

3/8/18
Week 10: WFL
James and Betty Robison
Stephen Baldwin

[In the studio]

James: This is one of the shows where you can have all the outtakes and stuff you can see with Stephen Baldwin to have a real show. I'm James Robison. This is my wife Betty. We welcome you to *LIFE Today*. Stephen Baldwin has already livened up the day. He is *interesting*.
[Laughter] And his brothers, who act and do other things.

He has a new project. By the way, I really like this guy. I like him a lot. I like him every time I see him, wherever I see him. And we're glad to have him here. I had no idea really what he was going to do. I'm almost afraid to turn it over that way but I'm going to. But he's got a project and I'm just looking at it because it is called the GAP. But it is the *Great American Pilgrimage*; I really don't know what he is talking about because this is kind of an ongoing reality TV thing. We'll tell you where you find it so you'll want to find it because here it comes. I hope it outdoes *Duck Dynasty* and has the effect they have and beyond. I just hope it is fantastic. The builder of *Fixer Uppers*. I hope it beats the *Fixer Uppers*. And maybe he could help get the *Great American Pilgrimage* back on focus.

Would you welcome Stephen Baldwin to *LIFE Today*? Hey, buddy! How are you doing?

Stephen: Wonderful!

James: Okay, let's hear about the GAP.

Stephen: Well, *Great American Pilgrimage* is this idea that I got because -- everybody as believers is different. Everybody has a different sensitivity to different things in the spirit.

James: You're talking about true believers? Like Christians. Okay.

Stephen: Yeah! Exactly. In the wake of this last presidential election I was raised in a house by a dad who said, "Do unto others." He wasn't some crazy evangelical guy. He was a foundational, simple, serious guy. He said, "Salute the flag and be a decent patriot and respect your country because it is a blessing."

But nothing Great Santini crazy -- just simple. So in the wake of this presidential election I'm going, this isn't that thing that my dad told me about. This doesn't feel like that thing. Sure we have had decades of different controversies and this and that but it was an itch I had to scratch which was how do I go out and talk to people who maybe I don't agree with or don't understand and start a conversation where I respect them as I would hope they would respect me. And maybe not judge me before they've had a chance to get to know me. That's the motivation. So it was this --

James: Well, you see what you call a chaotic spirit of just attack and just ridicule and nothing good, everybody at one another, just tension, is that what was getting your attention? Because there was plenty of that.

Stephen: Getting back to the beginning of my story which --

James: I didn't mean to interrupt you.

Stephen: No, no, no! But it's a good point which is I'm one of these followers that does the best he can to say to the Lord, "Use me. I want to be used in unique and different ways."

It's like I said in this idea of communication, the language of listening and things like that, it is so lost. Things are going so fast and it is so chaotic. And everybody has got three phones and hurry, hurry, hurry. It's just as a believer I had a burden in my heart after the election that just made me say, "This ain't right." So what can I do in my own Stephen Baldwin way -- [Laughter] Crazy like a fox! I said I'm going to get in an R.V. with my three dogs, go across the country and ask everybody what's America mean to you? But instead of being the host that says, "No you're wrong! Here's where..." I'm going to just listen. I'm going to let my audience hear what those folks have to say.

James: But will you ever say anything to them? Do you have an opinion? Do you, Stephen?

Stephen: The Lord works in mysterious ways. [Laughter] It's taken me 15 years of my walking with Jesus to get to host a show where I finally shut up. [Laughter] But I appreciate you having me on to talk about it because it's to me the show does point to Jesus because I'm trying to create a message and a conversation that symbolizes many of these elements in our human spirit that -- I interview a guy on the show, an African American guy. I'm in southern California and he says to me, "I think you're wrong about this, this, and this."

Three minutes later, in the conversation we figure out he has a daughter in high school and I've got two daughters. There was a moment in the conversation where I said, "Excuse me but do you see right now -- right now the both of us are just two concerned dads. We're exactly the same

person in that respect. But I wouldn't have gotten to that thought if I thought, well, you think this about politics. So that's part of the big motivation there is create a piece of content that is fun and entertaining and clean and family friendly but have these conversations and engage people in a way that hopefully messages to the rest of the world think about who you meet, who they are, what they say.

