

1/17/17  
Week 4: WFL  
Randy Robison and Sheila Walsh  
SQUIRE Rushnell and Louise DuArt

**Sheila:** Hi! Welcome to *LIFE Today*. I'm Sheila Walsh here with Randy Robison. We're so glad that you're joining us. We have two pretty phenomenal people. We're pretty blessed here today that we get to interview these two legends honestly. I'll brag on them a little bit but I want you to see their faces first. So would you please welcome SQUIRE Rushnell and Louise DuArt? Thank you!

**Randy:** So good to have you back.

**Louise:** Great to be back.

**Randy:** You know them very well.

**Sheila:** I love -- I love you guys! Before we even dive into why you're here, I just want people to know a little bit of... SQUIRE, you were the person responsible for *Good Morning America* becoming the number one talk show in the morning but now you have a regular session on once a month?

**SQUIRE:** Once a month on *The Today Show*.

**Sheila:** -- With *Godwinks*. Louise, one of the top comedians and impressionists in the world; how many years were you with Tom Conway and Harvey?

**Louise:** Fifteen years with Tim Conway and Harvey Korman.

**Sheila:** Fifteen years -- sold out shows! It was absolutely brilliant.

**Louise:** We did everyone from Judge Judy -- Do you see stupid on my forehead here, people?

[Laughter]

To Katherine Hepburn to Joan Rivers to George Burns, we did them all.

**Sheila:** Yeah, please!

[Laughter]

**Squire:** Sheila, I always say at this time, and Randy, I never know who I'm waking up next to.

**Sheila:** What an exciting life you have!

**Louise:** It could be Fran Drescher. Hah hah hah hah.

**Sheila:** What I think is amazing is you have these two track records of these -- I mean God's taken you everywhere but now you're pouring your lives into this new project. Your book is called *The 40 Day Prayer Challenge*. Would you give us a little background of what led to this?

**Squire:** Well, *The 40 Day Prayer Challenge* is the scaffolding that we decided to come up with when we were excited about this idea that we had tried when we got married 16 years ago and we found out that very few people had: The most intimate act between a man and a woman, we prayed together. And it was amazing what happened. Almost every prayer we asked was answered. We found that there was like a growth in the prayers; it was like taking a sponge and taking it into the bathtub. Our prayers expanded. So we just got to be champions for partnered prayer.

So *The 40 Day Prayer Challenge* became a scaffolding for people to try it out where we would say, we dare you to try it! Just your husband, your wife, your partner, your family member, your friend; take five minutes a day and pray together for 40 days. We dare you to try it!

**Louise:** And the partners were very different, two friends, two family members, a husband and a wife. And what happened was we started seeing miracles. We asked them to just pray for five minutes a day for 40 days and just try it and see what happens. We found that more prayer more power. And it is the intimacy of praying together every day, the consistency which really makes a huge difference.

**Squire:** Now you know in the beginning, when we go out and talk to people, particularly people at churches, when we talk about partnering in prayer, it sounds like a new idea. We didn't come up with the idea, Jesus did! I mean Jesus was the one who said, "If any two of you agree upon anything my Father will give it to you."

**Randy:** Why do you think he said "two" and not "one of you"?

**Squire:** I think he talked about two quite a bit. I think that he intended for us to pray not as a singular. He said, "Our Father in heaven." He didn't say "my Father in heaven." He said, "Our Father in heaven." So I think he really intended that we should pray together.

But what we have discovered is that just amazing things happen. The testimonies that come back from people who pray together are just phenomenal.

**Louise:** What we did is we went to Baylor University --

**Sheila:** Go Bears!

**Randy:** Yeah, sic 'em!

**Louise:** Yeah! Go Bears! And they came on board with us to do the first ever empirical study of what happens when two people pray together 40 days consistently. It's going to be an amazing study.

So hopefully we'll be able to get on some of the major networks, which is very hard to get God on the major -- or talk about prayer on the major networks like N.B.C., A.B.C., and C.B.S. But we've already broken through, even on N.B.C. We actually prayed on camera which was amazing. They're probably shaking up there in the booth but we were praying on camera and modeling how it's done. That's what we want to do. We want to model to people, show them how to pray.

**Sheila:** We actually have a little clip I love. This is just a little idea of what it looks like when couples commit to do this for five minutes. Watch this.

### **Begin video clip**

>> Our 40 day prayer challenge was awesome!

>> Praying with Chelsea was just the best time of your life.

>> It was the best time of my life.

>> Of course, it was!

>> It was real hard and I can't say we did it every single day.

>> I think it was really cool just to see how quickly the Lord answered our prayers.

>> The six-month-old was crying and needed something.

>> We decided to start praying for a car and not even within a week I had a new car.

>> Yeah, seriously!

