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Week 40: Mission: Rescue Life
James and Betty Robison
Rescue Life Special

James: I am so grateful that we have this moment to share with you. I'm James Robison. My wife Betty and I welcome you to *LIFE Today*.

Have you ever -- and you might even stop and think right now -- have you ever just longed for a miracle? I mean just really, God, I need that? Well, I'm going to pray that God meets that heart cry or that heartache. But what if you knew beyond any doubt that you could be part of as great a miracle as is possible to see?

Think about this. Jesus said he came to set captives free, people that are held in bondage. Now we know the horrors of slavery. We rejoice over freedom coming to any person. But if you take, think about this a moment, you take an innocent person, an innocent child and make them a prisoner and then you sell them for some kind of selfish, greedy gain and exploit them and destroy them -- and you suddenly heard that you could be one who sets that captive totally free, that's what Jesus came to do and he said, "As the Father has sent me, so send I you." And he says when you do something for the least of these, the overlooked, the forgotten, those that are in trouble, perhaps trapped or enslaved, and you set them free, you can't fulfill a higher calling. If you read Isaiah 58 there is a real good indication that when you become the answer to somebody's prayer and their need, God answers us speedily.

I believe I've lived a very blessed life even though I grew up in poverty and didn't have a father and I'm the product of a rape, but something happened in my life where I began to live to see others blessed and to see their prayers answered. That's what the viewers of our program tell us is happening in their life. When they begin to touch somebody else with the love of God it's almost as though in many instances a river of life and love and joy and peace, the joy of the Lord is our strength. We put a smile on God's face when we do these miraculous things.

Betty and I are really grateful to be able to share with you and to talk to Sheila Walsh. We're so grateful that Sheila is a part of the Outreaches of Life and teaches on *Wednesdays in the Word* so beautifully. But she's just returned where she has seen what we're going to ask God for a miracle to address.

Sheila, I'm glad you're here. It is tough to talk about what we're talking about. You're going to see one of the girls that was right in the area where you were. Before we let people see this precious little girl, what does your heart say that even in light of what I just shared, you want our viewers to hear?

Sheila: James and Betty, I've been in ministry for over 35 years but on this last trip in Southeast Asia I heard God say, "Now! We need to do something now." I've never felt such a shift in my spirit, such a call to prayer and to action because these little girls that we're about to see are innocent beautiful little girls. They could be your daughter or my daughter and the only reason they're there is because nobody has come to rescue them. Well, we say no! We're here and not on our watch. We're going to change this.

James: And we've got the people there. Betty, you know, you see, willing to leave all the comforts here. This really has to be a call of God. There's no question, not just anyone can do it. It's a call of God, a gifting of God. But here's the thing you've got to understand. It doesn't matter how sincere they are, how full of love they are, if somebody doesn't have love for the will of God and the purpose of God and the love of God to be shared, they can't even stay there. So they have left comfort to rescue those who are in bondage but they have to have assistance. Betty, you see their sincerity and yet our viewers are the ones that actually, bottom line, they make it happen.

Betty: That's really what the body of Christ is about. You do your part, I'll do my part and together we're able to complete the mission of God. I sit here with a smile on my face because I know something can be done to help these precious children that are so trapped by this -- by evil! Evil itself -- as bad as it can get. Yet, we have opportunity here to rescue them as you said. I'm so excited about that.

James: I want you to look in very prayerfully and I plead with you that no matter what you see, you'll just see the love of God and the mercy of God and the ability of God through yielded people, not only in the setting, on the field, but who make it possible for them to even be there in the first place and make it possible for them to stay. It's the only way they can stay. It is the only way they can be effective otherwise all you do is walk around and weep. But we can do more than weep. We can actually put feet to our prayers. We can enable the rescue workers and the missionaries to literally rescue them. First you reach out and then you rescue them and then love restores them.

I want you to watch and just say, "God, I want to be a part of this miracle. This absolutely an essential miracle!" Watch prayerfully.

On the mission field

Announcer: Behind the bright lights there is a darkness where a world of violence and sexual abuse runs rampant scarring the souls of millions of young girls.

Open Captions:

>> My name is Srey Pao and I'm 14 years old.

Announcer: Srey Pao is a child who was born into poverty. She told us that many in her family are very sick and to help them she looks through garbage for anything to sell but it is never enough.

Open Captions: Then someone told me there was a better job but they took me to another place where I was sold into slavery. I am forced to drink and have sex with many men every night.

Announcer: She says they threaten to kill her if she does not do what they say. Srey Pao is torn between needing to help her family and wanting out of her horrible situation.

