

9/27/16
Week 40: WFL
James and Betty Robison
Lysa TerKeurst

James: You're a beautiful audience even if though you've got a few men sprinkled in through here! Great audience! Lysa TerKeurst is here. She is such a blessing.

I'm James Robison. My wife Betty and I welcome you to *LIFE Today*. Let me mention this and we're going to be talking about Lysa's book. This book is in the bookstores. We're giving it to any one of you who will give a cup of water to someone who is in need.

This is understanding the times. There are ten different divisions in here and in each division there are three or four chapters, and the chapters are three or four pages long. This is a shepherd's heart. It is a grandfather's heart, a father's heart being poured out in behalf of the nation to show you freedom's foundation that is eroding. It's collapsing. The walls are coming down. You know what the walls of protection are? It's the hedge of God's Word. When that's cast down, thrown down we're all vulnerable to deception and destruction and defeat. I'm telling you, I'm laying out just the simple journey, it is a simple read but it will put you on your knees before God praying with focus for the spiritual awakening we need.

Lysa TerKeurst is here. She has written a book called *Uninvited: Living love when you feel less than left out and lonely* -- less than left out and lonely. Would you welcome Lysa TerKeurst to *LIFE Today*?

[Cheers & Applause]

Lysa, so glad to see you. You gave your little story of the miracle of what happened when you were coming the last time and couldn't come and had you come on you probably would have died. Not because you came here but because you had a very serious illness. And God, through pain got you the healing that you needed and we're glad you're here.

Now, you've written a wonderful book. You were going to talk about it. I want to read you something on the back and then I want you to download or unpack it or whatever terminology you want to use. "Rejection steals the best of who I am by reinforcing the worst of what's been said to me." Or it could be about you even. Unpack that.

Lysa: So many times the voices of condemnation or shame, they come at us. But what I want to teach people in *Uninvited* is just because the voices of condemnation or shame or rejection come at us they don't have to reside in us.

Too many times we take -- and I've done this in my life so many times -- we take a statement or a line, L-I-N-E that was spoken to us and suddenly we start listening to the little commentary that the enemy will put, in conjunction with somebody else's line to us, and then it becomes a lie that we start to believe. That lie that we start to believe then becomes a label we put on ourselves. Suddenly you're not wanted becomes I'm not worthy. I'm not worthy to be wanted by anybody.

And that label that we put on ourselves then becomes a liability in all of our other relationships because if I'm looking through my relationship with you, Betty, if I'm looking through the lens of I'm not worthy, I'm waiting for you to say something that's going to reinforce what I already believe about myself. And the minute you give me a funny look or the minute you say something like, "Are you really going to say that tomorrow?" Or something like that, if I'm filtering it through I'm not worthy it's going to be a statement of rejection all over again and it's going to become a liability in our relationship.

I have seen this pattern in my life. I see it in so many people's lives. And truly, we are living in a day and time where we've got a whole lot of people walking around with a whole lot of offended attitudes. You just hop on social media and I mean if I say "My boots are striped" somebody is going to say they're polka dotted and they're going to get infuriated that I'm saying they're striped right?

Because when we have all of these lies and these labels and this liability of rejection bound up inside of us, then we lose sight of what God really intended for us to be. God says, "Love me and love people." But if we're so focused on our own neediness, it actually will turn into greediness because we'll become so self-focused that anything anybody else says, unless it makes me feel better about myself, I'm going to get offended. I just have seen it wreck homes, I've seen it wreck relationships; I've seen it wreck things in my life because of lines that become lies that became labels that turned into liabilities in my life.

James: You had another statement back here that I wanted you to expand upon. I hope you got that. I'm glad you even came back and repeated it. It is amazing the word power that she has to express things. But you need to get what she is saying. It needs to impact you. So when you're saying something is said to you, are you implying in fact that the enemy is speaking to people, reinforcing what somebody said or what you might have thought about yourself, and the enemy is saying that and that is a fiery suggestion? When it lodges it becomes a flaming dart. Is that what you're implying?

Lysa: I think what is so important to understand is it hurts exponentially more when we're kicked in an already bruised shin. In other words, if we've already received some kind of statement of rejection in our life and our shin has been kicked, then the next time someone comes along and even hints at that, then it's going to hurt exponentially more because it's going to be something that hits us again.

