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Week 20: Spring Mission Feeding

James and Betty Robison

Shawn Carney #1

James: Betty, I think this may be one of the most important days. I don't know if I'll ever have a show more important. I'm James Robison. Betty and I welcome you to *LIFE Today*.

We are about life. Betty, I honestly believe when we went to see the movie, *Unplanned*, now you stay with me because you're going to meet the individual that I believe not only was used to change Abby Johnson who wrote the book, *Unplanned* that created the movie, *Unplanned* but also what I believe is a move of the spirit of God that can be the greatest illumination of truth, transforming truth, and the exposure of deception from the father of lies and the destruction it always leads us to.

It tears us apart, it destroys life, and meaning in life, and destroys relationships. And what *Unplanned*, I believe, is to do is not just to stop the cycle of taking the lives of the unborn, the most innocent, helpless little beings but to pour out the life of God all over this world. We had Abby here right after she wrote her book seven years ago.

And now then we have the person that perhaps was as important in seeing her life changed as anything in her journey, and that is the young man and his wife who literally inspired the praying that brought that brought about the transformation of Abby in an abortion clinic.

We have Shawn Carney here. He has written a book, *The Beginning of the End of Abortion*. If you saw the movie you saw in this young man's encounter, and we're going

to show it to you in a later program but you saw Jesus clearly.

I want you to welcome Shawn Carney to *LIFE Today*. Please. Shawn, it is an honor. Your wife played a bigger role in the movie than you did.

Shawn: Thank you! She does that in really life. [Laughing]

James: Same with me. And you said they captured her spirit beautifully.

Shawn: They did. N.L. Roberts played Marilisa, my wife and we had relatives and friends immediately texting us in the movie, just when they first saw her. I was like, "Quit texting us and watch the movie!"

They said, "They got her! That is Marilisa!"

And it is. Everybody who knows her, and she is a wonderful woman; she stays at home with our seven children. She's doing the *real* pro-life work. And she is a beautiful soul inside and out. I was so proud to see the movie from that standpoint because women do so much, mothers do so much behind the scenes that never makes it into a movie or makes it in the news cycle and it was beautiful to see. It was a great witness.

James: Well, whatever you have to do, if the movie is still in your area, or if you have to drive to get there or if you can get it on pay-per-view or whatever, whenever they finally make it available to get it in the public where you can take it and have it in your churches or your Bible study groups, I plead with you -- I plead with you to watch every part of the movie. And watch it prayerfully because what you're going to see is a move of God to overcome what has become the greatest, most horrific, indescribable killing field in history where doctors who are trained to save and protect life are paid to end the life of the most helpless, innocent being on the entire planet in the universe.

So if we move in the spirit of God, in the spirit of love which is all over Shawn, you're

going to see it in the movie, if we moved in that spirit we can illuminate the way out of darkness. So I'm praying you'll go see it.

I want to show you a trailer from the movie and then we're going to talk to Shawn about what must happen if we're going to continue to see the positive progress even increase in its effect and see lives transformed, not like they're being overpowered by some great force of physical strength but supernatural transforming power of love and truth. Watch this.

Begin video clip

[Door opening]

>> Abby Johnson is in the other room.

>> Here?

>> Our first order of business is to present Planned Parenthood's employee of the year award: Abby Johnson.

[Applause]

This is Abby. She is our newest volunteer escort. Abby, this is Cheryl Alessandro.

>> I'd be the youngest director in Planned Parenthood history.

>> You'll actually be in charge of the abortions at your clinic?

>> I have a chance to make a real difference.

>> No matter what you do for the rest of your life you're still going to be a baby killer.

>> The only thing that's changed is you, Abby. Can you even hear yourself talk right now about these procedures? These are little babies!

>> I'm not going to apologize for doing a job that helps women in crisis.

>> There is still a part of me that isn't sure.

>> I know but the one thing that all experts agree on is that at this stage the fetus can't feel anything.

>> Sorry to bother you but they need an extra person in the back room. Are you free?

>> I saw it! It was like it was twisting and fight for its life.

