a great shining light in a country so desperately in need. God, bless them. Bless this hospital. Bless these nurses and God, bless these boys. Raise them up in Jesus' name.

Beth: Lord, I pray that you would move in this village and that you would move through us, God. We praise you, Lord. We thank you that you are the God who knows. You are the God who heals and you are the God who provides. Use us Lord as your instruments. Use us as your servants. In Jesus' name, amen.

James: Dear God, answer those prayers. The first prayer that you heard there, by the young man where you were reading the prayer as he was crying, that was our grandson Luke. That's our oldest grandson, our first grandson. Luke was there on the mission field. Our daughter that we lost to the disease of cancer, her son went immediately after graduating from Baylor to the mission field.

Then you saw if you didn't recognize, you saw Billy Graham's daughter, Ruth Graham praying. You saw me actually standing by Franklin Graham and praying. You heard Beth Moore praying.

And so what we're asking you to actually become right now is not only the answer to those individuals you might recognize or that I've just referenced but that you become, above all, the answer to the heart cry and the prayer of the mothers and the families that are praying for these children right now that are suffering malnutrition. And everyone who is watching can be an answer to the prayer.

Betty: Of course, we start asking for prayers. Pray for these precious people that their children are dying because they don't have the food, the nourishment that they need.

But as a result of the prayer we ask that your heart is moved and touched that you will take action and join with us and let's get the food to these precious children that need to have the joy of growing up and playing and having fun; and their mothers watching them grow up instead of watching them die.

Please help! Join with us if you will.

James: Well, this really is the way to stop the death cycle. You remember when those first responders rushed in to the Trade Center to save lives; they were rushing in to save as many lives as possible. And 3,000 died in the horrible horrific 9/11 attack. But there were the people rushing in to be the miracle people were hoping for, at least that was their intention. And they weren't able to deliver the perfect freedom they were offering and the help but we can right now.

Think about it, earlier in the program I talked about the missionaries getting the report from Africa and national governments that we'd saved the lives of over 10 million of their children in those various countries -- 10 million lives saved! Multiply that. How miraculous is that?

And it all starts one life at a time, three, five, ten. The miracle that we hope for and long for is absolutely certain if you would just reach out. You are the one; you're the responder that rushes in. And you're not offering feeble hope, you're offering real hope. You're offering them a future. You're giving them life.

Would you do it right now? Move online, take your bankcard and say, "I'm going to reach out and I'm going to be the miracle for ten children." And make that \$100 gift. Or for three children or for five -- whatever you can do. How big is that gift to those five, those three, those

ten? Whatever you can do right now reach out and become the miracle answer to someone's prayer.

Thank you for doing it. Thank you so much. We will send you a gift to say thank you and to bless you in your life as you become the miracle in someone else's life. Thank you for doing it!

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End of clip

In the studio

James: Well, from the depth of our heart we want to thank you.

By the way, if you dial that number and you get a busy, would you be persistent? Would you be determined? Would you please get through? And whatever God puts on your heart, do it. Thank you for being a real miracle for someone. Thank you for becoming the answer to someone's prayer.

I pray God answers your prayers. Thank you for caring. Thank you so much for sharing.