And of course, the enemy knows that we cannot be both -- we can't hold up both the banner of victim and the banner of victory at the same time. So what is the enemy going to speak to us? Not in tandem with the banner of victory. The enemy is going to speak to us and say, "You're a victim all over again. You're a victim. Did you hear what they just said? Did you hear what he just said? Do you know what they meant? Do you know what that look that she just gave you meant?"

There is a chapter in *Uninvited* that's called, "There is a Lady at the Gym Who Hates Me."

[Laughter]

I'm serious. It is -- it is an entire chapter that I wrote because one day --

James: Had you been to the gym?

Lysa: Yes! I was working out at the gym and this lady got on the elliptical beside me and everything on her was like in shape. Everything! It was just like everything was tight. The only thing on me that was tight was my pony tail holder.

[Laughter]

So she was on the elliptical beside me and I was feeling like a marshmallow, honestly and she's just so beautiful and tiny. And I just thought, for the sake of every other woman out there who feels fluffy today I'm going to out elliptical her. I am!

[Laughter]

So I started going and I was going to keep in step with her. And then my friend called and I didn't want to lose my competition but I knew my friend needed me so I answered the phone. And there are big signs at the gym; you're not supposed to be on the phone. All of the sudden she got off her elliptical and huffed away. And ever since then, I just knew, that woman hates me.

Until one day she came out of the bathroom and she smiled at me. And it wasn't like I'm about to whip your tail on the gym floor. It wasn't that kind of smile, it was like "Oh, hey! Haven't I seen you before?"

And as I got on the elliptical that day I started thinking, I don't think she's had any of these thoughts of me that I've assigned to her.

[Laughter]

Like I think I have assigned her feelings of rejection that were simply perceived. And I think I've been dealing with not only the lady at the gym in that way, but I think so many of the rejections of our past are affecting us affecting us more than we even realize. So sometimes rejection is real but sometimes it is perceived.

So to answer your question in a very funny way, yes, I think absolutely! The enemy is the father of lies so he wants to speak those lies over us constantly so that destruction and division can happen. And that's really -- there is nothing that brings the enemy more joy, I believe, than when he divides people and separates people. Not only separates them from each other but separates us from the love of God that's supposed to flow through us to everyone around us.

But if we're so caught up in our own needs and we walk into a room and we think, who can make me feel loved? Who can make me feel beautiful? Who can snap a picture and only use the one where I look the best? It's almost like we're walking in and we're so needy, needy, needy, and in essence that's us being incredibly greedy, instead we should have the fullness of God.

This is where living loved comes in because yes, the book is titled *Uninvited* but what I want people to understand is I want to wake up every day and I want to be a living testimony for God's love. I don't want to be a commercial for crazy because honestly, sometimes I do look like that. A commercial for nothing but crazy! In the gym #elliptical wars. Right?

[Laughter]

But I want to wake up every day so convinced, absolutely assured God loves me, therefore I can bring the fullness of God into any situation I face. And instead of my insecurities being the first thing that walks into a room, I can let the love of God be the very first thing that enters the room. Instead of waiting for everyone else to make me feel pretty, my outfit looks good, my boots are cute, "Thanks James!" You know what I'm saying? Instead of that I don't have to wait for that. If it happens, that's awesome! But I don't have to wait for it because I know inside the heart of every person is that desperate need, they want to be loved, they want to be

accepted, they want to belong. So I can walk into the room, instead of my neediness becoming my greediness, the love of God can overflow out of me and the more we ease the loneliness ache in others the more it will be dramatically eased in us.

James: What do you want to say to her in response? We've been going to the gym.

[Laughter]

Betty: We have. -- Every once in a while.

Lysa: I wish y'all went to my gym because I think we're the same type of people.

James: We'd really comfort each other.

Betty: I had that same thing happen to me on the stair climber. I was on it and I'm just moving. I felt like a snail. I'm just moving really slow to make that next step and this lady got on next to me and boy, she is just really -- like you, she was really toned up and everything. I thought, oh, boy. I bet she thinks, "She really needs to work out." We get all of these thoughts.

But you know if we'll just lean on God and what he has put in us and the beauty that you're talking about that he wants to bring out of us, when we feel our worst about ourselves, if we will just trust God.