>> I just grabbed her and held her. She's like, "We don't have time right now. We don't have time." I was like, "No, take five." And that became our thing.

>> When the 40 days were over she said, "I kind of miss praying" and I did too.

>> We prayed that five minutes and everything silenced in the house.

>> Wow! This prayer actually works.

>> Yeah! Go figure!

>> I can't think of one reason to stop praying together.

>> It was like she was talking to God about me and I just got to hear their conversation; and that was really, really powerful.

>> I don't think I can think of any reason to stop praying together.

**End of clip**

### **In the studio**

**Randy:** That was from Gateway Church, my parent's church.

**SQuire:** Oh, is that right?

**Randy:** They're all Christians yet some of them seemed a little bit surprised at the results of prayer. Are you seeing the results?

**SQuire:** Well, none of these people had really prayed together in the way that we're talking about in a consistent way. But we asked Gateway if they would recruit about 12 people to model partner prayer; family members, friends, married couples, non married couples. And it

seems as though they went to central casting and came back with perfect people! But the fact of the matter is that we've been doing this now for over ten years, we've been talking about partnered prayer and everybody has a story. Every single pair is unique. Every single pair would be out of central casting.

**Louise:** And it is not difficult. People think it is like crossing the Golden Gate Bridge but it's really just a footpath. It's all God asks us to do is just join together, one another and open up your heart. It's just having a conversation. We always say it's like sitting there with a cup of coffee and having a bagel with your heavenly Father, someone who loves you more than anything and just hangs on every word; and just talk to him, it is a conversation. People think they have to use the thee's, thou's, and tho's a lot of times. Or I don't pray right. There is no right or wrong. God just wants to talk to us.

**Sheila:** I think the most moving comment for me in that clip we just saw was the husband and his wife saying it was like "I got to hear my wife talking to God about me." That felt like a holy moment to me.

**Louise:** It is the most intimate act between a man and a woman.

**Sheila:** You actually asked people to try doing this with their eyes open. Why did you do that?

**Squire:** It just seemed like we were taping these modeling partnering prayer because people really don't know how to do it. They don't know how to pray together. We thought, let's just model this. But at the last minute we asked them, not only do we want you to pray together for the first time, we would like to have you do it on camera. Ignore all the cameras and the lady with the stop watch, would you please? And oh, by the way, would you mind keeping your eyes open and look at each other while you're praying? Now if that seems like too big of a demand, just go ahead and pray the way you're comfortable.

Nobody saw each other pray together yet every single pair of praying partners had the same experience. They said, "We began praying and it was more intimate than we had ever experienced before." And like that young man David said, it was a revelation for him and his wife that they had actually prayed together before, they had never prayed consistently as we're asking them to do but praying with their eyes open, opened up a whole new avenue of intimacy for them.

**Sheila:** I have to confess when I got your book I said to my husband, "Barry, you and I have been married for 21 years. We've not done this." So we're beginning *The 40 Day Prayer Challenge* because I just think, we both pray. We both sit in chairs and study the Word of God

but actually sitting opposite of one another with eyes open and praying, I can't wait to see what God will do in my life.

**Louise:** You know Jesus did nothing without praying first. I don't know why we don't do what Jesus tells us to do. It is so simple. I think the enemy uses that as oh, you can't do that. That person will play the blame game on you if you start confessing. You're too vulnerable. No, no, no! You just do it because God tells us to and when we see he is just going to bless you beyond measure.

**Squire:** You will be honored by that. You will be amazed. We would like to put you on camera afterwards, Sheila.

**Sheila:** Sure! You got it! You got it!

**Squire:** But here's something that we're doing and it's starting right away, now that we're into the first of the year, we're working with congressmen very quietly right now. We're not going to expose any names or anything like that, but if there's ever been a time when we needed time together, it is now in this country. And there are several congressmen who are going to reach across the aisle and commit to taking *The 40 Day Prayer Challenge* with somebody on the other side. We want to start that.

**Sheila:** Wow! That's huge!

**Louise:** That will change the world. Prayer is the most powerful force in the universe and when people finally get that they're going to see God move in mighty mighty ways.

**Sheila:** You know what I read last night that I hadn't even realized? Do you know that before, that Jesus actually had all the guys around him for about a year before he chose the 12 and he went up to the mountain and prayed all night before he chose the 12 disciples. If Christ, if the Son of God had to do that, how much more do we?

**Randy:** You would think as Christian especially we would understand the importance of prayer and maybe practice it as regularly as you're saying we should. But I know from your book that you found out that even some Christian leaders perhaps hadn't done quite an intense - Tim Keller is in your book. Tell me the story of what happened when you talked to him.

**Squire:** Tim Keller is one of the most respected pastors in the world by other pastors -- and people of course, but other pastors just look up to him. So I thought his story was just so wonderful.

