

8/17/16
Week 34: WFL
James & Betty Robison
Beth Moore: The Magnificent Miracle of Freedom, #3

James: Thank you all! Thank you! Thank you for joining us. I'm James Robison; Betty and I welcome you to *LIFE Today*.

I want to point out here is *The Stream*. Now we have a web site called *The Stream* that's fed by many tributaries. Here is a stream that refreshes hearts and minds that I wrote over a period of five years and I was dealing from a shepherd's point of view, from an evangelist, an announcer of good news and hope. I was announcing, I believe, the truth of God that sets us free and keeps us free. I hope you will give us the opportunity not only to give you the book today as we give water to people around the world and see them experience the love of God in an extremely important expression, really expressing God's heart and extending his hands.

So just know that what's going to happen today is going to be a blessing to you because Beth Moore is teaching on The Miracle of Freedom and I know what a blessing she is going to be to you. Would you welcome Beth Moore in the word? Here she is.

Begin video clip

Beth: We're talking about what freedom is, here is what we know it cannot be. It cannot be sinless-ness because it can't be perfection. How do I know that? Because you know what? We are not going to be perfect until we see Jesus Christ face to face; and that, for those of us who have trusted him as savior. So we're going to live in these bodies where we're under temptation and where we are going to have thoughts that we wish we didn't, we're going to think, somebody is a brat. We're going to think we wish we did not have to work with somebody; how we can hardly stand to look at them. We're going to have all manner of thing. We're just going to have temptations for the rest of our lives. And we're going to fall to some of those temptations. We certainly are.

So we know freedom cannot be sinless. It cannot be a state of perfection. We know it cannot be. So freedom is not having no sin. It is having no -- everybody staying with me -- no dominating sin -- no dominating sin. No area of dominating sin. It's what I'll call to you, because this is helpful to me. I don't know why but this is how I think of it: No dominion sin. No sin taking dominion; a sin ruling over you or a sin ruling over me. That's freedom for us. It is not sinless.

It means that I have no dominating, no area of dominating sin. I'm not letting a sin rule over me or I'm not being mastered by it because it is no longer my master and I am the overcomer. I'm not meant to be overcome and enslaved by something. Is anybody getting that with me?

Every addiction is a master. That's what happened. The moment it became an addiction that that very slide is where it took dominion. Anything that you can't just go, "No, thanks." That you don't have that inner yearning for, that you're not drawn toward. When we're drawn toward -- it's got mastery over us. That's dominion. Any bad habit has dominion because we feel like we can't break it. We feel like we keep giving way to it.

Anybody know what I'm talking about when you just feel like you keep giving way to something? You even think, you have a love/hate relationship with it. You love it/you hate it. But it is just like constant, this mastery. That's what slavery is. It is an area of domination.

Just so somebody doesn't misunderstand because I thought, every now and then I wonder, if it would be easy to come up with an excuse based on what they heard a teacher say. Listen. If somebody is thinking, it doesn't master me. I mean if it is just like one time; if I commit adultery every now and then.

No, listen, by the time that full-fledged adultery is coming, there has been a domino -- there has already been a dominion. Anybody know what I'm talking about? By the time a murder -- someone takes someone else's life on purpose -- on purpose -- there has been a stronghold of hatred or bitterness or greed or vengeance but there is already a stronghold there. So I don't want us to get the idea that well, I couldn't do it. No, whatever is having dominion over us. Anything that rules over us.

You are meant to live and I am meant to live without anything ruling over me but Jesus Christ who sets me free. That's what this is about -- that's what this is about. And that's the kind of freedom we're going to see.

So here's what I want you to write down. Remember what we defined as slavery for our purposes, biblically: *Being mastered by anything or anyone besides the one who sets us free.*

So we have a shorter definition of freedom. Let's try this. Freedom: *No sin or deceit having dominion over me. No sin or deceit having dominion over me.*

Deceit is going to turn out to be very, very important in the next part of our series. Let me just tell you now and I'll remind you of it again that deceit, deception is always the glue that holds every stronghold together every single time. You can take that to the bank.

Somebody tell me the definition of freedom. *No sin or deceit having dominion over me.* The reason why deceit is very important here is because not every single area where we're deceived is necessarily an area we're in sin. Does that make sense to someone? If I've been told -- if I've been battered and told all my life how worthless I am, then I'm under a stronghold of deception that I have no value. But it was not because I just set out to be rebellious to God about believing something different than what he said over me. I wouldn't have even known any different. Does that make sense? So deceit, we don't want any area of sin or deceit having dominion over us.