Like I'll run into the grocery store and I'll think, oh, my hair's a mess, may not have any makeup on or something. I'll just run in real quick and nobody will even see me. And every time that I think I'm going to get out of there without somebody... "Aren't you Betty Robison? You and your husband are on TV or something?" I say, "Yes..."

[Laughter]

And they start telling me about what God has done through them. I think, God, I'm ashamed of myself because I was worried about the outer appearance. They're looking at the inside and what God's done in my life. They don't care what my hair looks like.

Lysa: They're probably relieved that it doesn't look so perfect. You know what I'm saying?

[Laughter]

Betty: But if we could forget about ourselves and say, "God, you be the light in my life and let that light shine, draw people unto you," that's what it's all about. That's our purpose.

James: I want to read you another one of these little phrases on the back: "The enemy wants us to feel rejected, left out, lonely, and less than" like it's not complete. What do you want us to comprehend?

Lysa: Here's what I want us to understand. Every single day we can wake up and we can make the choice, am I going to listen to the enemy or am I going to believe God's truth? So every day we can say, "Lord, I have desperation in me. It is just a part of who I am. It is a part of my unique package of insecurities and faults and frailties. I have desperation in me. But Lord, will you take that desperation and will you flip it to become a great revelation today so that I have eyes to see and ears to hear and a heart to receive your love. Not just so that that love is residing in me, although that is a sweet, sweet thing, but I want your love, God to flow through me."

So these feelings of rejection, they are harsh and they are hard but the feelings of rejection while they may be a delay, they may be a distraction, they may be a devastation for a season, they will not be my final destination. They absolutely will not because I refuse to hold up the banner of victim today. I am going to walk in the absolute assurance, I'm going to hold up the banner of victory because Christ died on a cross, shed his blood for me and I'm not going to deny him the healing that he has already provided me.

So I speak that into your life today. I speak that into your heart today. I speak that into your reality today because God's love for you, it can never be diminished, tarnished, shaken, or taken. God's love for you is permanent.

[Applause]

James: That's powerful! And that's a message to you -- not just the people here but to you. I want you to just summarize if the viewers and the people here read the book, what is your hope, what does your heart pray for and long for in behalf of those who read it?

Lysa: My prayer is that those feelings of I'm left out, I'm lonely, I'm less than, that as someone gets into the book they find a friend who says, "I understand. Me too." So much of my craziness is woven into the pages of the book. But also so much of God's healing in me is woven through the book.

I don't approach the topic of rejection lightly. I know the devastation that it can cause in someone's heart because I've felt it, I've lived it. Like I said, never has a message cost me more. I have lived every page of this. As a matter of fact, when I finished writing it and I was doing the edits for the book, there were nights that I literally curled up with the pages of *Uninvited*

and I said, "God, I know that my fingers typed these words but that was last year. I had no idea how much I would desperately need this message this year."

And so I guess the final thing that I really want to say is I understand -- gosh, do I understand how hurtful rejection can be. But it is not going to be my permanent condition. It isn't! Because through the message of rejection that's what came at me, but I refused to let it be in me. Through this message, God has invited me into something deeper. So when you finish reading *Uninvited*, I want you to take a Sharpie marker and I want you to cross out the "un" on the front cover of the book and I want you to hold it up and I want you to tweet or Instagram or Facebook a picture of you because with God's love you are forever invited in.

[Applause]

James: And the book is in the bookstores. You help us just give someone a drink of water, literally a cup of water in Jesus' name, and you say, "Will you please send it to me today?" We will.

But let me just say this to you, you're invited to come and dine, the master calls, in his presence, setting a table before you, he is saying, he is declaring, "Surely goodness and mercy will follow you all the days of your -- I will follow you. I will watch over you. You can live in my shadow." You can live in the shelter of the Almighty. It's God's invitation to you.

Father, I pray for every person right now who feels so rejected, so overlooked, so unimportant that they may understand they are a pearl of great price. You love them beyond the ability for any words to adequately cover it. You love them so much you gave your son that they might be redeemed, literally reconciled to you as your child, Father. Help them see it; in Jesus' name.

God loves you! You're invited into his presence. You need someone to pray with you? The prayer line is there paid for by love. You may just call and say, "I want to invite Jesus in. He's invited me into his presence, I want to invite him into my life."

