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Week 19: Spring Mission Feeding

James and Betty Robison

Guy Penrod

Betty: Welcome to *LIFE Today*. Thank you so much for joining us. I'm Betty and this is James.

James: And boy, do we have a blessing for you. Guy Penrod is here. This is his new *Classics* album. Many of the songs here he did with Bill Gaither; there he is with his wife Angie. They were both guests earlier this week. But Guy is going to really download some truth and some songs that I believe will get down in your heart. He is a true gift from God, a great treasure.

Would you welcome Guy Penrod back to *LIFE Today*?

Guy! Hit it!

Guy: Hoo wee!

[singing]

Time is tight and money is short

Rivers up

And the weatherman, he is calling for another storm

Pressure's on

The margin's thin

We've got to figure out

A fix for this awful fix I'm in

Oh mama, what am I gonna do?

And she said, "Child, there is only one thing you can do

Don't worry about nothin'

Let it go

See what tomorrow brings

Don't worry about nothin'

Pray about everything"

Love is blind

Faith don't care
Lose your grip
And your balloons go sailing off
Into the air
Oh mama, what am I going to do?
She's saying, "Child, there is only one thing you can do
Don't worry about nothin'
Just let it go
See what tomorrow brings
Don't worry about nothin'
Pray about everything"

Yeah, I'll pray about everything

Take a walk
Take a breath
Give it all a rest
Take a cane pole to the fishing hole
And catch a couple of fish
And just like that toss them back
And make a little wish

And pray about everything

Don't worry about nothin'
Just let it go
See what tomorrow brings
Don't worry about it
Stress about it
Fret about it
No, don't worry about nothin'
Hey, let it go
See what tomorrow brings
Don't worry about nothin'
Pray about everything

Yeah, I'll pray about everything
Pray!

[Applause]

Guy: Isn't that fun?

James: I'm smiling so hard my face hurts.

Guy: I love that song. That's just a simple truth. I loved the simplicity in that. I like -- I'm a pew baby. I grew up on the front row. My father was the pastor. They are both in heaven -- dad and mom; dad passed in '94 and mom in '07. And I was on a blanket, newborn. So I grew up in church.

I'm one of those that love the church. I agree with my mentor, Bill Gaither who I used to hear say, the church is a lot like the ark. You know, Noah and the family, it got stinky on there, I'm sure. Nasty after a while, that long of a float. But it was the best ship afloat; wasn't it? And the church is a lot like that.

So I don't ever bash the church. Jesus is coming back for the church, the bride. But we are it we don't go to it. So I like saying things though in everyday language. I think that's one of the challenges for us in the church; is to not to speak in a vernacular that people don't necessarily understand.

James: One of the greatest miracles that occurred when the Holy Spirit was poured out at Pentecost was they spoke. A lot of people say, "Well, they're speaking in tongues." No, it says -- and it is fine with the prayer language. That's not what was going on there. They were speaking the language and the dialect of every person there so they could hear them not only in the language they understood but the twang, the southern twang in the south, whatever it was. There it was. You got it exactly. So that's the miracle, is communicating the gospel, the transforming truth of God's love and gospel power to change everything -- that's the miracle. And they communicated it.

Guy: Yeah! That's what I think is so great about -- folks might call it a ditty, like that. Pray about it, don't worry about nothing. Let it go. See what tomorrow brings. Don't worry about nothin'. Pray about everything. There is so much truth.

Betty: Music can break barriers there. It really can just let it out. Do any of your eight children like to sing?

Guy: Yeah! They all do, in fact. I don't know -- I've not been really like a stage dad kind of approach. I just kind of -- I worried that I would force it on them. So we just have laid back and tried to see what they have a propensity for and then bless them in it. So they all play

instruments, they all sing. They sang with me on a Christmas record I made and I sang the 12 days of Christmas with them and it was a lot of fun. But I don't tote them around and get them up in front of folks because it is hard to be in school and play sports and all that.

But that's my life is going out and singing the good news of Jesus. You find it's challenging. One of the things, along with the word in that song that gets me is that it is a promise out of Matthew six -- well, several times through the word he says, "Don't worry about what you're going to eat, where you're going to sleep, what you're going to wear" and yet we find in our culture that one of the most debilitating, I guess diseases or conditions that we deal with these days is anxiety and depression, worry. The enemy is on high intense attack with that, especially in the church but with everyone. He is trying to scare us to death with what the future may hold or with what we had in the past that's always on your heels and he's reminding you all the time or what the present even is dealing with.

But the reality is God is not shaking in his boots today. He is not worried about ISIS. Of course he is worried -- he is concerned with those who are hurt and being hurt. I'm not -- but our battle is not against flesh and blood. It is hard to remember sometimes when it gets intense like this. But it is against principalities and powers and rulers of darkness in high places. And it's done, that battle in prayer. That song does that for me. It reminds me of that; that people aren't the problem, they are the point. I think it is a poignant little way to remind myself of that. At least I do laps in my tractor listening to it.