Betty: Find some common ground, so to speak?

Stephen: Amen! Amen! How could we start to slow down all this process of super light as speed communication? To take a breath once in a while and say, "I'm sorry, what's your -- who are you?"

And at the end of that, if I still don't agree or agree to disagree, at least show the person the grace and the respect. Do you know what I'm saying, to learn more about them. And then see where the conversation goes from there.

I can't tell you the number of times during the filming people we interacted with said these words, "Well, you know, Stephen, I never really quite heard somebody say it like that. I never really got into a conversation that was so respectful that it went that far down the conversation."

So for me, and brother, with that piece of content and that vehicle as a message, if I told you the amount of ministry we did, when we were in --

James: Will we be able to see it on this journey or do you have to keep that a secret?

Stephen: That's a secret for now until everybody watching this program tells everybody they know to go watch the *Great American Pilgrimage*. And then season two and three and four we can do all kinds of other things. But I do want to say this, please. Because there are several subjects here that we touched upon that were powerful. I did an interview with an African American guy in Chicago that owned a barber shop called Pal's. And James, Betty, it was so funny because here is this guy giving me a shave, I'm the only white guy in the place, and I'm talking with them. They are telling me the history of Chicago and how all the guns came in and the violence and the gangs. I'm not from there. So it was amazing to hear from the people who are -- what the real story is because it is easy to be from New York and point at Chicago and say, "Well, the most murders are over there and they must not know what they are doing." Right?

I'm sitting there and we're having that conversation and this guy is explaining to me the history and it's really blessing me because I'm feeling who they are. This guy shaving me and I turned around and said -- I'm asking this question because you have Barack Obama and Rahm Emanuel's the mayor and now Trump's in office. With Trump in the next eight years... And the

guy shaving me goes, "How many years?" [Laughter] It really happened. And the guy has got a straight razor an inch from my neck.

I said, "I'm sorry, what did I say?"

He said, "You just said Trump and eight years."

I went, "Oh four years."

But it was this wonderfully lighthearted moment where two different folks from different worlds and perspectives came together for a minute. It was beautiful.

James: Let's watch a little clip from it; okay? This might just send you off on a journey.

[Great American Pilgrimage trailer]

>> Hey everybody! I'm Stephen Baldwin. Gosh I look fantastic. Hollywood guy.

>> *The Usual Suspects*, my favorite movie.

>> Proud American. First of all, I'm dressed as George Washington.

>> Sure you are.

>> An R.V. Enthusiast. Uncle Stephen B's about to drive the big boy bus! This is my buddy Max. Famous financial guru and well, he's a little bit different.

>> I'm honest Abe!

>> You're Abraham Lincoln!

>> Oh my God! They're rolling their windows up!

>> Last but not least my larger than life Pomeranian, an aspiring star Rio. With all the drama happening in our great country and I'm hitting the road to have some fun.

[Horse neighing]

>> Meet everyday Americans.

>> See a nice frosty bud on here?

>> What did you call it?

>> Frosty bud.

Open Captions: I know who you are... Baldwin!

>> What's America to you?

>> Our ancestors suffered the most.

>> See how things got so crazy.

>> I was naked, I was publically naked.

>> He bit my finger off.

>> And hopefully start to bridge the GAP. This is the *Great American Pilgrimage*.

Music

Great American Pilgrimage.

>> Yee haw!

[End of trailer]

[In the studio]

Betty: I'll be watching it! [Laughter]

James: Okay, Betty! Okay, tell everybody what you thought.

Betty: Oh I'll be watching it. I think it's great!

Stephen: Well, thank you. I was talking to Randy earlier, and I said to him, the idea for *Great American Pilgrimage*, I call it journal-tainment. It's a little journalism with the interviews wrapped around with some entertainment to make it fun for everybody because so much of the news, everything you see now is doom and gloom and this and what's Kim Jong Un going to do next? So between that idea, it just is one of these things that I think the Lord is using it in a great way for me to relationally communicate with people and point them to Jesus.

James: You and I have been friends for more than ten years and I know you and your wife had told our staff you like our show.

Stephen: Very much!

James: I really do thank you for that.