What if I gave you an acronym of free: F-R-E-E.? What if I gave you something for the F, something for the R, something for the E, and something for the next E where you could remember those four words and think is this me? Is this me? That's why I attempt over the next couple of minutes and it begins with what letter? *Free*. It begins with F. I'm going to go ahead and give you the four words because it may be that somebody is tuning in right now but they will not be tuning in as we go through some of them. I hope you will but I want to give them all four to you and then I'm going to take them apart and explain them.

Free: the F is *full*, the R is *relentless*. I do love that word! E: I'm very anxious to explain it to you because it won't make sense at first: *Electric*. And the second E is: *Effective*.

I hope to prove to you that you would be able to go down that little checklist once you see what they identify, am I living in freedom? Is there any area of deceit or sin? Particularly deceit because some areas of sin, I'm going to know that going into it or I'm going to know that coming out of it. Deceit, I may not know that. So I'm going to do my checklist of F-R-E-E because then I can tell if those are not activated in my life, okay, something is up and I want to identify where the deception is. Does that make sense to everybody?

So the F is going to start right here with full -- F-U-L-L -- full! I really try to use a different word. I even went into the dictionary and looked all through the words that began with F because I was going to do with filled, I was going to go with fulfilled. I kept trying to make it a more exciting word than just full because that just does not do anything for me. But let me tell you this. There is nothing that will get you in bigger trouble than emptiness. Nothing! That's why it's got to start with full because nothing will set you up for trouble like emptiness. Nothing!

I want somebody to remember with me, if you're new to the Word of God, let me just tell you a little story. It's in John chapter four. When Jesus meets a woman at the well, the Samaritan woman, and she's come with her empty pitcher to draw some water. He begins a conversation with her and he asks her to call her husband. And she says, "Well, I don't have a husband." And he says, "Well, you're right in saying that you don't because the thing of it is

you've been married to five different men and the man that you're with right now you are not married to. Well, you talk about a shocker.

Let me just say something to you. Even in our culture today, five husbands is a lot of husbands!

[Laughter]

Now don't get any condemnation on you. I'm just saying, that is a lot of men! That is a lot of men! That is going through a lot of marriages right there. What's going wrong here we don't know -- we don't know. But I'm going to tell you, there is no accident that the visual that is given with this woman is an empty jar. It is so interesting that what she is bringing there is what she is. Any time -- listen! Listen! This is where it lands with you. Any time you can't get enough of anything, you are missing something important. Our drive that we cannot, whether it is sex, whether it is pornography, which would be self-gratification, normally, or whether it would be food or whether it could be substance, or whether it could be drink, whether it would even be work, whatever -- some kind of activity. Whatever it might be, any time we are just driven where we cannot get enough, there is something, it is an indicator that there is something missing; something that we do not have enough of. And it is very rarely the thing that we're putting with it. That's what we're seeing on the page of scripture.

Now listen. I love where Second Corinthians 9:8 says these words:

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

Every one of those words for "abounding" or "abundant" is the same wording that is used in John; comes from the same word that is used in John 10:10 where Christ says that he came to give life and to give it in abundance; to give it more abundantly. I think it is the N.I.V. Let me check that and I think that I am right about that. That says, yes! That it says in John 10:10:

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that they might have life and have it to the full -- have it to the full!

I love the fact that one of the synonyms when I looked it up in the dictionary, one of the synonyms for "abundant" or "full" was copious. I loved it! Just say the word *copious*! I love the P sound in it. Say it again.

[Audience Repeats]

It's very satisfying because it's got that good clearing of the throat in the C and then it's got that good P going. If you really said it with some action you probably spit on the person in front of you.

[Laughter]

That's when you... try it one more time. *Copious!* Like you're not just supposed to be getting by. Your life is certainly not supposed to be empty. It is meant to be full. Like when you get to the end of it. Like if you had five minutes that you were coherent before you went to Jesus, you ought to be able to look up at him and look around at your family and go, "Let me tell you something, I have lived one full life."

There is nothing in scripture that says we will always be happy. Nothing in scripture indicates that it will always go our way. But one thing we can absolutely know is he said, "I have come to give you life and I came to give you a lot of it -- a lot of it!"

I raised two girls. They are young adults now but oh, moms, as long as we live we remember the things that our children said to us when they were little. I can remember so well my youngest daughter when she was about three years old and maybe even two, I can still see exactly the way she would look at me. She would cup her little palm like this and bring it up to me. And she would want a treat of some kind. And before she even knew what it was she would say, "Can I have a bunch of it?"

