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Mission: Rescue Life, Week 11

James and Betty Robison

Jay Strack #2

James: I am excited about talking to you. I'm James Robison. Betty and I are thrilled to have Jay Strack back with us. Betty and I, she always says, "Why do you have to tell them I'm about the same age as you?"

Betty: Because they don't believe it.

[Laughter]

James: You're right. They absolutely don't. But we've been married 56 years and I'm 75.

Betty: And I'm 75.

James: So here's the thing. I've told you I'm not trying to go somewhere. I've got heaven and eternal life and I've got the ultimate kingdom to come where there is no enemy, and no hatred and division and death and destruction, and dissension and tension -- that's a given.

But I live in the midst of this atmosphere of intense animosity and hostility with the Prince of Peace, in the midst of a storm, and a shepherd that knows I've been sent in the midst of ravaging wolves. But I've got the shadow of the shepherd who can lead in green pastures, and calm any storm, and still the waters, anoint our head with oil and meet our needs in the presence of accusers.

But I also know that we've been left here on a divine assignment which is not to get out

of here but to bring him in here. Now think about this. He never would have taught us to pray amiss, he never would have prayed amiss, Jesus, and if in the model prayer which we call the Lord's prayer, the Lord's prayer is actually John 17, but if in the model prayer, one of the key phrases, and I want you to hang on this a minute and we're going to talk to Jay Strack about this because he fully understands it. I don't think a lot of professing Christians understand it. Jesus said, "Thy kingdom come." He announced that it has come, the king is here, the kingdom is in you; it is not of this world but it will impact this world with the weight of the present kingdom -- the reality of it.

"Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." I don't think we understand what all that means. But part of it means we love each other. We love and know the Father in relationship, his word carries us, cleanses us, fills us. His spirit overflows and he wants us to love each other. We see our children and grandchildren loving each other. We're told that's rare too often. It's beautiful! It brings joy. Let's give the Father joy.

Jay Strack is here. Would you welcome Jay Strack?

Jay: Thanks buddy. Good to be back.

James: I hope you didn't mind that little brief message. Don't you think too many Christians are caught up, as were the disciples when Jesus was about to ascend, they're discussing he's going to set up this kingdom, the ultimate. He said, "Let's don't get hung up with that."

Jay: That will take care of itself.

James: "You be my witnesses." And boy, were they witnesses. And they witnesses to everybody in this kingdom. Jay, I think a lot of folks over 50 have a tendency to kind of fold their cards or think well, we're going to get out of here. We're getting closer and closer. Betty and I are in our 70s. We're definitely in the latter part of our life. If we live

to be 100 we're in the last years of our life. Paul said to the New Testament Christians, "You're in the last days." He was telling them how to live in the last days even which he was departing, and preparing the young people to live in last days.

I believe for people who are 50 and older, if they would see that if we invest in kingdom life, and in his will being done and his truth being shared in love, I believe we could see the most mighty manifestation of the presence of God on this earth, and the love of God and the power of the gospel. Do you agree with that?

Jay: Without question. We're a day's march closer because we're marching. We're in the army so we're marching. I may be closer to the other side than if I turn around and went back. But I believe with all my heart this is one of most fruitful, one of the most exciting days of my life. So many things that I worked for, I'd run around, and everyone's done it, people in our audience, people watching by television, you feel like you got a little thimble and you try to put out fires.

We hear about we need a well. And you go, oh, my gosh! If I build a well, the whole village will benefit; that will change not just one person but a whole village. So you begin to get excited about well, if I did that one thing look at what -- but we usually feel like we got a thimble.

Well, what happens when we get to be 50 or 60 and the Lord has blessed us, then all of the sudden we're at a stage where we're not worried about making our mark. I'm not worried so much -- somebody asked me the other day, "Jay, what's the next big thing? You're always doing something big."

I said, "Man, I'm at the stage where I'm not really worried about the next big thing. I want to capture the moment."

If I capture this moment whether I'm talking to one person, whether it is somebody on an elevator, or somebody that's helping me with my bags, if I capture that moment then

that's all life is are moments. So we get these moments and what an opportunity at our age to begin to be able to say yes, we all like to go to the beach but after a couple of weeks I'm an old beach Florida boy, after a couple of weeks I need to go do something -- I mean I need to get back in the game. So we all like the mountains, we all need a little time to catch our breath and the Lord has blessed many of us so we can do it. But this is the stage where what I do today, I'm seeing more fruit.

For example, I used to be happy winning a student to Christ. Now I'm happy when that student has gone on and now runs one of the largest nonprofits in the country, in the world, when it comes to caring for AIDS. Care for AIDS is a ministry, and they do it in Kenya and Tanzania. That's one of our alumni. A young guy came from a great home but we were able to walk along beside him and take him places, introduce him to people and all of the sudden this young guy is touching thousands.

