

7/16/17
 Week 28: WFL
 James and Betty Robison
 Kevin and Sam Sorbo

James: Betty, how about you welcome the people? Would you do that?

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

James: And we've got Kevin Sorbo back with us and *True Strength*. His wife, Sam, *They're Your Kids*; it's about taking responsibility and talk about effectiveness of homeschooling, which our daughter homeschooled her four children, just phenomenal. Did a great job, Rhonda. Thanks! What great kids. And the others are fine too.

[Laughter]

One family went to Christian school and the others went to public school and they're all great. All the kids are great because they've got good moms and dads -- good grandmother. Okay, grandpa.

Now I want you to give a great big welcome to Kevin and to Sam. They're back with us. They were here earlier in the week. Kevin was with us over a year ago. Would you welcome them to *LIFE Today*?

[Applause]

I'm telling you that I have been thrilled to watch God working in your life, not just in the movie where you play a part because you're not really playing real godly part in that movie about *God is Not Dead*. But the kid did a great job, by the way, that actor. Fabulous! And the whole deal. I have an idea something happened to you there at the end as it was winding down. I don't question something good -- I've just got to believe that.

But now here you are. You're in another situation where you're playing this atheist. Now do you just act like, to these directors, that you automatically qualify for some reason for this atheist role?

Kevin: I think after 12 years of Hercules and Captain Dylan Hunt in Andromeda, I play these nice guys for 250 episodes. I was like give me some bad guy roles for awhile.

[Laughter]

I think there is just a lot -- there is a message that can be learned from this. Playing the atheist, I found it kind of simple. I just thought of a Christian and then I just took away all reason and accountability. So there it was!

[Laughter]

James: Sam, what do you think about him playing that role? And then this is actually a movie based upon what you and another person wrote. It was something that was in your heart. You're watching your husband here in this journey. You watched the real journey. I want y'all to talk about what happened to him because in part of the journey you actually could have died physically, the movie has some of this in it but this is real life. What do you think about what you're watching happening in Kevin's life?

Sam: Okay, that's a lot of questions right there.

[Laughter]

I wrote the role for him because I knew that he could play it like no one else can. Let's face it, *God's Not Dead* is a great movie but in large part because of Kevin; because you hate him and then you feel bad for him and then you love him.

Kevin: My mom said she hated me so I figured I did a really good job.

[Laughter]

So I take that as the highest compliment.

Sam: But as you might remember, right before we got married he had three strokes and nearly died. I was with him at the time. In fact I remember, in our living room -- in my living room, he had come over from seeing the doctor and I had given you a sandwich. And he was eating the sandwich and he looked at me and he said, [garbled speech] Can you hear that? I can't talk. And he literal was stroking right in front of me. I took him straight to the hospital at that point.

Kevin: This is during the Hercules years; I'd just finished season five. They found an aneurysm in my left subclavicle that had -- this arm was almost amputated because I had so

many clots in the arm.

Sam: He was the picture of health.

Kevin: I was Hercules! I was pretty ripped up!

[Laughter]

I was pretty ripped up, if you watch that show. It was tough on the ego, I'll tell you, what I had to go through.

Sam: He was in intensive care and I'd booked a job. I was an actress and I booked a really great job in New York and it was going to shoot three days in New York. And I went into intensive care and we were affianced, we were engaged to be married. I said, "Would you prefer if I stay and turn down the job?" That forced him actually to admit that he needed me, which for Hercules it's hard to admit that you need someone.

[Laughter]

But seriously. And it put me in the position of making a choice. I had said previous to even going down to New Zealand, I'd said to God, "God, I want to be married because I want to have a family. I know that there is -- I get it now. There is a compromise. So just show me what the compromise is. I understand. Is he going to just be like really short? Or is he stupid? Or what is the compromise?"

James: With what's happened to him?

Sam: No! With finding a man -- to find a husband. I'd been looking for a husband. I wanted to get married and I wasn't meeting the right guy. I flew down to New Zealand and I met the guy! I'm like, he's perfect!

Kevin: Can I say something?

Sam: No! You may not!

Kevin: I'm a bit of a flirt. On the very first day we were working together, it was a night shoot. I walked up to her and first I said, "How are we going to make this work?"