Tim Keller and his wife Kathy live in New York, of course and Kathy has suffered from Crohn's disease for a long time. I didn't know this but Crohn's disease makes you susceptible to depression. And right after 9/11 there was a depression over New York City. We were living there at the time, and it was palpable. And so for someone like Kathy who already had depression, she had this new depression that kind of came down upon her and she was just struggling with it.

So one night after dinner she said to Tim, "I need you to do something for me or I'm not going to survive. I need to have you pray with me every single day."

Now here's a pastor who is busy. He's got things going. He's got schedules. He's got funerals and another sermon to come up with next Sunday. So I don't know whether he said it out loud or whether he said it inside his head but he said, "Every night?"

[Laughter]

She said, "Every night." She said, "Listen. If you went to the doctor and he told you that you were going to die unless you take this little pill would you sometimes say, 'I'm too busy. I forgot.' No! You would take that pill every single day. It would be a nonnegotiable necessity." She said, "That's what we need to do with prayer."

Tim Keller said, "We began to pray together that day and we have never stopped -- and it's amazing!"

Now that happens where most pastors are very busy. They've got very busy lives. We all have busy lives and busy-ness is the greatest enemy against praying together. And in fact, it is what the enemy wants to tell you that you're too busy. But five minutes a day is about the amount of time we spend brushing our teeth and combing our hair and we say hey! You can do that.

**Louise:** Can you give five minutes to the king of kings, the Lord of Lords, the creator of all things? Five minutes!

**Sheila:** It's not a big ask. Is it really?

**Louise:** That's right! And he's the great multiplier because you give him five minutes you'll be amazed what he gives you. The enemy doesn't mind when we talk about prayer and say how good prayer is. Well, the enemy, when he shakes in his boots is when we start praying.

And you know what the other thing is? When you pray God's Word back to him -- wow! That is the most powerful thing you can do. When you say, "God, your word says in Romans 8:28 that all things work together for good to those who love the Lord." You start quoting his Word back, that enemy flees so fast.

**Sheila:** Can you imagine how this can impact families all across our nation? This could be the revolution and the revival that we've actually been praying for.

**Louise:** This is the great awakening.

**Squire:** It is unbelievable glue that brings families back together again just simply praying together. When fathers and mothers pray in front of their children, amazing things happen.

Denzel Washington's wife, Pauletta said the most searing memory she had as a child was seeing her mother and father pray together. She carried that into her marriage. How many marriages in Hollywood last 25 years? That's that glue. When you put prayer in the middle of it, your marriage will stay together.

**Sheila:** It is hard to stay angry with someone when you're talking together in the presence of God. Because who is going to kneel at the foot of the cross pointing a finger at anybody else?

**Louise:** Because the bricks can't build. Because what happens is you disassemble; when you pray you're disassembling. And when you don't pray what you do is you're right, the secrets, the lies, the resentment, that starts building -- building that wall. There is no wall -- when you start praying with someone intimate and when you look in their eyes. Sometimes that can be a little difficult at first but when you look into someone's eyes, that's the window of the soul. You start seeing the most beautiful things in that person.

**Squire:** You know, Sheila, touching on what you said, when people would say to me, "What is the best thing for me about praying with my wife?" I say it's the transparency. As a husband, I don't have to have a single secret. She knows everything because we pray about it and that really is the transparency -- it is like an x-ray machine. And it is wonderful!

**Louise:** And women so often, and men too but women will say, "I see the heart of my husband when we pray." And that is so important for women to see that, and it makes them look at that husband as a strong warrior. Sometimes men say, "Well, I don't want to share too much." It's the opposite. Women see it the opposite way. They see the strength. So that's what we have to do. And a lot of times it's the women that have to bring the guys across the finish line.

**Randy:** There may be a few of you out there that are that woman and need to drag us guys into it. We want to give you a way to get *The 40 Day Prayer Challenge*. But right now, we want to share something with you that is heavy on our hearts, something we pray about, something we want you to join us in and not just in prayer but in deed. Watch this real quick.

### **On the mission field**

>> We all know what it is like to be hot and thirsty, dry mouth, dry throat, whatever it is and then to know that feeling of going to a refrigerator and getting good, clean, cold water. Now just think about how desperate you would have to be to come to a hole like this and say, "Yes, I'm going to try to drink that to make me feel better." But this is their life every day; just trying to survive drinking this type of water.

What do you see here? You see a cup of dirty water. That's what I see, just dirty water. What should really alarm us is what we can't see. What we cannot see is the germs and the disease that is contained in this one cup of water.

We have heard testimonies from mothers who have lost five children from drinking just polluted, filthy, disease-infested water. One lady cried out and says she doesn't know of a mother who hasn't lost a child to this filthy water. They have no other choice. They have no choice but to drink this germ-infested water.