>> We commend the souls of these hundreds of children, and Lord, we pray to end abortion.

>> I really appreciate what you've done for us. I'll not forget it.

>> 22,000 abortions -- how can I even comfort him now?

>> Rough day at the office?

>> You could say that. [Laughing]

>> What are you doing? [Giggling]

>> For your dad and me, you were our baby from the moment of conception.

>> We are paying you to be a perfect instrument of corporate policy. We are an abortion provider.

>> I can't be part of this anymore. Everything that they've told us is a lie. Don't underestimate the repercussions of this. You've got to be careful.

>> Rhonda, please! Don't do this! Rhonda!

>> Let me tell you what's going to happen if you walk through that door. Congratulations! You've made an enemy of one of the most powerful organizations on the planet.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Well done! I just can't stop being torn up. You know you'll see a little -- you'll see the image that Abby finally saw; that women just don't see the little life. And Shawn, you've been in this battle how long to try to save lives? How long have you been in this prayer?

Shawn: Eighteen years. It has been the power of prayer. I got involved when I was in high school. I saw Carol Everett speak who has been a guest of your show, and she ran five abortion facilities in Dallas/Fort Worth. Always had a pastor going out praying for her. She thought he was crazy. Eventually she talked to him and got out of that. I heard her testimony when I was in high school.

I also heard the testimony of women who have had an abortion and I think that is, number one, it is very difficult for them to do. It takes a lot of humility but their courage to do it certainly challenged me as a young man.

We didn't have an abortion facility in my town. I had never met a woman who had ever had an abortion. It was just -- I was pro-life but that was it. When I heard the impact that

it had on women, women who were raped, women who had every background you could imagine, had every excuse to have an abortion and how it devastated their life, it really challenged me as a young man. Like what am I doing?

We don't get to be inactive with this issue. It transcends that. And so my then girlfriend, now wife, Marilisa, when I went to A&M, she would go out and peacefully pray. As you know and now everybody knows I married way up. And so, and at the time we were dating they were like, he's with her? People that knew us.

So when she said, "I go out to Planned Parenthood and pray for an end of abortion," I didn't even know Planned Parenthood did abortions. I knew they were bad but I didn't know they did abortions. And so I would have gone anywhere. She could have said, "We're going to go jump off a cliff." I would have said, "Wherever you go I'm going."

[Laughter]

So I went and I'll never forget. I was 19 years old and I'll never forget the first woman that I saw that had just had an abortion. And our eyes kind of locked when she was leaving. Her boyfriend was trying to do the bravado thing like it didn't bother him, and he's a tough guy. And she just had her head in her hands and she was bawling.

The word that came to me was "final." It's so final. You see that in the movie. We see it in all of our families who have been impacted by abortion. Like you said, there is nothing more unnatural in the world than for parents to pay a physician, a healer, to end the life of their unborn child in the most, frankly, barbaric fashion that you wouldn't wish on your greatest enemy. That really hit me that this was supposed to be relief.

Anyone of us would pay \$400 or \$500 to make our greatest worry go away; something that was going to endanger our future or embarrass us or embarrass our parents and that's the lie of abortion. That's why there are 3,000 a day. And yet, relief is nowhere to be found in the parking lots of abortion facilities across this great country.

And that hit me the first time I went out and I was hooked. And Marilisa and I became sidewalk counselors. We would lovingly offer medical alternatives to women. And we would talk to the Planned Parenthood volunteers. The volunteers on abortion days had to park in a separate section but not with the employees. And they had to walk past us. So Marilisa noticed Abby and would walk her to and from her car. Befriended her whether she wanted it or not.

James: Well, what you did in prayer because there was some protests that were not what you would call really effective, actually set us back. Sometimes we religious people can not only become our own cause's worst enemy I think sometimes God's worst enemy in not letting him be seen as who he is. Well, you revealed him.

You have a ministry. Give me the title of it.