So if this is the stage of life when we do something, we can impact the next generation. And there's a great passage where it says we must do what we must do so that the next generation may know and that they will tell it to their children who are not even yet born. So what we do today at this age by getting involved in causes or sharing our influence, or James, a lot of what you're doing, sharing your wisdom, sharing what you've been through.

I like to hear... I was asked by a college student, we're asking them about young people. They said, "Who do you let influence you?"

I said, "I'm not impressed by street signs; everybody telling me which way to go. Here's what you ought to do. You're going the wrong way. Street signs. I'm impressed by builders." Show me somebody that's laying brick, building a home for unwed mothers, building a facility to help trafficked girls, trafficked young men, feeding the poor, digging -- show me the builders building that Christian school, that pregnancy center, that church, that mission." So I'm influenced by those that are builders.

And this is the stage of our life, James where, and you've got folks listening right now, they get four or five of their friends together, it would blow their minds what they could do together. There are these kind of meetings going on all over the country where wealthy people, and then folks that have been hard working, they wouldn't consider themselves wealthy but compared to the world, they're blessed. So they look for ways.

James: We're blessed to bless.

Jay: Exactly. You can't out give the Lord, we know that's true. Again, what I've had to learn just recently, I'm not responsible for what I can't do but I am responsible for what I can do. So if I get involved with a group of other men or a group of other couples and we decide we want to make a difference in this area for the glory of God, and do something that will last longer than us.

James, there are preachers all over the world that you've touched, you and Betty have touched. Some of them have had the privilege of being in your home but others of them have had the privilege of just being around. What you do now, a lot of times -- I used to go, why isn't James doing those big crusades? Well, now I can tell you, I'm grateful you're doing what you're doing and the influence that you have.

So motivating people our age to stay in the game, people that are in the hall of fame for what they've done, but man, let's get the cleats back on.

James: You watched me speak to church leaders. You watched me speak to national leaders. For our viewers sake, am I faithful to the word, am I forceful, am I clear?

Jay: Let me clarify one thing. Let me make something Waterford crystal clear. He could read a phonebook and it would be forceful. I just want you to know that, all right? I've never known him to be any other way.

And for me to be serious for a moment, James, when what you do is kind of taught a lot

of us, we're preachers, we're orators, we're asked to speak, and that's critical and that's important -- "How can they believe in whom they haven't heard?" But also to be able to sit, and sit down with a group of businessmen and talk to them, just man to man, not my agenda but what's God's agenda?

That's the thing that, to be honest with you, James, that's really kind of separated you is that what would the Lord have you to do? It's not just about, "Hey, I need you to be involved in my thing." That's why I really love going from the Jay Strack Evangelistic Association to Student Leadership University. It was not about me, it was about kids, it was about the next generation.

Then folks, James, you've done this obviously I'm the recipient, but for 40 years worrying about those that were coming along. How can I help them? How can I block for them and prepare them? And when they get that moment, let them be equipped to do that moment. I've been given a lot of great opportunities but I knew in the back of my mind because I'd seen someone else in those opportunities; I'd been granted access.

So when you sit down and talk heart to heart, it's personal, it's warm, God's really tendered your heart, there's no question about it but yet it is always very personal and very forceful because there's a sense of urgency.

James: Do you think it's effective? Have you seen it be effective?

Jay: No question. I've been in a room with a hundred of what I would dare say, and it sounds presumptuous because people wonder why I was there, but a hundred of some of the who's who in ministry. To be honest with you, a lot of us knew each other when we got in the room because we'd run across each other when we were doing things with you, in your ministry.

But the wake, we all leave a wake. Everybody that lives, we leave a wake. We go through a room, we've left it either better or worse. So the wake has been a wake of influence. I've

watched it, I've been privileged in some settings with some of the most powerful people in the world and some of the most influential people in the world. I've been privileged to be there where there has been groups of the businessmen in the room and women, ladies that you go, oh, my gosh! Look who is here. But also my favorite is when it is a bunch of key spiritual leaders from a lot of different denominations.

When I finally learned something, James something that you very forcefully and personally talked to me about a bunch but we are in this together. We've got to leave ego and logo at the door. Folks will only do that if some of the ones that are speaking are leaving their ego and logo at the door. That's what makes it a lot more effective, I think.

James: I want our viewers to know that everything we do is undergirded by their prayers and their support. And it is not ever a [waste](#) of time. It is not trying -- you know one of the things that I've actually had three presidents say this to me over the years. But they said, "You're scary." I said, "Why?" They said, "Because you don't have an agenda."