We have a choice and we can drill a well in this very village. We can drill down and bring clean, beautiful water that will bring life to this village. We can stop this disease. We can stop the deaths. We can stop the burials. We can stop the tears and bring beautiful, clean water to this village who desperately need a touch of God's love.

**End of clip**

### **In the studio**

**Randy:** That shot of all the women holding up their hands -- one, two, three, four -- that was the number of children they had lost due to the dirty water. Sheila, can you imagine holding up your hand to show how many of your children you had lost to polluted water?

**Sheila:** It's a tragic situation but it is not a hopeless situation and that's the difference. That's why we, as the body of Christ are on this earth to bring hope to the hopeless, help to those who cannot help themselves.

As Ralph said, there's not a mother in that village who hasn't lost a child. I can't imagine -- and not because some tragedy like cancer. Something so fixable. We can do this. I've seen the difference it makes when we are able to put -- when we put a well in a village, do you know that that one well will last for 70 years! It will provide clean water for the whole family for their life!

These are children for whom Christ died. They are not people in Africa, they are our brothers and sisters. I cannot tell you the number of women that said to me, "Please, will you ask..." -- not "Will you ask people to America to give us stuff." They said, "Will you ask them to pray for us?"

I said, "I promise you. I promise you we will pray but we're going to do more than that. We are going to be the answer to your prayer."

Our goal is 188 wells in African villages. The need is great. But Randy, it is so doable.

**Randy:** It is! \$4800 is the average cost of a well. It varies according to the depth and difficulty of drilling a well. But that means that it will serve an average of 1,000 people in a village in the remote areas.

So \$48, we say will give clean water to 10 people for a lifetime on average; \$48, \$144 for 30 people, of course, \$4800 for a well. Look, the need is huge but it is doable. We have proven over and over that we can meet needs in areas with desperate need. Let me tell you, we've got some area with some desperate need right now.

So what we need you to do is partner with us. Go to the phone, go online, give the best gift you can and know that when you do, you will be saving lives. You will be reducing that awful number of the woman holding up her hand. We can intervene, we can save lives. Sheila, how critical is it right now that people act?

**Sheila:** The deal is we can all do something. If you're watching this and you're 14, you can give us some of your allowance, you can do something. Some of you can do a whole well. But if we all do what we can do then the work of Christ will be done.

**Randy:** Absolutely! Go to the phones right now. Go online. Give the best gift you can as we take water, as we take life, as we take the gospel of Jesus Christ in action to people in Africa right now.

### **Begin video clip**

**Announcer:** Every day children living in extreme poverty are forced to make a dreadful choice, drink filthy polluted water filled with deadly disease or die from thirst. No child should ever be faced with this decision.

Our teams have recently located remote villages in southern Africa where children are dying from contaminated, disease ridden water. The situation is desperate. They need clean disease-free water immediately.

With your gift today you can help drill 188 water wells in remote villages across seven African nations. Your gift of \$24 will help provide clean water for five people. A gift of \$48 will help provide for ten. \$72 will provide for 15 people. And \$144 will help provide fresh disease-free water for 30 people for a lifetime!

With your gift we'll send you Sheila Walsh's devotional, 5 Minutes with Jesus, a fresh infusion of joy to help you find perspective in the midst of daily life and experience a deeper connection with God.

With your gift of \$100 or more you'll also receive our No Greater Name canvas, a beautiful artistic expression of our savior's name and a daily reminder of his presence in your life.

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 beautiful new hand-painted "Determined Eagle" bronze sculpture.

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

### **End of clip**

### **On the mission field**

**James:** These ladies are here washing and you can see by looking at the water the water is totally contaminated. We know for a fact that thousands of people have died in this area. So we must -- I mean absolutely must drill water wells here, and literally give these people a future.

This is typical of all of Southern Africa. We need your help. And we ask you to help provide the answer and the remedy to this very serious problem when you've got children dying every day because of contaminated water sources. We can turn that situation into a situation of hope.

So would you be that source of inspiration and help by making the best gift you can today?

**Randy:** One hundred eighty-eight villages in desperate need but you can be the answer. I hope you will pray about it and I hope you will actually do something about it. Sheila, you want to give them something?

**Sheila:** Yeah! For any gift at all we're going to send you this book. Honestly, I really believe, I don't say this a bunch, I really believe this could change your life. I believe it could change your family. I believe that it might have an impact to change America.

Would you please help us in thanking the amazing SQuire and Louise?

**Louise:** Thank you. Bless you! Thank you so much.

**Randy:** We encourage you to pray and to continue to watch *LIFE Today*!

**Announcer:** In his new book, *Living Amazed* James Robison shares how divine encounters can change your life. *Living Amazed* -- coming soon to online and retail bookstores.