

5/1/17

**Week 19: Spring Mission Feeding**

**James and Betty Robison**

**Guy and Angie Penrod**

**James:** I'll tell you what, thank y'all! I am excited. I'm holding here Guy Penrod's Classics. This is truly one of the most gifted people in every way, not only to sing -- boy, oh boy can he do it! But we're going to talk about some things that I've seen in his life.

I'm James Robison and this is my wife, Betty. We welcome you to *LIFE Today*. Guy and his wife Angie is here. They are just an absolutely beautiful couple, have seven kids; right?

**Guy:** Seven boys and one girl.

**James:** And then prayed a girl in!

**Angie:** That's right!

**James:** Would you welcome Guy and Angie to *LIFE Today*?

[Applause]

Seven boys! Did you keep pressing for the girl or did he keep pressing for the girl?

**Angie:** That was me! That was me! I did it. I was begging in my prayer closet for the girl, loving the boys but praying for a girl.

**James:** Were those boys happy to see her?

**Angie:** Yes, they were. They said they didn't need a girl but they did.

**James:** How has she made it with all the boys? Is she okay?

**Angie:** Oh my goodness! Yeah. She holds her own. She is pretty tough for a 11-year old girl.

**James:** Now you played basketball; right? You mind me asking how tall you are?

**Angie:** Six two and a half.

**James:** And how tall are you, Guy?

**Guy:** Oh, roughly the same. About lip level.

[Laughter]

That's what drew me to her.

**James:** Are the kids tall?

**Angie:** We're short at our house.

**Guy:** Our oldest is 6' 7", our third born 6' 6" and actually, our 14-year old is almost 6' 6" and they're all just --

**James:** Are they athletes too? Do they like sports?

**Guy:** They all love it. Oddly enough, they took to soccer of all things.

**James:** What in the world?

**Guy:** I know! Growing up in West Texas and New Mexico I'd never heard of soccer. It's kind of like watching paint dry.

[Laughter]

But being tall, I thought they would go to basketball. Their mom did too but...

**James:** Well, I want to tell y'all, I'm thrilled to have you. I see God's glory all over you. I told you that when we were just sitting together. I told you that when we were together at a major function in Washington D.C. recently.

You saw after the inauguration a rally where people were angry. I've never seen so many nasty words, heard so many nasty things. Did you walk in that and mingle? What was your impression there?

**Guy:** We did, actually, the day after and the march was going on.

Not to take away from anybody's right to disagree or to say it or to gather, that's not my -- I felt a real spiritual oppression, like a heaviness. My heart hurt, literally and I had undergone actually a heart procedure a couple years back and had a stint put in. I was having the same types of symptoms just walking around in those streets.

I mentioned it to you the day we were walking around because like you said, there was such a -- it's different. I sin, I have sinned, and you have a self-evidence, a knowing when you transgress God's law whether you're his child or not; there is always some sort of evidence in yourself. And that's one thing, but it felt like a celebration of behaviors that are not ambiguous in the word.

We're told what the types of behaviors that we're trying to bring to the surface in our country and we're told what it will do to you. And it is out of love for us that God says, "Don't go down there. Don't go down there. That will destroy you. Please come here."

It is out of that kind of compassion for us that Jesus says, "I paid for all of that. I did it. I took care of it. You don't have to be in the bondage of it. You don't have to lose the relationships, lose the peace that I purchased for you if you'll just come to me and do it my way."

It is not a mean God doing this, it is a kind loving God. But what we felt that day was so heavy. Seeing mamas walk next to little girls and little boys that were holding signs that were filled with language you just would not use. A sense of anger after the inauguration; it was that following day.

I came home, in fact and went straight, I went to our pastor's first of all and we prayed, and prayed for the country. I loved what we heard at that event. Christians pray. We tend to forget that and if someone gets in office that we don't like, we don't pray for them because we don't like them. Or if they get in office and we do like them, we think, well, they've got it all figured out and we don't pray. The common denominator is the prayer. We need to pray for them.

But at any rate, you're right. In that moment, we felt a deep sense of hope, actually in the middle of kind of an odd paradox because of all the anger around. I feel as though, and I said it that night I think, we've been given a window where it appears the leadership that has been elected will do some things that will make changes that may hurt in the short term, especially because we're in such a spending problem, we have such a debt issue, that they're going to be changing some of that, hopefully, to bring the debt in control.

But the beauty of it is it gives the church the opportunity at that point to be the church and to meet needs. Widows and orphans in distress, this is pure an undefiled religion, and helping those

in need. I think if we will -- because all that the politicians can do is tax, take, in the form of tax, and then help or redistribute even in its purest form if there is no corruption involved. In its purest form it's a finite source of resource; right? Only a certain amount of money to be doled back out.

But our God is infinite. He has everything at his fingertips and if we are just the funnels and we step out in faith and we say okay.

**James:** Touch every need.

**Guy:** Exactly! And not that he has to give it to us first. He is saying, Peter got out of the boat before he knew exactly what was going to happen, and then the Lord met him as in real time. And I just think the church is poised, its standing as a rock in a crazy storm that we can minister the truth and love of Christ as he fills us and we just funnel it out to those around us.