We've written a little book for you called *Knowing God as Father* that is a little simple Bible study to get you started in the word. We'd be glad to send it to you.

For all of you who are watching, I just want to say thank you for helping us put God's loving arms around people all over the world who suffer this week -- the last week for this emphasis -- to drill water wells in 500 more locations in more than a dozen countries. I want to you to watch, but oh, how I want you to hear the heart of God and I want you to simply do the will of God. You're going to be so excited when you see the miracle that you can be in someone's life. Watch closely.

On the mission field

Tammy: This is absolutely horrible -- to think that this is his only source of water. I've watched child after child come in this little pool of water and dip their precious little cup and drink this water. It is horrific!

My heart aches to know that they struggle every single day to survive but they have nothing else that they can do. This is it! This is their only source of water so if they don't even dip in to take a drink of this, they won't survive.

This water brings death but we are on a mission to bring life and not just a quick fix but something that will change this community for generations to come. We can change this for them. We can come in here with a drill. We can drill them a water well. Won't you partner with me today? Together, I believe that we can make a huge impact into this community -- together we can make the difference!

End of clip

In the studio

James: Tammy, I want to thank you.

I want to thank Billy Graham's daughter Ruth named after Billy's wife.

I want to thank you, Beth Moore.

Thank you, Kathy Troccoli.

Thank you, Sheila Walsh.

Thank you, Betty for so many times going all over the world to show viewers of *LIFE Today* where the need is just indescribable.

When you saw that pig walk down there in that water those little children are drinking trying to stay alive. And they're getting ill, Betty, because with contamination and bacteria that causes them to have a painful death. We really have the perfect solution and we're asking you to give it. It's not just a cup of water but a well of water.

Now please listen closely because this is the last week. Betty, I know you're in agreement with me, I know you've been praying with me and you know we give a well because we ask God to let us give a well every time the call is there. And God has heard our cry and we do it. So there

are couples and individuals that can give a well. They average \$4800; that's what they cost. But we're praying for that kind of miracle.

But we also have another tremendous need in order to drill the 500 wells for this year, putting us past the 5,000 wells drilled, we're going to have to have a new drilling rig and that's a \$380,000 immediate need because we've got to put it to work.

So we really need everyone watching during this last week now for this emphasis, we need to hear from you. Some of you may have already made a gift even during this emphasis but I'm asking you this week, we just need to hear from everyone that has a heart to give and to share life.

So what we're asking you to do is reach out and touch someone with love by going to *LIFE Today*, go to the web site. There you see it is on your screen. And you can call that number if you'd like to but take your bankcard either online, LifeToday.org or dial the number, take your bankcard and use it like a check and make the best gift you can.

If you can give a well, or you can give \$1,000 let's say and be one of 380 people that can do that, whatever you can do, do it. But also, remember this. The majority of the gifts come from \$48 which gives ten people water the rest of their life. Whatever you can do, we're asking you to make the gift.

We have some gifts for you. The book I mentioned, earlier, *The Stream* which will give you understanding of the times and praying in these critical times.

Please, right now, go online or dial the number. Take your bankcard and make the gift that God put on your heart right now.

Father, I pray every person watching, everyone watching will simply do what you're leading them to do; in Jesus' name I pray.

Please make the gift God put on your heart. Thank you for doing it.

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.

This is the last week! Please call, write, or make your gift online today!

End of clip

In the studio

James: You're going to love these "Promises of God" mugs. I tell you what. We've had our viewers tell us they've enjoyed the coffee cups that we've sent. And my goodness, we've used them and given them to friends. And also, *The Stream*, this is really, I believe God's heart for us in this moment right now to pray for the future of our nation.

If you'd like to have Lysa's book, *Uninvited* it is in the bookstores. You can get it online. Encourage your friends to do so. But you help us give someone a cup of water and you say, "Would you mind sending me Lysa's book? Would you send it to us?" We will.

And we want to thank you during this last week of the emphasis now for the 500 wells and the new drilling rig, thank you for having a part in it. Thanks for sharing the love of God.

Would you join Betty and me in saying thanks to Lysa for being such a blessing?

You really are! We love you! Thank you.

Thank you! Thank all of you. Y'all are great!

Thanks for sharing *LIFE Today*, not just watching it. Join us tomorrow.