Stephen: Can I add to that? Because brother, in the spiritual warfare of things the enemy is going to attack some people more than others. So it's a blessing for me and my wife after 15 years of doing the very best we can to stay connected to Jesus, you start to discern about where you go for the wisdom. So thank you. Because it's you guys and I can count on one hand for us, me and Kenya, the number of teachers and people that are walking this walk in a way that makes us want to gravitate towards you. So thank you for your ministry, brother and I mean that.

James: Thanks to all of you for the ministry we have and your prayers. I believe God really loves people. I think that's what you're doing out there. You're showing them God's love. I hope everybody watches this. I hope you get everybody watching.

I feel like and this almost sounds funny. I feel like God is really trying to heal this nation. And really, a lot of the obstacles to his healing are his own people who have been asking to heal the land and then they don't like his agents of healing, they don't like his approach to it, they don't like his manner, they don't like exactly the way it's going to happen. It's like they ask him to do it and they want to tell him how to do it without trusting him to do what they ask him to do. They know the mountain needs to be moved. They can't move it. They know he can move any of them. They ask him to move it, he's moving it but he didn't use the same kind of equipment they wanted or do it quite the way or rapidly the way they want it. It's ridiculous. But do you agree, coming out of a family like you come out of, my goodness -- dysfunctional. Here's the thing. Here's the deal. Do you see positive signs that God is actually moving some things in our nation that are in fact an answer to prayer?

Stephen: Absolutely, brother. There's no question. I think what's fascinating about what's happening with *Great American Pilgrimage* is since I started it, whatever side I've been on,

whether it's political, conservative, liberal, this or the other, right now in the timing of things, I believe America is in so much pain, the people are in so much torment and pain about this division and all the reasons why there is division that I've had people, James and Betty, that would never talk to me for ten seconds say this, "I saw your show and I agree that that conversation needs to happen. That's the healing."

James: Yes, it is. It is God that invited us to come to the table of reason. That was an invitation not just to Isaiah, it was an invitation to everybody, "Come to the table of reason." In essence, you're doing that. It's what our leaders need to do. It's what we pray for. And we want wisdom to get in the room. Understanding the times, understanding of how to address every challenge, every mountain we face and it can be leveled. God can calm every storm and he can give us peace in the midst of any storm even when it is raging, and he can give us a foundation that will not shake, no matter how intense the storm or the pressure.

Father, that's what we pray for. We want you to bless Stephen Baldwin, his buddy, his puppies, bless everything he does for your glory. And Lord, we trust you to heal our land and to touch the nations of the world and many others are praying for us and we thank you. But Lord, we pray for them too. Put your arms, just have the whole world in your hands for your glory and your kingdom purpose is our prayer; in Jesus' name.

Would you thank Stephen Baldwin for being our witness?

[Cheers & Applause]

Thank you, buddy.

Stephen: Thank you, sir!

James: Really love you. Stephen, our viewers, I think have a heart like you to share the love of God. We're going to give you an opportunity to do what our viewers tell us, the people who come to see us, there's nothing that gives us any greater joy than to do what Jesus said and that is give a cup of water, a cup of clean water in his name. But the fact is we're going to give a well of clean water. We're going to change everything for an entire community, a village for families. Together we're going to save millions of lives because we already have.

I want to show you how you can be the greatest miracle some people will ever experience and it will lead to eternal life. You're going to be the answer to some desperate prayers some may have thought were impossible. But nothing is impossible with God. And love never fails. Here's our chance to let it flow. Watch closely.

[On the mission field]

Translator: I feel so bad I can't know how to explain or the pain I'm feeling.

Jeanne: What has made you so sad?

Translator: I've lost two kids.

Open Captions: There are always many deaths caused by this cholera. Every day we bury kids who have died because of this virus. My two children died the same death. The first was my ten-year old boy. Then I lost my daughter, Francine. She was six years old.

Jeanne: I can't imagine losing two children and then to watch a village every day have to bury children because they get so sick on this water.

You can't tell but she is pregnant with her third child. We want this one to have a chance to live. It's a very simple thing we can do that will bring clean water to this village. Clean water to this mama. Clean water to this baby. So this baby lives. And the whole village is going to explode with gratitude, with life.