Sheila: This cannot be their future. I feel that once we know something you can't unknow it and it is why we are here on behalf of *LIFE Outreach International* because we have to reach these girls before we can rescue them, before we can restore them. That's our commitment to these girls -- that's why we're here because we have to change that.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Did you see the shirt -- "Working Girl." Do you realize that is the way these predators oftentimes get these children? They will go to these impoverished settings and they will find a little child and they will tell her that they're going to advance her in some way. They're either going to give her something, do something for her, or give something to the parents or they're going to help them get a job or they're going to help them learn. They lie to them but it is just like so many of them are enticed by believing I'm stepping into something better.

She's a working girl. She is working for the most greedy, self-centered people on the planet. You've got to understand that anybody that will exploit a child, and then fly across the country and have sex with a little girl like that, you've got to understand, this is the total grip of the enemy to where you have moved into such an addictive practice that you can't even think one sane sound thought and they use these little girls.

We can set them free. Sheila, it's like you said there when you were in the setting that when you see it that there's no way a person with a heart, no way a Christian who knows God and his love could ever look away and turn away. I don't even think a people with a conscience and just any sensitivity period whether they even claim to know God would not want to reach and help that and be absolutely appalled at what's happening and say, "If I can correct it, sign me up."

Sheila: What I saw this time that I didn't understand before was the extreme poverty. Most of the girls I met have never been to school so they can't read, they can't write so they can't get a job. So the only job available is to gather cans at night like empty beer cans. Eight cans will get a quarter. But they have to go out between ten at night and two in the morning when all the beer cans are thrown out and that's when they're taken by these men.

One of the young girls that I met, she was nine years old and she was out one night and a guy said to her, "You look hungry. Can I get you something to eat?" And she was grateful. But the meal was drugged and she woke up the next morning beside a man and she realized that she had been raped. She was nine years old!

And to be to look into the eyes of a little girl like that and say, "Listen. I will not forget you. There are people across the country who are going to care and I'm going to go home and I'm going to tell them your story and we're going to do something." But the need is now. It is urgent!

James: You sit at home because you and I will watch and we try to keep up with what's going on. There are very few programs we actually enjoy watching but you watch *LIFE Today* and you see the settings and you've been all over the world. What goes on inside when you even listen to what Sheila is saying and what you know because you've seen it. What's happening to you as a grandmother?

Betty: I sit here and I think evil has no limits. It will go after the innocent. I don't care how young they are. And they entrap these girls, these precious little ones. They are babies. You look at them and they're babies. And they are abusing them and trapping them and selling them for their evil pleasures. How much lower can you get?

I just say, God, please help us! Touch our hearts, touch your heart and let's reach out and help these precious little ones that can't help themselves. They're the innocent. Evil is pounding on them. They can't fight back but we can fight for them. We can be up there in the battle against this evil in their lives.

So please, please join us and let's get these precious little ones out of those surroundings.

James: Betty, we call this outreach, Reach, Rescue and Restore, which is precisely what we're

doing. And Sheila, one of the things that I think is important for people to realize and you say you've been ministering 35 years so you've been all over the world. When you worked with Billy Graham, you worked with C.B.N. as a co-host, you headed up and helped with the *Women of Faith*; you've been in so many great outreaches and you came with us and in a way we kind of sent you into the outer darkness and pit of hell as far as it is on earth.

So when you went in and you saw the horrors of what's happening, I think our viewers want to know realistically, with just honesty, that's 35 years of ministry, you went and saw a very legitimate need; right? Here's what they want to know. Sheila, does it work? Do they reach them? Do they get these children before the predator gets them, educate them, take care of them? Do you rescue and restore them? Do they then advance to become something indescribably beautiful? That's a lot of questions but that's what viewers want to know. Does it work?

Sheila: Yes! I've seen it. I've gone in these rickety vans way up into the mountains to villages with the team and they sit down with these kids and they explain to them, "There are people out there who are evil. So here's what you do. If somebody comes up and they offer you something, shout as loud as you can and run away. Don't walk out by yourself, walk out in twos."

So the reach part is like telling them, avoid these people.

James: And you have to send them. You have to send these voices.

Sheila: The teams are amazing. I watched. I sat back and marveled at the lessons they were teaching. Things you should never have to teach a child. But over there, you need to teach them. But then I've been to the worst of the worst hellholes on earth and watched how our teams over there go in and literally work with the police, work with the F.B.I. over there, get these girls out but then I've been to the place where we take them to be restored. I got the privilege of leading in a worship service and to sing Amazing Grace to a bunch of boys and girls that used to be sex trafficked with their arms raised towards Jesus. I once was lost but now I'm found. Yes! It works.

