

11/18/16
Week 47:FMF
James and Betty Robison
FMF Mission Special

James: There is no applause, obviously today, and there's a reason for it. I'm James Robison. Betty and I welcome you to this program. When I say it's a special program it really is. Let me just say to you that we're about to talk about a situation that just love and prayer and concern from you is going to miraculously affect. I don't know if you can see. Let me just see here, talking to you on this camera where you can see. I didn't have time to shave. I didn't really know how it was going to look. So it's not some kind of new look.

Betty and I got less probably than three hours of sleep last night. One of the reasons is that we're praying for a situation and a needed miracle to occur and you're going to see precious little ones that you're not going to turn away from. As a matter of fact you're going to see Sheila Walsh in just a moment and boy do we ever thank God for the great anointing that's on that very gifted person's life. And the joy that she has being here with LIFE Outreach and sharing the life and love of God, not just in word only but in clear demonstration.

So, yes, we will pray over that but the reason I didn't have time to shave and the reason we didn't sleep much is because we were praying for you. I'm telling you, we were. We were praying for God to clothe you like we so often clothe those who are so poor. And to feed you with the transforming power of his word and the bread of life and the nourishment it gives because we're a very undernourished people. Our nation is in a perilous place that only God can lift us out of the pit that we dug with our own casting aside the counsel and the word of God. And we wanted you to have the food that nourishes as well as children we're going to show you that you are going to help.

So I think you need to understand that it's pretty easy for you to tell, okay, James, you and Betty, you all obviously love children. You're going to see the love of God all over Sheila Walsh in a moment. But the lack of sleep is praying for God to do a miracle that would touch your life in ways you would never imagine, because we desperately, desperately need it. I want us to join Sheila right now and you watch prayerfully, but please listen with a sincere seeker's love filled heart.

On the mission field

Sheila: I'm here in what is a small part of a massive grave yard. I've never seen anything like this in my life. But this part I'm standing in, these are all children. And the thing that has touched us as a team so deeply is the way that the parents have tried to honor their children in some way by leaving something on the grave, whether it's just little booties, a little toy that meant something to the child. Some parents have literally, all they had was like an empty water bottle but they just wanted to leave something to say this is my child, and they were loved.

And James, you'll remember being here. You were here and you remember the impact this place had on you. What would horrify you is how it's grown.

James: Dear God! I'm in the midst of a thousand children's graves. [weeping] Most of them didn't have to die. They died, like this little kid here, that didn't have the nutrition. We're told that millions face death right now in Southern Africa, where I'm kneeling in the midst of children's graves.

Sheila: We're on the edge of such an epidemic again. In fact, just behind me they've dug four little fresh graves and there's no children in them yet but they're getting ready because they know they're coming. That's why we're here and that's why we need to do something *now*. We need to be able to go into these villages and feed these children and bring hope to these parents so that these four little holes back here stay empty.

We need your help and we need it now.

End of clip

In the studio

James: It is as though it was yesterday that I first looked at little graves and knelt down and saw some of those little pictures as you saw.

Now, let me tell you the miracle. I mean, really stay with me. Betty, we stopped the death cycle all around that particular area, in that proximity. And so effective was the work and the love you shared that the little children were so healthy they could sing the praises of Jesus and they were so happy. And when we got ready to leave there was a very small gentleman that was the pastor. He had tears in his eyes as he was talking to the missionary. Now, let me tell you why he was crying. He had tears in his eyes and he said to Peter, "Now that you see we're better, are you not coming back? Is this the last time we'll see you?"

And Peter assured him, “No! As long as there's a need we're going to be here. And we're going to keep these children strong.” And that's before we went into school feeding which not only keeps them strong, it keeps them learning and just builds their little minds.

Betty, there's such a deep, deep concern that people not be forgotten, even when you've reached out and they wonder if you're going to still keep caring.

Betty: You know, James, that is a big concern when we go to these places where there's such a need. So many children that are dying because of lack of nutrition, just lack of food in general, and I'm sure that's in the back of the parent's mind, the pastor's – leader – whoever there that is in charge of these children. They think is somebody going to continue the program? Is someone going to be there when we run out of food? Is someone going to be there so that we can keep these children nourished so they don't die, and you don't see the little graves being dug? I looked at those graves as we watched together here, James and I, and I thought dear God! Those aren't graves for older people that have lived a full life and they're ready to go be with the Lord. These are baby graves. These are children that haven't even had a chance at life, James! It just breaks my heart. Well, I feel like, with your help and so many, many more, we can make the difference, and we can continue the program and get the food to the children.

James: Well, you know, before that – we got it stopped. When I say “we,” I'm talking about you, not LIFE Outreach but us together. Thousands were buried in those little graves. Thank you for stopping it. Now there are some cycles right now where it's beginning to really get bad again. Betty, Sheila Walsh wanted to talk to you from Africa. Let's hear what Sheila said to Betty.