She says, "What are you talking about?"

I said, "Well, we've got this hazard called the Pacific Ocean between us." I said, "I'm in New Zealand, you're up in California."

She looks at me and she goes, "Okay, look. I don't date actors. And I don't date guys with long hair."

I said, "Right now I'm making a pretty good living with the long hair."

Sam: I said, "I don't date long distance too."

Kevin: That's right! But I worked on her. I've got to say first date; I talked her into going at least on a date with me in New Zealand. So I pick her up. She gets in the car. Country music is on. She goes, "Oh you like country music?"

I say, "I love country music but it's the only country music station in New Zealand. Turn it off if you don't want to listen to it."

She goes, "No! I love country music."

We go to dinner. We're talking. She looks at me and she goes, "Are you conservative?"

I said, "Yes, I'm conservative."

She goes, "Wow!" Talks some more. "Are you a Christian?"

I said, "Yes, I'm a Christian."

She goes, "You're a Christian conservative and like country music? I think I'm in love with you."

[Laughter]

So there you go.

Sam: It's true; right? So I found the perfect man. And then I'm sitting in intensive care with him and he doesn't want me to take this really great job that's like -- I mean it's a great job; it's a national network spot for ice cream. I mean I love ice cream! And he said, "Yeah, I don't want you to go."

I said, "Oh! That's the compromise. Thank you, God! That's an easy one." So I didn't go and then

we got married eventually.

Kevin: I had to learn how to walk again and balance myself again because the strokes went to my eyesight. I actually had four strokes but the one that she spoke of dissolved rather quickly. But the other three: Balance center, eyes, I had all kinds of problems. It was a tough road. It took me three years to fully recover.

Sam: Migraines.

James: Where you are now. I see you very Christ centered, both of you. You seem more excited about what you're doing, like *Let There Be Light*. Why are you so excited about where you are now?

Kevin: Because we're spreading His Word in an amazing way. I get stopped by people all the time in airports and malls or whatever and they're always talking about *God's Not Dead* and *Abel's Field*, and *What If*, all these movies that it used to be nothing but Hercules or Andromeda and it's changed and it's amazing to see that change. I've had pastors stop me and I've had people write to me that deal with churches that say, "I have my flock but you reach..." -- just as you reach millions of people doing what you're doing. It was a world I never thought I'd fall into. This was not the game plan for me. I've always been a Christian, I never stopped my faith but this has been an amazing mountain for me to have a hurdle on and become part of.

James: What they're seeing in you, Kevin is not somebody just playing a role but somebody who is that role. In other words, you are a Christian, Sam you are a Christian. Jesus is the center of your life. He is not something you worked into the deal. He is the center and there's excitement about what he's doing.

Sam: About six years ago I made a commitment to follow God's plan for my life, which was very odd but I was getting messages. When you get a message, you have to listen to a message, I learned that from Kevin. He got a message and he didn't listen and he had three strokes. That's in the book, read the book, you'll see. I started just stepping out in faith and it's been an amazing journey. I had a nationally syndicated radio program. I was led to homeschool my children. My one and a half year old followed me around the house one day after I went on an audition saying, "No, no, no, no, no, no!" I picked her up, put her on my hip. She turned to the nanny and she said, "Bye-bye!"

[Laughter]

James: Pretty good message.

Sam: I said, okay! I gave up my career a second time to raise my kids. And I say this. We live in a fallen secular world. We live in a world that is trying to convince us that only the here and now matters. And it is wrong, it is a lie and it will lead to disillusionment and sorrow.

So I want to start the conversation about the purpose of life, the fact that we're not accidents. We are here for a purpose. There is a reason to life. And it is important to have those discussions. And we have to drown out all of those very loud voices telling us that nothing matters: Nihilism, hedonism, and all the rest of it. So that gets me excited.

Kevin: I sit there and look at what is happening in the world right now and you look at Fergusons and Baltimores and Chicago and places like that, and if you look at the mostly young males that are doing the destruction of public and private property, do you think if they had God in their lives would they be out there doing that? Of course, they would not.