**James:** Angie, you said something to us that boy, we feel so strongly about. Mothers, just give us your heart on the importance of being a mother.

**Angie:** Oh I am just thrilled to be a mother of eight children. I thought about it earlier. Like to define motherhood, it is such an amazing -- it is a pleasure to be able to connect these little humans to God. It is the whole -- like that's it! That's it! That's my whole life's goal is take these precious gifts and in front of them live a life of the greatest commandment, loving God and loving each other.

I tell them our goal is to become masters of love. Let me tell you, it is a challenge with all of that testosterone, seven boys -- are you kidding me? I am daily a referee/mom and everything else.

**James:** It is so beautiful!

**Betty:** It would make me sad when I would hear mothers almost apologize and say, "Oh I'm just a mother." When that was my whole venture in life. I wanted to be a wife, a good wife and a mother; I felt like that was my calling from God. What an opportunity -- it is a big responsibility but it is also the biggest blessing you could ever ask for.

**James:** The cutest pictures and images we've got is our beautiful little daughter that's in heaven, and what a treasure for her high school career day, she dressed up as a homemaker. When she got married, she said, "I'm off now to do my career and that is to be a mother, a homemaker, and a wife."

Don't you appreciate this beautiful couple? What a treasure! We're really praying, Guy for

God to -- I'm really praying for Jesus' prayer to be answered to where we really become one in a really supernatural way.

You're going to sing a song. What's the title of the song you're about to do for us?

**Guy:** Loving God, Loving Each Other.

**James:** I think I know somebody said that's really important. It's like the summation of the whole of the word of God. And here is all of the word fulfilled, Paul said when you just love your neighbor as yourself. In other words really correctly.

Would you like to hear Guy Penrod sing a song? Do it for us, Guy!

[Guy Penrod sings]

Loving God

Loving each other

Making music with my friends

Loving God

Loving each other

And the story never ends

They pushed back from the table

To listen to his words

His secret plan before he had to go

It's not complicated

Don't need a lot of rules

This is all you need to know

It's loving God

Loving each other

Making music with my friends

Loving God

Loving each other

And the story never ends

We tend to make it harder

Build steeples out of stone

Fill books with explanations

Of the way

But if we stop and listen

And break a little bread

We would hear the master say

It's loving God

Loving each other  
 Making music with my friends  
 Loving God  
 Loving each other  
 And the story never ends  
 Loving God  
 Loving each other  
 Making music with my friends  
 Loving God  
 Loving each other  
 And the story never ends  
 And the story never ends  
 No, the story never ends

No greater love hath a man than he lay down his life for his friends.

[Cheers & Applause]

**James:** I can't even adequately describe how important that is in my heart when I realize that's what Jesus prayed. Of course, he gave us those commandments that sum it all up. But then he prayed that we would be one with the Father as he is. Now that's a pretty special relationship; that we can have that relationship he had with the Father. He's praying that for us so that means it is attainable; that means it is very important. I really long for that -- not just for me to have it but for everybody to have it. And that in that relationship miracles happen in every area that must be addressed by God through yielded vessels.

But then he says that we can love one another, it's like even maybe that's bigger than loving the neighbor, when you really love the family, and you really love each other. And then that supernatural manifestation of love, then the world, everybody looking in will know you're my followers, you're my disciples. I really pray for that.

I ask all of you who are watching, let's pray we'll see that. Think about it, you want your prayers answered. By the way, Isaiah 58 makes very clear what many passages do in the entire Bible, both the Old Testament and the New Testament. When you become an answer to prayer, your prayers are answered quickly. It is amazing how involved God gets in our affairs when we're interested in sharing his heart with others.

So I think that if we would say, God, we want our prayers answered but how about we join with Jesus to see his prayer answered; that we have that relationship with the Father. This isn't

religion -- this is relationship. This is bigger than a marriage ceremony, this is marriage where you will really have oneness through thick and thin challenges. So let's really pray for that. It's not only the longing of my heart, it's the longing of his heart. I want to be a part of seeing his heart's dreams fulfilled; I believe you do too.

Would you just say thanks again to Guy and to Angie for blessing us? Bless those eight kids! All you boys and that sweet girl -- God love you!

You know what we find indescribable joy doing? When we see an opportunity to touch someone with love, someone that feels like no one's even noticed, no one cares. And then Betty and I found missionaries; one of the things that just amazed us was missionaries would go from South America, from North America, from up in Canada, from other parts of the world and they would plant their lives with their little children in the midst of indescribable suffering. To do what? To share the love of God and to reach out to people who needed to be rescued by love and pour love out on them.

Here's what the missionaries said to us when we even said, "We'll stay here with you."

"Please don't!"

It wasn't that they didn't like us. They said, "Please go back and ask people to keep us here; and that we not be empty-handed, that we would be able to assist these."