On the mission field

Sheila: Angola. Africa. Drought is crushing this land. You see, plants spring from the earth with promise of food, promise of life! But long before they could ever provide any sort of sustenance they quickly fail and wither back into the earth. This drought has affected the many lives that depend on this food but it has affected some more than others. The children suffer the worst. Their bodies are not meant to withstand this lack of sustenance. Some will make it. Some will not.

Open captions

>> I had two children. The oldest one passed away from malnutrition. She was seven years old, and her name was Nana. At night, when I sleep, I dream she is still here. Every night, I pray Psalm 23. The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green

pastures. He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

>> You could just see it in her eyes, this tremendous loss. And if anybody understands this woman's pain it's you, Betty. If you've lost a daughter it changes everything. And that's community that nobody – no one on this earth signs up to join that community. So you understand this woman's pain. This mom, this young beautiful mom has done everything she could but she shouldn't stand alone. We are the body of Christ. We can do something right now in Angola. You maybe even hear some crying babies in the background. There are a lot of children here who are extremely hungry and a simple bowl of food can change everything.

End of clip

In the studio

Betty: Sheila, I do understand. It's not something I welcomed into my life because that's the last thing a mother wants is to lose a child, no matter what the age. But it does happen. But these children, we can help the mothers that cherish these children so very, very much. We can make the difference. There's a solution to their sickness. There's a way out. There's a way of healing and that is through the nutrition that they need for their little bodies. I hope you will join with us and let's get the food to these precious children!

James: Lord, I just tell you, I believe the people watching are joining with me. I don't have the ability. I don't have the way to communicate what people really need to hear. They need to hear your heart and they need to express it. Suffer the little children to come unto you. Oh, boy, there wouldn't be a hungry child ever come to you. Oh, yes! Miraculously you can multiply bread or a fish or a meager parcel of food, and you would! And we can too! Maybe not as miraculously and supernaturally as you but by letting the little children come into your arms by putting arms around them and stopping that pain and death please, dear God, do what we can do. In Jesus' name.

Can I just talk to you as though we're just right here? I can't tell you how helpless I felt a moment ago when Betty was talking. Yes, we know what it's like. So sad to say, but we know what it's like. We're now praying never never, never have to bury one of your children. By the way, if it's happened, I wish I was holding him. I mean it.

Lord, take them in your arms. Take them in your arms the way we want to take these little kids in arms. Please! Heal every broken heart. Comfort them.

So now what I'm asking you to do, because I know you would have stopped our daughter's death. No doubt in my mind. We can stop this death. We've done it now for twenty-five years miraculously. Millions of lives totally transformed. We learned that when we get them back stabilized we can teach them how to build a future, the parents how to farm, even how to make a living because we oversee what we do. We don't hand it off like foolish government programs that send checks to people, because government doesn't oversee. But God does! Wisdom does! So we do. And this is what we've done. With your help we've stabilized the situation, get them healthy, and then we start feeding them at school. And let me tell you the miracle. Get this now: we've got a \$400,000 miracle grant that doubles everything you do. Thirty, fifty, or one hundred feeds three, five, or ten children for the next several months. And now it will be doubled to six, ten, and it will be doubled by anything we could have ever hoped for without a miracle. I mean, and you can feed a whole school for three months for \$1,400. But now it want be one school, it'll be two! So, right here, please, just say, "God, what do you want me to do?" What are you willing to do?

Would you go online. You see the website there, or call that number and take your bankcard and make the greatest love gift you can because I'm going to tell you something: you're going to be the miracle people long for. You're going to be the answer to mothers' prayers. Just like the one that you heard and those you heard about. We have some beautiful gifts to help nourish you! You're going to love them! But I want us to focus on the gift you're going to make in love. You actually give the greatest gift of all. You give life. And we'll point them to eternal life. Please, online, dial the number. Make the gift. If you write a check, make it to *Life*. But call us and tell us what you're sending. We have to know so we can tell the missionaries. Thank you!

Begin video clip

Announcer: In remote and impoverished villages of Africa children are suffering, desperately in need of life saving food, facing death by starvation.

LIFE's mission feeding program is there, ready now to feed and care for children in crisis areas of Angola, Mozambique, and Sudan. With all of our previous reserves gone, and Angola facing a record food shortage due to crop failure, we need to immediately replenish our funding and supplies for our feeding programs.

As an answered prayer, a group of *LIFE's* friends have set a \$400,000 matching gift challenge for mission feeding! This means your gift today could have a double impact! \$30 for three children will be doubled to help feed six children! \$50 to help five children will be doubled to save ten children! And \$100 for ten children will be doubled to help feed 20 children! And don't forget, your \$1400 gift to sponsor a school will now be doubled to feed children in two schools!

With your gift of any amount, we'll send you *Without Rival* by author Lisa Bevere. With your double impact gift of \$100 or more please request *The Complete Illustrated Children's Bible*. Finally, please consider a gift of \$1000, which will now be doubled to help feed 200 children and you may request our beautiful Majesty bronze sculpture.