[End of clip]

[In the studio]

James: Betty, we do know what it is to lose a child. Most of you know that. She lost two.

Betty: I was sitting here listening to her story, James. I thought, there is a lot of things that can cause pain in life. We've been blessed that we haven't experienced a lot of those things that can cause pain but we have experienced this one. We lost a child. I can't even imagine losing another child, the pain in the heart, the despair and the loneliness and the hurt you must feel in thinking, what more could I have done?

This mother is saying, "What can I do?" Their water is killing their babies; the disease in that water, that is the number one killer in their area. They're hopeless without some help. But we can offer them hope through our blessings bless them. We can drill the water wells that will bring fresh clean water and bring a solution to their problem.

Please join with us. This is something we can do. This is something we can fix if we'll just join

together, reach out and join hearts and hands and give what we're able to give to drill water wells.

James: You know as I'm looking up here at all the audience members here and you, when Betty and I, and Betty spent many hours just, "Mom, would you just rub my feet? Just sit by me." In the hospital, when -- you hardly know how to touch someone when you realize they know they're saying good-bye. But if I had said to any one of you here, any one of you, this is where our daughter is and you knew, any of you, I don't care where you are, if you knew you had in your hand the perfect cure, for just this couple's daughter, you would have gotten in your car, you would have gotten on a plane, you would have come where we are and you would have walked in and said, "Give this to her." Yes, you would. I know you would. Because you know it works. Thank you. Thank you.

All right. You just heard that mother. This works. A cup of clean water. You give them the reward of life because of love, you get the blessing of giving that and changing everything. And the missionaries get to tell them about the water of life that makes possible Water for LIFE, that love.

Would you please help us drill another 400 wells? Would you do that please? Would you do that right now? Would you simply get up, get your bankcard, dial the number or go online and say I'm going to help you drill a well. They're \$4800. I believe if you could drill one you would do it. Say, "Take care of the whole village. We'll save hundreds of lives." Okay, thank you. Give part of a well, \$1200, \$2400, pray another person joins you or three join and we've got another one. But most people help us \$144, 30 people get water the rest of their life. \$48, 10 people get water the rest of their life. Will you help us?

This is the last week now for this emphasis. Would you please right now get up, go to the phone, go online, take your bankcard or write a check and make it to *LIFE* and just tell us, I'm sending it. Please do it. Thank you for doing it. Lord, may everyone who can help give that perfect cure because of your love.

[Begin video clip]

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

The good news is there is a solution -- Mission: Water for LIFE is one of the most proven and viable demonstrations of God's love in the world today. You can help end the suffering because

clean water changes everything.

With your gift today, you can help drill 400 water wells in remote villages in over 15 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, life-giving water for 30 people for a lifetime!

With your gift we'll send you *The Riches of Christ*, what true prosperity looks like filled with wisdom, prayers and scripture. James Robison adds insight from what God has shown him about finding contentment in the Father's provision for your life.

With your gift of \$100 or more please request the *Children of the World Storybook Bible*. This easy to read Bible features colorful art by children from nearly 50 countries around the world.

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 the "Bridge of Faith" framed canvas print by Thomas Kinkade.

This is the last week. Please call, write, or make your gift online.

[End of clip]

[In the studio]

James: I talk about everybody's books and I've written at least 25 and people tell me they appreciate them. I don't talk about them much. This is one that's been condensed beautifully into a gift book. This is *The Riches of Christ*. This talks about real prosperity and it is absolutely beautifully laid out. I'd like you to get it. I think you can read it in an hour or so. But if you get it, what true prosperity looks like, boy, you're going to experience prosperity beyond anything you ever imagined but God did imagine it and it's not materialism, it is not selfishness, it is releasing the river of life. So just glad to send it to you to say thanks for giving a cup of water, giving a well.

Would you join me and Betty with excitement for what Stephen Baldwin is doing, and just say thanks for honoring the Lord and thanks for doing what God called? Stephen, I love you, buddy. Any time you want to come, bring your wife, it's a better ticket, any time you want to come, whatever you have on your heart, you come here and tell the world. Okay? Thank you. Thank all of you. Thanks for watching.