I'm telling you we heard the Lord through that. And we came to you. And when I tell you you became an indescribable miracle, I do not exaggerate. I want you to look at the feed, I want you to see it as an opportunity for God to show himself strong through you and be excited about it. Watch!

### **On the mission field**

**Announcer:** Everybody knows that there are hungry children in Africa and we know that something needs to be done. UNICEF knows that Angola has one of the highest child mortality rates in the world and malnutrition is a major contributing factor. This village leader knows that without crops his community is in grave danger.

### **Open Captions:**

>> We are facing a serious problem with our food. We don't have enough. Without the rain, we cannot grow crops to eat.

**Announcer:** This mother knows the heartache of watching her children wither away from malnutrition.

**Open Captions:**

>> His skin is getting very loose. It started with a fever, then diarrhea and vomiting.

**Announcer:** And this child knows the pain of going to bed hungry. But just knowing about malnutrition in Africa won't help anyone. The actions that we choose to do together will help save a child's life.

**End of clip**

**In the studio**

**James:** That moment ago when we saw that beautiful mother with that little baby, I wanted to pull my face up right between theirs and pull them right up here. Say, "I love you, little baby. And we're going to help you." And look back at that mother and say, "We're going to help you. We will be the answer to your heart cry."

Betty, weren't they precious? And then those little guys and little girls, they're so weak. The thing about it is I know what love does. It's not wishful thinking, it is miraculous what love does. We've been able -- think about this. You see one little child, we've saved millions -- millions of little children like that. I say we, we -- us together, not Betty and me, or even the missionaries but all of us together. Betty, I just want to see -- I want to see the miracle.

**Betty:** As a mother, I can't even imagine the heartache of a mother holding her baby knowing that the answer is that that baby needs nourishment. And that mother will go to the ends of the earth if she thought she could find the source of the need for her baby. Her baby is dying in her arms and all that baby needs is food.

This is something we can do something about. We can join together here at *LIFE Today* and let's reach out and let's get the food to these babies, for the mothers too. They want to be able to take care of their babies but they have no resource. We have the resources. Please join with us and let's help the mothers feed their babies.

**James:** We must. Listen, the United Nations since its founding over 70 years ago, think about this, has reported that we're facing a short period of time, the greatest starvation in history -- 20 million deaths we're facing right now. And in the South Sudan and in places like Angola, and southern Sudan, above all places right now, and our workers are just -- they planted their lives in that pain and suffering to offer hope and help. They're ready, the miracle is available. All we need to do is make it happen by enabling and undergirding it with our support and our prayers.

Here's what you can do. Go online to *LIFE Today* or dial that number that's always there as a prayer line for anyone with a broken heart. It's like we're here to bless you every day, to feed you spiritually and encourage you, and then to give you the opportunity to be an indescribable blessing to someone else and we know it works. It is not wishful thinking.

If you will simply dial that number or go online, take a bankcard and use it like you should always use it, like a check but use it right now to say, "I'm giving life." Think about this, \$30, \$50 or \$100, those three gifts will care for three, five, or ten children and their families for the next months. Hard to imagine but it's the truth. \$1000 we can feed 100 miraculously.

We have some gifts to send you that will inspire you, bless you, and feed you spiritually, which is why we're here for you. But you are going to be the miracle those mothers' hearts long for and those precious children need. Please right now, move to be the answer to that prayer every mother's praying, every child needs. Would you do it please, right now? Thank you so much. Thank you for giving life.

### **Begin video clip**

**Announcer:** In impoverished and even now famine-stricken areas of Africa, children are suffering. The need is great and without food they face death by starvation.

*LIFE's* Mission Feeding program is ready. With your support, we're able to feed and care for children in famine areas of Sudan, as well as Angola and Mozambique. With all of our previous reserves gone and Mission Feeding facing the worst drought and food shortage in years, we urgently need to replenish our food supplies to reach 400,000 children counting on us.

Your lifesaving 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 My Daily Word Devotional. This boxed set of four seasonal devotionals will help you read, reflect, and renew yourself through God's word with space to journal your thoughts and reflect each day.

With your gift of \$100 or more, you'll also receive Kari Jobe's newest music project, *The Garden*, along with the story behind *The Garden* companion DVD.

And finally, with your gift of \$1,000 or more, please be sure to request "Determined Eagle," our 2017 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**

**In the studio**

**James:** I want to say thank you. I'm holding this Classics album by Guy Penrod. Many of these are songs he did with Bill and Gloria Gaither. There he is with his sweet wife.

I just feel impressed and here's what I'm going to ask you to do. I mean just step up and say, "I'm really going to do something special today, James. Would you mind with the other things you're sending, would you mind sending me Guy's Classics?"

Yes, we will. But I want to ask you to do something because I said I want to do this. I'm asking you to do something for these little children that might have been beyond anything you ever thought. Would you just consider that? I want to bless you. Guy and Angie want to bless you. Boy, he's got a gift to bless you. Let's bless those kids.

Would you again say thanks to Angie and Guy? Guy is going to be -- guy's going to be back with us in another program. We're going to hear him sing and share a little bit more. You won't want to miss that this week.