James: I just pray that with all my heart, there's the pain that the only thing that could overcome it is the joy of the Lord, and the peace and the freedom and the liberty that he offers through the love that he poured out through Christ, but then when he sent Jesus, Jesus said, "I'm sending another just like me in spirit to live in you." We can have that love. And these workers, these missionaries that Sheila is talking about and that Betty and I have seen, they are there sent by God full of God's love, releasing it and the only thing that slows down their effect is do we have the resources to stay? And can we get some kind of lodging? And can we pay for the help we have to have so that we not only reached them but we have actually rescued them and restored them.

Then Sheila, you've seen because you saw the little ones coming up when you were talking about singing, they go out, many of them come, teachers themselves, and teach the truth. Some of them enter mission ministry, some of them become actually, community leaders that are well-informed and full of the love of God.

Sheila, I think it is important for people watching right now to know. Without the viewers, and this is what missionaries tell us everywhere we go, they say, "We know if anybody on the earth is going to see the need and meet it, it's the *LIFE Today* viewers." They say that and you see that? You just came back from Canada and they were telling you that. They love it because it works. Love never fails.

Sheila: Never fails! Honestly, if I could take every single one of you on the trip, if you could come with me and if you could sit down with these little girls, two of them were like nine and ten and I give them a bag of Oreo cookies, they sat there eating these cookies, chatting amongst, and they could be your daughter or your granddaughter. If you saw them you would do something.

That's why we go. That's why we bring these pictures and say, "Listen, this is not..." It is hellish but it's not hopeless. He who lives in us is greater than he who lives in the world. I got the privilege of sitting with two little girls and leading them into a relationship with Christ. And saying the most powerful prayer on this earth is one word, the name of Jesus.

James: You know what we're going to see right now, Sheila? We're going to see... and listen to me now. I'm asking you to do this. Just before you look I want you to just say to the Lord, right now, "God, would you please let me be Jesus in someone's life? Would you let me lift someone up out of the pit and set them free?"

Now watch and see if you today want to respond and say, "I'm going to set as many free as God leads and enables me to set free. Watch.

On the mission field

Sheila: I just wanted to explain why with this particular little girl, that we're not showing her face. She's 11 years old so we want to do everything we can to protect her. So when you were just nine years old, something terrible happened to you one night. Why don't you tell us about that?

Open Captions:

>> My dad is in prison and my mom ran away with some man. So I collected cans for food money to feed me and my brothers and my sister. Then one night... A guy on a motor vehicle

grabbed me and took me to a bar. I was locked in a room and many different men would come in. If I refused to be with the men, I was beaten. After a year, they let me out of the room and I ran away. Right now I'm free but I still have to go out at night to pick up cans. I still have to buy all the food for my family. I'm scared that I will be taken again and made to go back into that room.

Sheila: I'm horrified by her story and the tragedy is she is not the only one. There are so many girls. And here's what I think. If we don't defend her, if we don't say no to those vicious predators -- and trust me, they are very well organized and they're very well funded so we've got to get organized, we've got to get funded. It is time to let our righteous anger rise to the surface. There is some things that we can say that is not good but this is evil. This is absolute evil from the pit of hell! And we cannot abandon these beautiful children who are longing to know that there is at least one person on this planet who cares for them. I want her to know it's you and it's me and we're going to fight for them in Jesus' name.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Would you join Sheila and the missionaries in putting loving arms around these children? I find myself, while I was watching that I was praying, dear God, please! Let someone help them.

I find myself thinking, God, why can't everyone watching at least do something? Think about this. It takes \$128 to reach them, rescue them and restore them, that's the average for a year. We've targeted to reach 2500, and asked God for the money. You know what? Some of our friends said, "I'll tell you what. This is such a big burden on our heart we'll match it so that if somebody will rescue one it will be two."

I always think people can too often think too small, especially when it comes to kingdom matters and spiritual need. So I always say think beyond what you would normally think. Reach to the heavens, not the sky, reach up to God. But \$1280, we can rescue ten little girls. We can restore them. We can head them off from trouble. But it will be doubled. That \$1280 will be 20.

I don't know what you can do but I've had some people say, "James, I couldn't give \$128." Let me tell you something, the widow's mite, Jesus said is the biggest gift of all. So whatever you can give do it. But think about this, a \$64 gift is now doubled because of God's love and some people who said, "I'll match your gift." That's how much we want to rescue these precious ones. And so that \$64 rescues one.

