

7/13/16
Week 29: Mission Feeding
Sheila Walsh
Beth Moore: Out of the Net #2

Sheila: Hello! I'm Sheila Walsh. Welcome to *LIFE Today*! We've given James and Betty a very well deserved day off.

I'm so thrilled with what we have to share with you. One of my favorite Bible teachers on the planet and I'm sure yours too is of course Beth Moore. What we'd like to bring to you is a second part of a teaching that Beth has talked about. It is called Out of the Net. I think as you listen to what Beth has to share, perhaps it will strike some chords in your own heart.

I pray that the Holy Spirit will really minister to you and you'll be able to understand the depth of what Beth is sharing and find a new freedom. So let's watch Beth!

Begin video clip

Beth: Ecclesiastes 7:26. I love it in the ESV, I want you to hear the wording here. I mean this is strong.

And I find something more bitter than death: the woman whose heart is snares and nets, and whose hands are fetters. He who pleases God escapes her, but the sinner is taken by her.

I'm going to read that again in just a moment but I want to say something to you gentlemen.

But I do hope that perhaps a single man might be watching or tuning in somehow. I do think it's a warning and I think it's well taken, so I do hope somebody hears it, that it's not necessarily the one be talked about but is at risk of a relationship with someone. Just like this. So now I want to read it again with that in mind.

And I find something more bitter than death: the woman whose heart is snares and nets, and whose hands are fetters.

I want you to write down number two and we're about to talk about it: A heart can twist into a net.

Now let that just sink in a moment. We're going to talk about it for a few minutes so let's explore it. But I want you to think this through. I want you to hear it in the Holman Christian Standard because it says it with less words and you'll still hear the word "net."

And I find something more bitter than death: the woman who is a trap.

Everybody say, "The woman who is a trap." Everybody say the words.

Audience: The woman who is a trap.

Beth: And then it says:

Her heart a net and her hands chains.

Beth: Wow! Wow! One of my commentators pointed out that it's really not talking about a prostitute. It certainly goes there with his warnings toward his son but it's not talking in this context here. It's not talking necessarily about woman folly.

One of the things that the commentator pointed out was that anyone can have a heart that is turned into a net. I mean, it just liked troubled me. And it seems reasonable to me because I thought how in the world does a heart turn into a net. I thought to myself, it seems reasonable to me that if your feet have been in a net long enough, if your feet have made their home in a net... In other words we don't escape it. Maybe we don't know how to get out it. Maybe we don't want out of it. We're just standing with our feet in a net.

If our feet become at home in a net a net can become at home in our hearts. Anybody get that with me? Once our feet get like, "We're home here! This is how my feet usually feel, really comfortable in this net." You stay there long enough and that net will find its home in your heart and that is a dangerous, dangerous thing. Picture it with me because I'm a visual learner. Are many of you? I love images in my head and I just saw it. You know, once you stand here long enough it's like that net just like crawls up your leg like poison ivy, until it just grows around and overtakes the heart and that net that has been under our feet just begins to overtake the heart.

Now let's talk about what she would like. I'm going to say to the gentlemen too, "Is this you? Is this you?" So let's have both genders here because anybody's heart can turn into a net and we need to be aware of it. We want to be aware of it in our

relationships and we want to be aware of it most when we look into the mirror and when we look into our own lives and the way we do our relationships.

Have you ever known a woman that you cannot just be friends with? Anybody know what I'm talking about? You have to get all tangled up with them. You know, just here recently I've had to put a little distance between myself and someone I really love. Because I didn't realize until I read the verse...

Now, I'm going to tell you something up front and I want you to stay there because we're going to talk this thing through together. I'm in net recovery.

[Laughter]

Truly! I've had a netty heart my own self. Anybody? Have you heard of a neti pot? We're talking netty heart here and it's not any prettier than a neti pot. Don't even think about it.