[Laughter]

She would hold her little hand. So she would have a lot of room. She didn't care. If it was sweet tarts, if it was cookies, if it was red hots, it didn't matter. But could she just have what? "A bunch of it!" He says this, "I can tell you this, you can have a bunch of it." Oh, yeah you can. You will know when you lay it down girlfriend and guyfriend, you will know you lived -- you lived! And you may like not feel like that is a very exciting word *full*, but really, it's everything! It was a lot. It was like whoo! Lord, I've got to say we did that thing. Amen?

[Laughter]

I'm going to lay this body down worn out because you and me, we did that thing -- we did that thing!

Listen. You don't have to be married for your life to be full. You don't have to be rich for your life to be full. You don't have to have children for your life to be full. All you have to do is be fully engaged with Jesus Christ for your life to be full -- fully engaged with Jesus Christ for your life to be full.

Listen! Your life, you may go, "I want children. I want children!" I pray that God is going to give you that. I pray that he will. But I'm going to tell you out there, there are children to love. There are children -- there are nurseries at churches that need help in the worst way. There are all sorts of children that need tutoring and mentoring at school. You can have tons of children in your life without giving birth to a single one of them. And in some ways, fellow mothers, that is not a bad idea!

[Laughter]

I've never been through anything worse than childbirth. Maybe you have but I'm telling you, by the time I went in for my second birth I was like wearing a shirt that said, "Say yes to drugs." Anybody know what I'm saying?

[Laughter]

But I just thought to myself, I don't have time to talk to you about this. I'm just going to throw it out to you. Sometimes we don't have a full life because we won't be inconvenienced enough. We don't have any friends because we'd have to do something with them! God forbid we might have to do something for them.

[Laughter]

Let's stay on Facebook because they're not stopping by. Anybody know what I'm talking about? And we just like -- we have inconvenienced our way out of full lives.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Wow! I tell you what. I pray, Beth that we won't get so caught up in the technology of the day that we lose the understanding of how to utilize every good thing for the glory of God. I know that if we waste time and we don't take the shaping hand of God and the pressure that comes in life to shape Christ in us, then we're going to actually miss the fullness of life. Don't you enjoy hearing Beth teach?

Betty: She is so inspiring, James. She is so encouraging to the person that's sitting out there watching her; that they have an important part to play in God's plan.

James: No question about it. Really, it was our daughters that first introduced us to Beth Moore. They said, "Dad, here is somebody we really like who is a tremendous blessing."

We're so glad we've been able to share her. Beth is one of the first people to go to the mission field with us. Her husband Keith actually went one time with her. They have been supporters of what we've been doing for a long time just as we've been encouraging what they do.

I don't know of anything that we do that moves our viewers any more than giving a cup of water in Jesus' name. I want you to know something. I just need you to kind of really kind of brace for it. You're going to hear a mother's heart. I want you to know this. There was no way that our missionaries or that Tammy Trent, you'll see, could control what this woman is expressing. I want you to ask God to let you experience in some way what she felt, knowing that you have the perfect cure and the perfect answer.

What I pray is you won't turn away from this pain but you will let this pain literally release a miracle. Watch closely.

On the mission field

Open Captions:

>> This is my water. This is the only water I have. Everyone in the village uses it. Even the animals use this water. I know it is bad water. It is scary but what else can I do?

I have to give that water to all of my children. One day about three months ago my two-year-old girl started vomiting. [Crying]

She was sick all day and she died that night. I am afraid for my other children now. They always complain about their stomachs.

We are separated forever. [Weeping] I can't stop thinking about her. It is so painful.

Tammy: I understand pain well and I understand loss well. I know what that feels like to just feel like you're dying inside because there is nothing you can do to change what's happened in your life. I think that's why I'm here at this moment.

I feel like this is why God has called me here even at this moment to ask you if it would be you -- if you would be the one to help her. It would make a huge difference in the lives of this precious woman and her children, other families in this village and villages all around the world. We can come in here and drill them a well that will give them Water for Life. It will change everything in a moment's time. Please don't hesitate. Don't wait any longer. We need your help.

End of clip

In the studio

James: I want to thank you if you're still watching because I understand how easy it would be to turn away.

Betty, you understand what that mother is saying.

Betty: If you've ever experienced the loss of a child, a loved one, someone you so dearly love and so close to, it's a pain that you can't describe. I feel that that mother is not only feeling the pain of the loss of her one child but also the pain for her other children that she could lose. But it doesn't have to be. This is the pain that we can get rid of. We can help this mother and many like her if we'll drill the water wells, if we'll reach out and join together.