James: Even a father. That's the whole thing. I feel that when you look at the movie -- like we want to talk about *Let There Be Light* because we want there to be light. We know who the light of the world is. You're excited about the movie. When you think about it there because I know enough about it, just the impact that can be made. But what do you think in your prayer time alone, what do you hope and long for when people walk out of that movie?

Sam: I just want -- I just pray that God uses this film in people's lives. It's a gift. It's my gift to him and if he can use it, praise be to Jesus. That's all I pray for. I pray that he uses it and that it can be used in people's lives to bring them -- we're trying to bring joy into sadness. We're trying to bring light into darkness. We're trying to bring love and healing into hatred. That's the message of Jesus Christ, for crying out loud! He's the one who does it. That's not for me to do but if he can use this film, that's my joy.

Kevin: It's like you mentioned earlier, you talked about on the 4th of July, we were on, I say it every day, "thy will be done." It's really as simple as that. It's always been a big part.

James: It's real important for us to understand that he preceded that statement "thy kingdom come thy will be done." The only way his will is done is when the king is on the throne of this kingdom, this heart, because the kingdom is in us. But we have eternal life. We're not going to get eternal life, we receive him, we have eternal life. We need to start living the manifestation of a life we've received in Christ now before a world that is groping in darkness and confusion and rage. God can change it all.

Kevin: I meant to bring this up earlier to you. I forgot to bring the product here with me. I helped produce a reading of the New Testament. It is called Breathe Bible. Tyndale is doing the distribution of this. It is out right now: BreatheBible.com. It is 80 actors who have gotten

together to read all the biblical figures in the Bible. There's a huge orchestra in the background.

James: Is this something you get on digital or what?

Kevin: You can get it digital. I like the box that it's -- I'm still the guy who likes the book, I like a DVD, I like a CD. It is 18 CD's. It's 21 hours. It's a reading of the New Testament. I'm the voice of God.

[Laughter]

Sam: There is no living with him at home.

Kevin: I went from the half god on Hercules to the capital G.

[Laughter]

No, but in the Old Testament will be recorded in about six months from now and of course, I'll be very busy in that one. God was a little busier in the Old Testament. Jesus kind of took over the New Testament. But go to Breathe Bible.com, the chapter, the entire book of Mark is there now. You can listen to the whole thing. You will hear. If you're in another room and this is on in your house, you'll think someone is watching a movie. It is beautiful! You will hear the nails going into our Lord's hands. You'll hear the jeering, the cheering, the crying; the sound effects, the music.

James: Now who came up with that idea?

Kevin: A guy by the name of Carl Amari who did the reading of the Bible as a whole but it was just one guy reading through. We live in a time where people are impatient and we've got to live in the new digital age, so to speak, and this is a way to bring it to like a more -- I think in the sensory of hearing, a more interesting way to hear the Bible because it's all these different voices reading Jesus and Mary and Pilate and all. It's really cool. So go to BreatheBible.com and check it out.

James: Where do they go, what do they look for if they go online?

Kevin: It's BreatheBible.com. Remember the E is between the breath and the Bible. A lot of people, breathe is spelled with an E at the end. So it is BreatheBible.com. Please check it out because I'm very excited to be part of this because it is amazing. Living in L.A. We listen to a lot of audio books because it takes an hour and a half to go 20 miles in L.A. So traffic here isn't so good either.

[Laughter]

James: I want everyone who is watching us, as well as here, think about *Let There Be Light*. It will be in theaters in the fall. Let's just pray that it will be one of the major distributors. A lot of the major distributors don't even understand why faith movies or movies that are based on Christian reality and truth, real truth, why people are going to them. They don't seem to be able to talk the language. But the biggest distributor in the nation ought to take this and get it everywhere. Let's not only fill the theaters with the people not only that are our friends but invite everyone but let's fill it with prayer and the power of God. People come in there and suddenly see the light. Wouldn't that be great if that's what happens? Because that is exactly what, in the movie, your boy wanted you to see and it moved you and it stunned you. I think it can absolutely open people's eyes. I'm pretty excited about what's happened?