[Laughter]

So, listen, I'm recovering so I get that but I was just thinking to myself after I saw the verse. It's kind of what I'm trying to get a breather from. You know, it's just like whoa, whoa! Where there is so much drama that you just can't breathe. And I think if we're trying to picture what it looks like I think that with a woman who has a heart that has turned into a net befriending turns into belonging. Is anybody stepping in that with me?

Where you can't just like --- Why can't we just like be friends? Do you ever get the feeling like, suddenly I don't know I suddenly belong to her? How did that happen? Really, really possessive. If it's been a long time since you've been anywhere without your friend she's probably a tad netty. Anybody know what I'm talking about? Like, if you no longer know what it's like to be alone. Can we just be so brave as to say if that's us? If we have a friend that we're scared to death that if we leave them alone for a 24 hour period of time they're going to get a new best friend. And so it may be us and we're in net recovery in this series. Because that's the kind of like sticky, just sticky! A woman whose heart is net can be a woman that won't let go, just won't let go! And this can be true in a friendship or a romantic context.

I thought it was interesting, I was thinking today that we have a name for it, strangely. We have a name for it when it's men. We just don't call it the same thing when it's women. You know what we call them? Stalkers. Do you want to hear something

interesting? My ministry would be able to affirm what I'm about to tell you. I've had about four what I would call finally, ultimately qualified as stalkers and I want you to understand something, only one of them was a man. *One* was a man and he was not the big dangerous one. Women can be netty. Women can refuse to let go. Women can decide that they own you.

And it's really interesting how we do, because once we've realized we're kind of caught, then we want out. It's just nature, it's just nature because the relationships you and I enjoy the most are the ones we know we could step back from if we needed to. But the more caught I feel the more I want to run. Is it just me?

A woman with a netty heart really wants to be loved but if love wears out she will settle for obligation. A woman with a netty heart can be --- This is a word I felt God gave me and then he confirmed it in his word, *ingratiating*. Anybody know what I mean? By that I looked it up in the dictionary to be sure that I had the right concept in my mind when somebody ingratiates theirselves into your life. I found this definition in a dictionary. It says this: to ingratiate means to bring oneself into favor with someone by flattery or trying to please them.

You're in Ecclesiastes, I'm wondering if I want to let you let it go yet. Go with me to Proverbs 29:5. I want to show you something.

Anybody just glad to be in the word of God? I tell you, I'm going to learn something in this series about having a healthier heart and I don't just want to like be sitting across the table from somebody going, "Netty! She's netty!"

[Laughter]

I want my finger to point in before it points out. So I don't want to be netty. I came out of this thinking, "Lord, I'm going to tell you something. I want you to pluck my feet out of any net." Because I don't want people to feel like when they come into a relationship with me that they're all wound up in it. All wound up in a tangle knot.

Look at Proverbs 29:5. I thought this was so interesting:

A man who flatters his neighbor spreads a net for his feet.

Now, neighbor just is friend. Very often it's the same word that is in Hebrew 4, friend. I don't know if it's there or not but for them there, only their neighbors were their friends. Do you get that with me? I mean, you know what? They had no way to travel

like we do all over the place. They didn't have email. Their best friends were their neighbors. So let's give it a nice broad range.

But it says that flattery gets peoples' feet caught in a net. How would that be true? Let me tell you. This is part of what ingratiating does. Have you ever had come into your life that just cannot say enough good about you? Well, they like your hair. And like how do you do your eyeliner and like, gentlemen, I'm sorry, okay, what can I say about you? They like your team. They like ... uh huh, you look like you're really, really working out. You're good at what you do. I mean it's a lot of building up. A lot of building up.

Let me assure you that I'm not talking about encouragement. The word of God calls us to encourage people, to affirm people in their faith. It even tells us to honor our leaders. We're told to honor one another. But that's different than flattery. Flattery has an element of deceit to it. Flattery is a complement wearing a cloak. Flattery has a – the whole idea of it is what it's going to bring to the person who is doing the flattering and not just what it's going to do for the person who is being flattered. Very, very important difference.