Maybe you can afford to drill a whole well yourself but maybe you say, "Oh, I can't." But you can help. We can all come together and we'll be able to do it. So please join with us and let's bring life to these families through the water wells.

James: I think, Betty, the fact that if you're still watching you didn't turn away. I want to thank you for that. I know that was hard to watch. You can't imagine how hard it is for people who, as Betty said, have lost a child. We can give a cup of water.

This is a "Promises of God" mug. People have appreciated the cups we've given away. Many have said, "Boy, we love this! This feels good to hold."

When you give a cup of water in Jesus' name, it means so much that he said, "Heaven notices. You won't lose your reward." It's reward enough to be able to save that mother's other children, to give her a place to go get clean water that wouldn't make them sick or make them hurt.

So what we're asking you to do and we really have to do some big praying right now, Betty because we've got 500 wells and we're not there but we've got to get the rest of the support for it, more than a dozen countries. But the missionaries have told us we have to add a rig and that drilling rig is an additional \$380,000.

The minute I say that, I want to say this to you. Let's drill those 500 wells one well at a time. If you can give a well, \$4800, that's what they cost. Please give a well if you can. I can tell you, Betty and I did. We were just blessed of God, we gave a well. And we ask God to help us do that. Some of you can do it. Don't feel bad if you can't because most of the support comes from

\$48. \$48 breaks out to give ten people water the rest of their life. You can go up to \$144 and give 30 people water the rest of their life. So there is a level at which you can support.

Now think about this because I want you to really step up. \$2400, pray somebody joins you and we've got a well; \$1200, pray three people join you. But when you think about that rig, \$380,000, here's what I'm praying, God help everybody to give toward that too. Not only drill the wells but let's get that rig.

I'm asking God to raise up people who give \$10,000, \$25,000. I kind of feel in my heart that during this drive there's going to be somebody give \$100,000 towards that rig. It might be a business. It might be a church. But I want you to pray, God let that happen because that is a big amount to add on to doing 500.

So if everybody just does their part then we can heal that woman's heart. We can give those children a future without pain. We can give them clean water in Jesus' name.

Would you go to LifeToday.org, take your bankcard and use it like a check? That's what you should always do with a bankcard. Or you can dial the number and make the gift. Please just do what God put on your heart.

God loves that woman and her children and I know you do too so just reach out and say, "Okay, I'll give a cup of water."

We're sending the book The Stream that I believe will help you literally secure freedom's future. I really believe that. I think you're going to love it -- easy reading but it is going to inspire you. The coffee mugs if you give over \$100, the beautiful bronze if you can make that special gift. Thank you so much for doing it! LifeToday.org or dial that number. Thank you!

Begin video clip

Announcer: Every day children are forced to make a dreadful choice: Drink polluted water filled with deadly disease or die from thirst. No child should ever be faced with this decision!

The good news is there is a solution: Mission: Water for Life is one of the most proven demonstrations of God's love today.

Suffering can end because clean water changes everything.

With your gift today you can help drill 500 water wells in remote villages in over 15 different nations. Your gift of \$24 will help provide clean water for five people. A gift of \$48 will help provide for ten. And \$144 will help provide fresh water for 30 people for a lifetime!

Additionally, just over \$378,000 is needed to replace an old and failing drilling rig in Africa. Please consider an additional gift of \$100 or more to get a desperately needed new rig in place as soon as possible.

With your gift we'll send you *The Stream*, a powerful new book by James Robison that charts a clear path for your personal revival and a spiritual revolution.

With your gift of \$100 or more please request the "Promises of God" coffee mugs.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1200 to help provide water for 250 people or a gift of \$4800 to help sponsor a complete well. And you may request our "Majesty" bronze sculpture.

Please call, write, or make your gift online.

End of clip

In the studio

James: I'll tell you what, these coffee mugs -- now Betty, we've liked the others that are like these. We've liked every one that we've given away. Now I've had a lot of people say, "We like this kind better." So we do our best to bless you. You tell us you want to do something to help people; we're going to get right in there with you. We want to send you the mugs just to say thank you so much for helping us express the love of God by giving water.

The Stream, we're giving streams of living water. This is streams of living water in transforming truth. We want to send it to you because we want you to begin praying about every issue addressed. I promise you, I think you're going to have a hard time putting it down. It's very simple to read. I wrote it as those I'm just sitting in the room with you, hopefully talking like a father to the family. I believe it can move us back toward the preservation, and literally, the saving of freedom as we've known it and even expanding the incredible impact of it. So we look forward to sending it to you.

Thank you so much for helping us share Water for Life. Thank all of you for being with us. Thanks for watching *LIFE Today*. Tell your friends to join us.