Now imagine when a president says, "You don't have an agenda." I said, "Well, I don't have a personal agenda." I don't really even have an agenda for you. But let me just settle it. I desire an agenda, God's agenda.

I've said to presidents that there is a nation that needs a father. We're a fatherless nation. There's only one Father that knows best. Does that sound like good advice?

Jay: No, it's incredible advice.

James: Now you've been in rooms with me with leaders where they've asked for wisdom. They've asked that we all join together and pray for wisdom. You've been asked to pray for leaders to have wisdom, haven't you?

Jay: Yes, sir.

James: Is it important for these viewers to realize their prayers for wisdom to surround our leaders? Because it is hard, it's hard for wisdom to get in the room in a lot of religious settings and denominational settings, and it is hard for wisdom to get in the room anywhere in Washington, D.C.

Jay: There is no question. And we have a lot of folks that are kind of remind me, is it Jamie on the progressive ads, they're going around and everybody is telling what they're doing. And he goes, "Present." So there is some people that get in the room and they have an opportunity but they're just present; when they say something it's not a word from God. That's the thing I see that they want. They want -- we've all got pictures on our wall and that's nice and et cetera, but the greatest thing you can do is walk along beside someone.

So to walk along beside teenagers obviously, that is a big deal. I'm excited about that. And to care about those that a lot of people have forgotten about because what I don't want a program for a bunch of rich white kids from the Bible belt. I want a program for kids like me.

James: And it needs to be supported by people who are our age who may think what do we do? We can undergird every meaningful thing, not only with our prayers but with our support, and God's given us the wherewithal and the ability to do it. Everyone one of us can.

Jay: But folks trust me that when I'm being with this young people, they trust me with that. Well, James, when I see some of the opportunities that we're talking about that the Lord has given you and a handful of others, to have people behind you that go, that's like me being in the room. I'm helping make that happen. And there is wisdom. Scripture talks about we're commanded to pray for our leaders. Everybody says, "You ought to say this" and "you ought to say that" and "you ought to go on a public rant against a national leader."

Well, you know, I believe you do that privately. You share your heart, you share the Word of God. And James, here's my word. If folks only knew that there are Daniels being allowed access, and there are Deborahs by the way, us men need godly wisdom, and a heart, and strength. So there's Deborahs, there's Nathans, there's Daniels in that room. And to think that I can help a Daniel be in that room, or a Deborah, or a Nathan!

James, for a long time you were the Nathan from the pulpit. Here's one thing I've learned in 30 seconds. I can impact somebody from the stage, I can impress somebody from the stage, right? I can even inspire somebody from the stage but I can only imprint somebody up close and personal.

So for us to realize and it is not oh, I need to be in the room. I think if you're faithful to share that, whatever God's put on your heart, and we talked about people of our age, we've got a lot of folks, we're like the old man on the porch. "Get off the lawn. What is wrong with these kids today? They don't know what they're doing! They're disrespectful..." And we're the old man or the old woman on the porch.

But we've got to pray for this next generation, invest in this next generation and we've got to be willing to encourage some folks who have the ministry and the influence but also the opportunity to imprint. And that imprint, as you know, is lasting. So there's a paradigm shift in what real ministry is and what real influence is in this day.

James: And our prayer is so often what brings these different, let's say transformative moments into reality. And all the things that God's allowed us to do has been undergirded by prayer and by support of people who know it depends on love expressions and support.

What you're doing and we're going to put the title of your student leadership group up again to learn what you're doing to get young people in because it is phenomenal. Would you join Betty and me in just saying thanks to Jay Strack for being a blessing to so many people? And you are being a blessing to leaders in every area. And thank you for the

encouragement you give us.

I want to show you right now what we're facing in trying to rescue people from sexual trafficking. It is something that is so big on our viewers' hearts that we've got a group of our supporters who say, "James, we're going to give a matching gift to double whatever you give to help rescue these girls from sexual trafficking."

I want you to watch closely and I want you to let God direct you in how you support what I believe is so critically important. I think you'll want to help.

Begin video clip

>> As you know on borders between Nepal and India is wide open. And that's when you see an Exodus of Nepali children, especially girls and boys, they are taken from remote villages and then they are brought into the border towns. That's when the traffickers are ready to take them out of the country through promises of jobs. That's just a front many people are given. Many of these girls, they become slaves. So we stop them before it happens.

Our program is what we call interception-prevention program and when we see them come in a rickshaw or a motorcycle or even a taxi, we try to stop them. So we bring them to our information booth, which is right at the border gate. So our team, as they are questioning these ladies, some of them go to the police and the police comes and they figure out, okay, we have a situation here. She is not to travel to India because that's why we are here to save, to help, and to rescue.