And you know what it's like because someone will come in and I mean just be all like that and they'll – and boy, you want that because it's addictive. I mean, it's addictive. Flattery is very addictive. Affirmation can be addictive. So here's what happens, if they're really good at it, if they've really been in a net long enough where their heart has been overtaken by a net, they're really, really netty of heart, what's going to happen is when the time is right, I'm not saying it's this conscious but I mean it happens like clockwork. Then they begin to withhold it. Have you ever gotten into the car with somebody, you're used to them pumping you up all the time, and this time they don't say anything and you knew you looked cute when you got in!

[Laughter]

So, you don't know what went wrong here. Do you understand what I'm saying?

Maybe you're a singer. You know what I'm talking about! That you have that person that says, I mean they just tell you every time, "No one sings like you!" I mean, it's just like – but that time, right afterwards they don't say it. And when you miss it you know you're an addict. Flattery! It's a lot of ingratiating, going on with a woman who has a netty heart and notice that you say, "What's wrong?"

And they always go, "Nothing! Nothing!"

And you're wound in, because now you're netty with them.

[Laughter]

I wrote this down too. We're about to get out of our misery in just a minute. Are y'all still hanging in there? Are you still out there? I need to know if you're still watching. You may have turned it off and you're trying to like untangle yourself and go to work but stay in there for just a moment.

Something else that dawned on me that I wrote down in my notes is that sometimes a people get you in a net by getting you tell them things that are so private that later you won't let go of them because they too much. Who is it that you really is extremely unhealthy for you but the truth of it is they know too much. That's netty! That's netty! If you can't trust them outside your intimate boundaries, you're in a net. And we've got the God who is going to pull our feet out of a net.

For some people, we've got to have a little mercy on them because it's the only way they think they can stay in a relationship, is that they just have to belong, you have to belong to them and they have to belong to you. I thought to myself, you know, one way we know we've been in a net if long after that relationship has soured we still have all manner of debris in our heart. I wonder who I'm serving today that has a heart just like full of debris.

I've started picturing an old screen door. Can you picture it with me? Kind of torn up on the edges, insects in it, dust in it, leaves stuck in it. Have you ever felt like long after a relationship was over you still got all this debris in your heart because somehow that net just was infectious? Crawled right down that person's leg and right up yours and into your heart.

I thought, it takes a brave heart to admit it's a net heart. And I love 1 Peter 1:22. It's one of my memory verses. From here, recently it says:

Love one another earnestly from a pure heart.

We were meant to love one another deeply but not with a netty heart. You'll get to where now, since you've heard the verse, it will start being so obvious to you.

Lord, we want to see it in our own hearts.

Begin video clip

Beth: I come with such gratitude to God for James and Betty Robison. They are such tremendous people of God and I not only love them and have so much respect for what they bring to the body of Christ, I also get a huge kick out of them and love them dearly. So I'm so grateful. Keith and I both love the privilege to serve with them.

I want to tell you something, on Wednesdays we get this opportunity. This is the outreach that we do on Wednesdays but somebody else on the other side of the world doesn't even have clean water to drink. They can't even get their mouths wrapped around weekly Bible study because they are trying to stay alive. There are people that don't have enough food to eat and there are outreaches of life that are meeting those kinds of needs.

So I love being part of a ministry that has a broad range perspective of the gospel of the living Christ. So thank you so much! Not only for participating on Wednesdays but in all the outreaches of LIFE. We are so grateful. May God bless you!

End of clip**In the studio**

Sheila: Don't you just love her! -- So beautiful and inspirational.

Actually, we have something that we're very excited to share with you. It is a new audio teaching called Living Your Destiny. Beth is one of the teachers on it. It is Beth Moore, Lisa Bevere, Christine Caine, Sarah Jakes Roberts, and a young Scottish girl called Sheila Walsh.