Betty: It really is. It is exciting to me overall to see that we've got good movies like this coming out and all the good tools for Christian families that don't want their kids going and seeing all this other junk that's out there, all this negative stuff. Because people, to me, when kids go to a movie, they come away with so much that they saw on the screen. Well, why not something like this that's really going to be good and hopeful and positive for them?

James: When I saw *Schindler's List* -- and I want to say this to Steven Spielberg. I'd love to talk to you sometime. I know my friend Robert Duvall, and a lot of other folks have said they would love for me to sit down and just have a chat with you; people that work for you have said that. But Steven, when I saw it, my goodness, what an incredible, indescribably gifted director you are. That giftedness did come from the creator, no question about it, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

But when I saw *Schindler's List*, and of course, it won every award and rightly so but it caused us to stop and think, look what one man's concern did for so many. We've seen that in our ministry, the way our viewers help touch people with the love of God, whether it is food for hungry people or getting people out of sexual trafficking, bondage, and giving them fresh water, whatever it is.

But let me say this to you, sir. It would be so wonderful if you could just get a glimpse of the light that Kevin and Sam are talking about. I mean really see the light because good night you're gifted! But to see that light, man, I can only imagine. I can only imagine what you could bring to us to inspire us all to see the light. Steven, I love you, sir. I admire your incredible giftedness.

Well, I want you to know, both of you, that we're going to be praying for *Let There Be Light* and that the light will just flood the earth, and the light of Christ will shine in each one of us; that we won't let it be hidden under religious tradition or practices of men or own failures or refusal to

submit to the light ourselves but that we will put that light on a lampstand and let it shine. And that we, the people of God, the believers will become the shining city set on a hill that cannot be hidden and must not be hidden. The only way that shining city is able to be the city is we stand together in supernatural unity that only God can bring to pass.

Well, *Let There Be the Light* in the fall. Would you say thanks to Kevin and to Sam for the blessing they are? And that they will continue to be? And in the bookstores, *They're Your Kids* and *True Strength*. This is his story. He went from being so strong to so weak that only a miracle could make the difference, the miracle we all need.

Betty, one of the things that our viewers have made possible, they have made possible miracles that people never believed would happen. You're going to look in right now, you're going to hear me talking about a miracle that has become an unbelievable experience for people that has changed everything because of you. Watch closely.

On the mission field

Announcer: They say that the sure sign of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result. For Nayore, she has no choice but to repeat her steps even when she knows those same steps cost the life of her baby girl.

Now, as she draws water yet again from the same contaminated source, she hopes this time will be different, that her older daughter won't fall ill and die the same terrible death as her baby girl.

[Open captions]

>> My baby girl became ill so I took her to the clinic. They said nothing was wrong with my baby and they sent us home. She died that night. [Weeping] My baby needed clean water. If I was not so poor my baby would still be alive.

Tammy: It's so hard for me to sit here and listen to her story and see such pain in her eyes and it's so raw, it's so fresh. But the biggest thing is just hearing her say that all she needs is clean water and knowing that that could have changed everything for her but she's fully aware of what she needs but she can't do anything about it.

I would love to be able to speak hope into her life and tell her that things are about to change.

Announcer: Indeed! Change began that day as Nayore prayed to receive Jesus as her Lord and savior. Now her soul will never thirst again and it's our prayer that, like so many others around the world, with your help she will no longer thirst for clean drinking water for her family and village.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Well, Betty and I want to say thank you so much for your help. Some of you, you make it an annual goal to drill a well or maybe two wells; you make it a goal to give toward that. Thank you! Encourage others to do it.

We're going to send you two books; one is on the healing words but these are *The Words of Jesus*. It doesn't have commentary, it's just His words. And I'm telling you, you can't read *The Words of Jesus* and not be impacted profoundly in your life. So we're looking forward to sending it to you.

If you'd like to have Kevin's book, or the book that Sam wrote about children and educating our kids and you say, "Would you mind sending me one of those books? I'd like to have it. I feel like I have a need for it," you help us give a drink of water, ask for it and of course, you can get them online but we'll be happy to send it to say thanks to you for helping someone else.

Join Betty and me in saying thanks to Kevin and Sam. Appreciate y'all very much -- very, very much! Thank all of you for watching! Thanks for sharing life.