We have an amazing story of a victim of trafficking that we were able to intercept and rescue just last night. Sitting behind me is our staff and Amrita who is a 29-year old young woman. But she had no idea during the course of this whole process, she was dealing with a trafficker to take her into India and use her in a brothel. Now we have turned the trafficker into the police authorities and she is now in custody at the moment.

Once the girls are intercepted and rescued, we have to have a shelter, a restoration place. So our program has been very successful. We have been able to intercept and rescue women and children. So it's a full service program is what we do from interception, rescue, sheltering, and prosecution, it is like a cycle that we do.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Lord, I just want to thank you for the miracle that we just watched and heard made possible because of love, your love; in Jesus' name.

God plants these precious people. And now, to be able to think, and this is how God knows we need to be able to support wholeheartedly our law enforcement all over the world and here with such appreciation to have the right laws and enforce them -- so important. When you get them working with people of compassion, and you can intercept a problem, and then actually prosecute someone that's part of the problem while you're rescuing and restoring others.

And there are thousands and thousands that have been rescued from very young, even sometimes six to eight or nine years old, and rescue them and get them before the traffickers get them or right after they've kind of gotten their tentacles on them to be able to get them to escape, but also to take them, whatever age we get them out, to be able then to restore them. That's what the safe house does. And we've even created places where we've never been able to show on the air but they are so secure that once we get the people out nobody can come in and get them.

It's just a miracle what love has done. And then to think that our viewers who are so moved by compassion and the love of God to get these people out of this horrible pit of destruction and despair, you've put up a matching gift -- over \$320,000 matching gift.

That's a tremendous amount of love to just double the love effect.

It takes an average of \$128 to rescue one person, to get them into the restoration process. Now then the \$128, if you can do that, will rescue two. I always go for as large a gift as I can get. I don't think people need help protecting their money. I want to get you invested in the kingdom impact that love can make and the gospel makes. \$1280 rescues ten but now 20. It will be doubled.

Would you right now dial that number or go online and get your bankcard and say, "I'm going to rescue one."? It will be doubled. Or "God's given me the ability to rescue ten with a \$1280 gift." It will be doubled.

We've got a beautiful promises book to send you that will inspire you and bless you. We've got the "Name of Jesus" throw that's absolutely beautiful. You will absolutely want to put this in a prominent place or have it where you can just get the warmth from it. If you ever come to our studio, we keep it quite cool in here. You might say, "I'd like to get one at the door because it is cool." But we're going to send this to say thank you for the gift you make.

And then we have the beautiful arms of the shepherd bronze that is so pretty for those of who you will make the \$1280 gift knowing it is going to be doubled in its effect.

Thank you so much for your help. Thank you for putting arms of love around people who have been so hurt, so abused, and misused. Thank you for rescuing them. God bless you for it. Thanks for making that call.

Begin video clip

Announcer: Behind the bright lights there is a darkness where a world of innocence is lost and abuse runs rampant scarring the souls of children with no one and nowhere to turn for help. With bodies broken and hopes crushed, these young victims are trapped in a

never-ending nightmare.

Today, you can shine the light of God's love in this dark world to reach, rescue, and restore these young ones to the life God designed for them to live. With a generous \$320,000 matching gift, now your gift of \$128 to help rescue a child can be doubled to help two children. Your \$64 gift will be matched to help rescue one child from the horrors of human trafficking. And a \$32 mission rescue gift will be doubled to \$64.

And with your donation of any amount, we'll send you *The Promises of Christ* gift book filled with beautiful photographs, scriptures, stories, and commentary from James Robison.

With your gift of \$128 or more you'll receive "The Names of Jesus" throw. This beautifully woven blanket features the names of Jesus in many languages. It will make a lovely addition to your home and serve as a beautiful reminder and spiritual comfort to the Lordship of our savior.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1280 which will now help rescue 20 children. And you may request our beautiful new bronze sculpture, "Safe in the Shepherd's Arms."

Please call, write, or make your gift online.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Betty and I just want to say from the bottom of our heart, thank you so much for helping put arms of love around the people who are too often used and abused, and overlooked and forgotten. Thank you for the love of God through you.

Jay Strack, president and founder of the Student Leadership University. There's the

website. I want you to look him up. I want you to pray about getting young people involved. And I'd like you to pray about helping him with what he's doing. Just ask him, how can we help? Because I promise you, Jay Strack has been a witness since I've known him and I mean an effective witness. And I give God and praise and thanksgiving for it.

Would you join Betty and me in saying thanks to Jay Strack? Jay, I love you, buddy. Really proud of you. Very grateful for you. Love your family and just praise the Lord.

Thank all of you for watching *LIFE Today*. Encourage your friends to watch!