[Laughter]

But we're very excited about that. It's really some powerful teaching on how to go from where you are right at this moment in your life and discover your God given destiny. One of the things that has become really clear to me, your history does not dictate your destiny. When your life is in the hands of God anything is possible.

But I love that Beth stands with us in feeding children who are so desperate for spiritual food but initially, so desperate to simply have one clean good meal. I think when you see this you'll think, you know what? I can do something. Please watch this.

On the mission field

>> I love this continent! And the more that I travel here the more I realize that my heart is over here. So when you see the suffering of your sisters and your brothers and your people around you that your heart begins to break. It hurts to see young kids suffer so much. It breaks my heart completely in two knowing that there are so many thousands of kids all across this continent that even today maybe won't make it. They won't live another day because they don't have food. They don't have what they need to survive.

So every bowl of food that we serve, it's also a reminder that there is probably 100 times or 1,000 times more kids that don't get that bowl of food and that breaks my heart.

I'm reminded of the words that Jesus said when he said he left the 99 to fetch that one. Sometimes it feels hopeless to go about such a big mission. But if we do it together and say, "Yeah, I'm going to save one -- just one! I'll save one. If nothing else I'm going to save one little child! Just one!"

End of clip

In the studio

Sheila: Last week my husband and I decided we'd go see a movie. We're trying to be more responsible with our finances so we didn't buy popcorn and we didn't get sodas; we just brought water from home. When I got home I realized that we'd spent \$30 on two movie tickets.

Do you know \$30 feeds three children for three months? \$30 will feed three children for three months. \$50 will feed five children for three months. \$100 would feed ten children for three months. What we want to do in these villages is to provide food for children at school. If we even provided like a \$1,000 will help 100 children but here's what I think is fascinating. Some of you could do a little bit more. \$1400 for sponsored feeding a whole school for three months - - \$1400! And for those of you who have been placed in a situation where you have been entrusted with more resources, which is such a gift because you get to give more, \$5600 will sponsor feeding for a school for a whole year! Can you imagine? Some people spend that on a suit -- on a purse. That would feed a whole school for a whole year.

The thing as I watched that story and I'm about to go back to Angola and be able to bring back fresh stories, this is not just business as usual, this is a crisis here. Can you imagine as a mom that you can't give your child one meal a day?

We can do something. I felt so strongly when I see that piece that we are the body of Christ, we are his hands and feet on this earth and all of us, every single one of us can do something.

Maybe you think, \$30 is a lot. Why don't you join together with two friends and think, we could all do \$10; that would give three children food for three months. It is amazing!

Christ has left us here not just to wait to get rescued out of here. He has left us here to make a difference. That little one had no choice as to which part of the world he was born in. No more than my son had any choice but being born into a family where we're able to provide a lot for him. But I think of these moms and I think how much you long as a mother to be able to provide clean water and food for your children.

So please, would you do something? You'll see a number on your screen. Dial that number or go online, go to LifeToday.org and give your best gift possible. If all you can give is \$30, the angels will be celebrating. If you decide you can do a whole year for a school, that would be fantastic! But let's feed these children in Jesus' name.

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

On the mission field

James: No way for me to tell you how grateful I am to see these bags of food; I'm told over 70,000 meals on this one load. Betty and I started out really helping Peter feed 10,000 children. Now we're approaching nearly a half million.

I just say thank God because I've seen so many things happen. Children that were dying are now being fed and going to school.

It's all because of the food factory. It's all because of mission feeding and mission feeding is all because of you.

I'm saying to you right here from a miracle in Africa, you are the reason for the miracle. To God be the glory but it is God's love being expressed through you and you are glorifying God by your action and by your gifts. Thank you for helping. Let's keep doing it.

End of clip

In the studio

Sheila: Thank you so much! Thank you for making a difference. Thank you for changing the destiny of children all around the world. We'll see you next time! God bless!

Begin video clip

Announcer: In his new book, *The Stream*, James Robison charts a plan for spiritual revolution in America. *The Stream*, available now online and at retail bookstores.