Sheila, that had to just tear you up. And I know when you were walking with that precious girl you were wanting to know in your heart there are going to be arms around this girl.

Sheila: She broke my heart. I mean at 12, she is the breadwinner for the family. Her dad's in jail. Her mom ran off with a younger man. She's responsible for her brothers and sisters. And she said, "I can't stop doing this." So she goes out every night picking up cans, praying that somehow that she won't be once more dragged into that room. We can't abandon her!

Betty: Sheila, as I was watching, first of all it breaks my heart -- as a mother it breaks my heart because a mother wants to hold their babies close, they want to protect them. And for her mother to have run off and left her little ones there defenseless, it breaks my heart.

But I agree with you, we need to get angry enough that we say, "Enough is enough! Stop this evil!" And we have the power -- almighty power within us to do that. We can start with sending the help to the mission workers there that will help these children and bring these children out. And they can learn how to play, how to smile, how to trust someone's love for them and just have a new beginning in life. So I hope you will reach out big out of your heart and let's help these little ones.

Sheila: Because some of the missionaries that are over there, they're literally people that have given up their lives. One of the guys that we work with, he was like one of the head police officers on the east coast here in the states. He and his wife gave up their job. He quit before his big golden pension and they're over there. These people have said, "We're staying here. We're going to be boots on the ground but we need your help. Please keep helping us because if you help us we can reach them."

James: Let me just say to you that here's the key -- you're the key. You're the key to the miraculous release of God's love in this regard. Would you go and get a bankcard or would you go get your checkbook and just make a check to *LIFE*? Or take your bankcard and use it like a check. You can either go online or you can dial that number that's always there if your heart breaks and you say, "Pray for me." By the way, that line is paid for by love. Somebody who loves makes it possible for you to call.

But would you call it now? Not as a prayer line but a life line and you take that bankcard and say I'm going to rescue one. I'm going to make a \$128 gift. I'm going to write a check for \$128 knowing it will be doubled and you're going to rescue two. Or the \$64 will be doubled to rescue one. And if at all possible and I believe you'll do it, you'll rescue ten with a \$1280 gift that will be doubled, and now it is 20.

We have some gifts to send to bless you in your spiritual journey and they will be a blessing and

inspiration to you. Right now you're going to rescue and set free precious captives. Thank you for going to the phone. Thank you for calling that number and sharing life.

[Begin video clip]

Announcer: Behind the bright lights there is a darkness where a world of violence and sexual abuse runs rampant scarring the souls of millions of young children. With their bodies broken and hopes crushed, these children are trapped in a never ending nightmare.

With your help, *Mission: Rescue Life* can shine the light of God's love in this dark world to reach, rescue and restore children and young people to the beauty God designed for them to enjoy. With a generous opportunity and a \$320,000 matching gift, your gift of \$128 to help rescue a child will be matched to help two children. Your \$64 gift will be matched to help rescue one child from the horrors of human trafficking. And a \$32 rescue gift will be doubled to \$64! With your gift of any amount today, we will send you the *Names of God* prayer journal. From Adonai to Yahweh, this journal is filled with beautiful photographs to help you reflect on 31 different names of God found throughout scripture. With your gift of \$128 or more, you'll receive the *Names of God* Bible. This special edition NIV large print Bible is engraved with the many names of God; a beautiful reminder that the God we serve is infinitely good.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1,280 which will now help rescue 20 children and you may request the beautiful "Bridge of Faith" framed canvas print by Thomas Kinkade. This is the last day! Please call, write or make your gift online!

[End of clip]

In the studio

James: I began this program just -- I can't tell you how much there was a prayer in my heart for God to just show us miracles. I feel like not only our prayers have been answered today but I feel like there is a lot of missionaries that they probably found some more girls like the one Sheila was just talking about, the one she saw and the one she referred to and had her arm around.

Please give us enough to take care of these. They've got their arms around them; they want to keep their arms around them. Thanks for being that answer to prayer. We have some gifts to send you to bless you in your spiritual journey, and they will be a blessing and an inspiration to you.

I just want to remind you that I believe you want to help. This is the last day now for this emphasis and I'm just believing God for a miracle that takes us above and beyond even what we hoped or dreamed. And we want to thank you so much for doing it.

Remember, it's the last day. Sheila, Betty and I want to thank you for being such a big part of *LIFE Outreach*. You've told us and I know you mean it, it's a blessing.

Sheila: It's an honor.

James: Our viewers are a blessing; aren't they?

Sheila: They sure are!

James: They really are. Thank you so much and just blessings on all of you. Thanks for helping. Last day – and your response sets captives free. It really does. Thank you!