[Laughter]

Trying to remind myself not to worry even though I've got four kids in college at the same time. Lord, please sell a lot of CD's.

James: Do you have a website if people want to know where you're going to be? Or they want to communicate and say, "Would you come to our church?"

By the way, if you ever have Guy come, you not only sell lots of CD's, but you give him a great offering that's a love offering for him and his whole family. Seriously! Do that. Pour God's love out on him when you have him.

But there's the website if you want him to come and maybe get churches to get together and have an evening with him in the presence of the Lord.

Now you're going to sing another song. Do you know what you're going to sing right now?

Guy: I do!

James: What is it?

Guy: It is called "You Reign."

Guy: A friend of mine named Lenny LeBlanc wrote it. He is from Muscle Shoals, Alabama. And it's got a little bit of groove on it but it is a good truth.

James: Do you want to hear it?

[Cheers and Applause]

Guy: No matter what you're going through today, know this. That God is in control of your circumstances. He knows exactly where you live, how to get a hold of you, what the problem is so give it to him and let it go.

[Singing]

In the valley of the shadow of death

You reign

Through every storm and fiery test

You reign

Over the cross and the powers of hell

You reign

In every prison cell

You reign

You reign

You reign

You reign

>> Do you believe that? [Laughing]

Over the rivers and the oceans deep

You reign

Yes, you do

You never slumber and you never sleep

You reign

Hallelujah!

Kings and queens may wear a crown

But you reign
 And in the end when it all comes down
 You reign
 You reign
 You reign
 You reign

Hallelujah!
 Your kingdom will rise forever
 You reign
 Your kingdom will last forever
 You reign
 Your kingdom will last forever
 You reign
 You reign

>> Isn't that good news? You may know the first verse by now, if you know it, sing it even if you're right there at the house.

In the valley of the shadow of death
 You reign
 Hallelujah! Thank you, Jesus!

Through every storm and fiery test
 You reign
 Over the cross and the powers of hell
 You reign
 You reign
 And inside the loneliest prison cell
 You reign
 Your kingdom will last forever
 You reign
 Your kingdom will last forever
 You reign
 Your kingdom will last forever and ever and ever and ever and ever, ever, ever, ever
 Your kingdom will last forever
 You reign
 You reign
 You reign
 Yes, you do

Thank you, Jesus

You reign

You reign

You reign

You reign

You reign

[Applause]

I like it! I like to speak it into the atmosphere. I like to sing it into the air. God spoke when he made this place. He spoke. He spoke. I think it is time for us to start speaking and singing at the walls and the problems and the difficulties. And to actually do what seems a bit crazy and counterintuitive but to sing at him. You reign, Jesus! Whatever it is!

I don't know what is going on in your life. Maybe it is a need for your body, your health, financial, wisdom, understanding, reconciliation, restoration, boldness, for our country, for what James and Betty support -- millions and millions of dying children all around the world. It is time to sing at that stuff. It is time to proclaim in Jesus' name and speak it into the atmosphere and believe as though it already is. Faith, substance. What's the substance? The faith! The fact that we have the faith to step out and sing at it.

What happened to the walls of Jericho? They fell flat. Was it because of artillery? Tanks? No! They sang at it. They spoke at it. Come down! You reign, Jesus! That's power! And Jesus is the power. He can do it. It doesn't matter what you're facing, he's forgiven it, he's restored it, he's paid for it, he's conquered it! Give it to him; in Jesus' name.

James: Amen! I love you, buddy!

Guy: I love you too.

James: Praise God!

Guy: Sorry, I just go off every now and then.

James: I want all of you to listen to me right here. Let me talk to you, just kind of family. He reigns over all the challenges we face. And I know it is tough to see.

Father, I want you to show every person watching us right now just how big you are in their

situation. If they need someone to join hearts with their heart to pray with them just inspire them to call and they'll be praying with a friend. They may want to pray together for a friend or for a challenge, a situation. God, you have your way in the life of every person watching because you reign.

And we don't need to worry. You take care of birds, you clothe the flowers, you can take care of us. So we trust you; in Jesus' name.

You need somebody to pray with you? Don't you hesitate to call. That number right there is paid for by love because God loves you and people love you. And there is someone waiting to pray with you.

Then I want to say this to you, please. Right now we face the greatest crisis since the U.N. was established over 70 years ago -- 20 million people face death in short order and we can begin saving millions of lives.