Please call, write, or make your gift online today!

End of clip

Begin video clip

Sunshine's bright
But the day feels colder to me

And now all the hope that I have
Are shadows in me.

Oh, I'm out of my mind
Out of my mind

Thought that I said please don't go
But the words fell away

You left my world
But the hope of my heart seems to stay

Oh, I found the words
But it was too late to tell you

And now all the hope that I had
Are shadows in me

Oh, I'm out of my mind
Out of my mind

Out of my mind
Out of my mind

End of clip

In the studio

James: And you can easily imagine – and I’m telling you, we know! To lose a child, and many have lost several and many of them – we lost our daughter when she was forty; and boy, what beautiful seed did she sow. Her oldest son recently married this year. And we can heal the broken heart and stop that. They're not going to forget the loss, but we can stop the losing, the cycle of death. I believe love, and he came that we might have life and have it abundantly, I believe that’s what stops the physical death pain and comforts and gives us eternal life. It also stops that process, when we release the life of God and we give people what is needed to live. And then we point them to the source of that love. It’s in us. But it’s being expressed, not in word only, but in deed, so that we just don't talk about love, we demonstrate it.

And Betty, we have been able to kind of be the hands, but we know the missionaries that are in the midst of the pain and suffering and need. And one of the greatest requests from the missionaries is prayer but please, they say, don't leave us here empty handed. Don't let us look at the pain and suffering and be unable to address it. Please don't.

And, Betty, I’m telling you, it became a passion for us and our viewers are the only ones that can really meet the need so that we can stop that cycle and give hope. I’m believing they're going to do it.

Betty: And you really are a big answer to this situation, where the children are just dying. And my heart goes out to these mothers because not many times they not only have one loss of a child but they may have three or four and the cycle just repeats and repeats. As James said, we can stop this cycle because these children are just beginning their lives. Let’s give them something to live toward. Let’s give them life through the feeding, the nutrition that they need. This is a disease that we can stop, and the disease is death because of malnutrition.

James: You know, I told Betty recently that she had made the point so well, you see several children die but let me tell you, Betty, everyone that's lost a child, I promise you, they're looking – I wonder if I’m going to lose that one, or that one. And we’ve reached an age now, over 70, we’re telling a lot of our friends goodbye. I told Betty I don't know how many more funerals I can go to.

And, Betty, most of these people have lived to be our age or close or a little beyond, and these are adults. And most all of them are people who’ve blessed people. It’s still tough to tell them goodbye.

Hey, let's stop it with love! I want you to pour out the greatest manifestation of love perhaps you've ever had. First, pray. And then say, "God, I know my gift is going to be doubled. I'm not going to just feed three children for \$30 or five for \$50. I'm going to feed six and ten! And on and on. And I'm not going to just help one school with a \$1400 gift to feed them three months, it'll be two because whatever you do right now, it's going to be doubled. You say, "Why is it doubled? Like, something just came out of the sky?" No, it came out of the hearts of people that were full of the love of God and they say, "We'll match what you do because we believe it's important. " And they're saying we believe in it because we've seen it, it know it works.

Some of them, who've put that up were able to go and see it in person, and they never got over it. And by the way, you say, "Why can't we all go?"

And the missionaries say, "It really sets us back when you bring people over to see because it's a lot of trouble to take care of Americans and Canadians, and people that have nice things. It slows us down. So unless they're coming over here to get in and work for six months or several years just stay home and pray and send the money it would cost to get over here."

That's what they say! So I'm asking you right now, go online, website or call the number. And please, and in my heart I'm praying, God, pour your love through them in behalf of these who suffer so greatly. Thanks for being the miracle answer to prayer.

Begin video clip

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End of clip

In the studio

James: Well, I feel like, Betty, that God has touched the hearts of really sensitive people. Lisa Bevere, what a treasure! Many who watch our show during the day time are women, but I've got to tell you, men are going to be incredibly blessed. This is not lightweight. I mean, it's a real gift from God and we'll send it to you for any gift.

And then, if you have children or grandchildren, maybe your neighbor does, wouldn't it be nice if they had small children or your neighbor had grandchildren, you see them around. You went over and said, "I want to give you The Complete Illustrated Children's Bible and I feel like when I talk about beautifully illustrated, it almost feels like it's an understatement. I mean, it looks like something that Hollywood would do. It's better than that because it was birthed in prayer with love and talent that God gave.

So I want to say thank you and just remember, lives over many depend upon the love that flows freely through you. And your gift is double because of love. I mean, remember that. Thank you for your gift. Betty and I say blessings on you. I hope you don't mind the fact that we had to run up here. We're actually going to do two programs, two specials, which we don't normally do like this. But we're spending a tremendous amount of time praying for you, for nations all over the world and for people that are suffering. Thank you for caring with us. God bless you.