We have 400,000 special areas of need, 400,000 children and their families that the missionaries are waiting right there and saying, "We can rescue all of them. Just give us the resources." \$30, \$50, or \$100 we feed three, five or ten kids. I want you to watch this. I want you to listen not only to the heart of missionaries and family members that love their family, and long for them to have help, I want you to listen to the heart of God. I want you to know you are the miracle that people's hearts cry out for. I believe as you become that miracle, you're going to see miracles in your own life. I really do believe that. Watch closely but prayerfully and be ready to be the miracle someone's heart longs for.

On the mission field

Announcer: If you've ever missed a meal or two you probably know the feeling of hunger pains and the relief that your next meal brings. But sadly, there are those who live with the pain of hunger every single day of their life. And then there are children who do not survive once they move beyond the pain of hunger. Veronica is reminded of her little brother dying from a lack of food every day that she has to go without food.

>> I remember when my brother died. We were hungry and he was so thin. My mom took him to the clinic that was very far away and he died on the way there.

Announcer: Veronica's story is all too common in villages throughout southern Africa and that's what makes this so urgent that we do something now.

Sheila: Some of these moms have to walk 10-15 kilometers with a seriously malnourished

baby just to try and get some help. And if they can get here in time, then there is some hope. But time is everything here as you can see.

But my prayer is that we can save hundreds of other children before they get to this stage. No child should ever get to this stage. No mom should ever have to watch this. So if we do something now we can stop this from happening.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Dear God, my heart breaks. I believe yours does. And I know the answer is love shared through us. Be the miracle these children need. Let us see it. Be a part of it. Please Lord! Touch the hearts of your people; in Jesus' name.

Listen to me. Please listen! We can save those children. Many of the children right now in South Sudan, which is where the greatest death cycle and the most dangerous place is, and that's where we're spending most of the focus and energy and support and all of the missionaries face the very possibility of being killed. In the areas where you saw us right there talking about these children that were so hungry, and the mother couldn't even -- you saw one of them holding a baby very close to her breast. She was covered but it was very likely from malnutrition she didn't have nourishment.

And in that area, and we shared this years ago, the radical extremists, the same that are bringing terror to the whole world, they would cut those women's breasts off, if they were Christians, so they could not nurse their babies. And then they would drive them from their villages. This is brutality that is almost unparalleled.

But those people that are in this area are in love with Jesus and they are dying and they are burying their children. We can, because of God's love in us, stop the death cycle. We can give those precious little children a future. I can promise you, we help stabilize that as we've done in many areas of the world. Those people will rebuild. They are determined and committed and they love their children.

So here's what I'm asking you to do. We have 400,000 now that we've located that we're in direct contact with. All we need is the wherewithal to feed them for the next months. Think about what I'm saying right now. Just focus on it. \$30 will feed three children, save their lives; \$50 will save five; \$100 will feed ten. I'm going to ask you with no apology if you can feed ten children do it but don't step back. If you say, "Well, I could only do \$30." It doesn't matter what it is -- if it is \$10 we're going to be able to enable these missionaries to stay there and put God's arms around

these suffering people and give them hope. And we're going to point them to the love of God.

You're the ones that make it possible. \$1,000, we can feed 100 children. We have some beautiful gifts, a Bible study series of devotions, seasonally. It is absolutely powerful to take you into the word and get the word in you.

And then Kari Jobe who grew up here with our ministry, was in our daughter's, who's is now in heaven, our precious Robin, was in her wedding, when she was only 9 or 10 years old. Kari Jobe, she has presented something so special and the story about how this came to pass is available to just say thank you because we want to bless you on your spiritual journey. We want to lift you higher.

Would you please right now go to the website *LIFE Today*? Please, very quickly and with real sensitivity to the heart of God, get your bankcard and say, "I'm going to use this like a check and I'm going to give life today." Or you can dial the number. Many are calling right now. You could get a busy because people are calling; somebody cares about them right now and have got arms around them. So you be determined. You say, "I'll get through if I have to keep calling for the next hour. I'm going to get through and I'm going to take care of some of those kids. I'm going to see that they have food. I'm going to be the answer to that mother's prayer."

Would you do that right now? Please? Thank you so much for it! Thank you for responding to the heart of God and the need of those people.

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 thanks in behalf of all the mothers and families that would wish they could put their arms around you and thank you for what you've done for their precious children.

Betty, it's been such a joy to have Guy here. This, I know the minute we held this album, we said, "We'll go home with it." And we are. You can get it online. There is Guy's website again if you want to get him to come to your area and bless him and be blessed by him.

But if you say today, "James, would you mind sending us that classic?" We'll be glad to. Here's what I'm asking you to do. Would you send somebody some love? Would you just kind of step up and say, "You know, I actually called back a second time. I want to do something else."

All I'm saying is you just hear the Lord about what you're to do to help us rescue these children and their families; and just ask for the album, along with the other gifts we have for you, we will send it to you.

Join Betty and me in saying thanks to Guy Penrod. Thank you so much.