Shawn: 40 Days For Life: That is a 40-day prayer vigil in front of abortion facilities. It's 40 days of prayer, 40 days of fasting, 40 days of scripture every day. And we did the first 40 Days for Life campaign outside of Abby's abortion facility. And then everybody started asking, "How did you do that?" So we launched it nationally in 2007. It's now been done in 816 cities in 56 different countries around the world. Praise God! It started in Bryan College Station and I think Abby was so unique because we've helped 186 abortion facility workers leave. Abby was the 26th. But our office was located next door.

James: Where is it now?

Shawn: It is now the closed Planned Parenthood abortion facility where Abby worked.

James: That's the prayer center! The killing center became the prayer center for life all over the world. Betty, what are your impressions?

Betty: I'm sitting here thinking, I guess one of the things that really breaks my heart is

there is so many couples out there that would love to adopt these precious little ones. We have an adopted son and he's been such a gift to our lives. And there's so many people who would just love to have a child. I had a sister that never was able to bear a child. And there's just the inconvenience, don't you think, is what really they emphasize?

Shawn: It is! The pro-life movement, the church is the one doing these adoptions. You may have been there but at the National Prayer Breakfast in the early '90s when Mother Teresa spoke and she said --

James: I was sitting right in front of her.

Shawn: "Don't abort the child. Bring the child to me. I will love the child."

James: And she is saying it to a president who is an advocate of abortion. And radically in favor of it, he and his wife.

Shawn: As Mother Teresa had the courage to do a couple of times.

James: Absolutely. We should all, the church, be that way. By the way, get the book. I'm going to say this. We're trying to save hundreds of thousands of lives right now from starvation. There is a perfect cure for that too. And for all of you who are watching, you say, "James, we want to save these children's lives. We're going to not let them starve to death. We're going to feed them." And you say, "Would you send me this?" To say thank you and inspire your prayer life? You better believe it.

You wanted to tell about, you're going to tell several in our next to program, we have another program with you, but you were about, even before we started here, to tell a story of somebody you saw the miracle happen in their life related to abortion, the decision they made that was positive.

Shawn: Yeah, it was beautiful. It was a mom in Orange, California. Her baby was

diagnosed with a disability. The doctor wouldn't even tell her. He just said, "You need to abort."

She was in an abusive marriage. She had every worldly reason to have an abortion; very poor, had other children, her husband wasn't working, was an alcoholic -- horrible situation! And now this baby had disabilities.

So she said, "No. I can't do that. I'm against abortion."

Then another doctor not only referred her, picked up the phone and scheduled her a late term abortion at one of the largest Planned Parenthood abortion facilities in southern California, where we have many 40 Days for Life campaigns. So she went and she met our beautiful leader there who was just sweet and spoke Spanish to her, got her over to the fence, and she said, "I don't want to do this."

She said, "We can tell. You don't have to."

And they went and they got a doctor to offer her free medical help who was specialized in prenatal disabilities.

She had the baby. The baby was born with no legs. It was a little baby girl and she named her Milagros, miracle. And I called this -- this is one of these beautiful behind the scenes stories. I called her and I said, "I want to put you, I want to put Milagros in the book but I want to change your name and I want to change your location and protect your privacy."

And this woman said, "Don't do that! Don't change her name. Don't change my name because I want Milagros to grow up and see that the love her mother has for her is the same love that her Father in heaven has for her."

I got to hold Milagros eventually and met her it's just one of my favorite pictures because there is nothing like, and you're one of them, but there's nothing like holding a baby that

was this close to this evil that we see so well portrayed in *Unplanned*. It truly is a miracle.

Our Lord could have popped out of an acorn and saved us from our sins in a millisecond and he didn't. He chose the womb. He chose a family, a holy family and now that womb is statistically the most dangerous place in the world.

James: Wow! Do you thank God for what he is doing with Shawn and to his life? I don't know that I have been more moved in my 75-year journey because of the hope that I believe I see on the horizon. It is not the blessed hope of Christ coming but it's the hope of Christ in us, the hope of his glory revealed. It's the life of God in us, the love of God.

You just heard it. We share it because a fatherless kid had a chance at life. And I met the father and our children may have appreciated us but they fell in love with this father and they're making an impact.

And you viewers, you're in love with the father. So when we ask you to save the lives of little children who are hungry, I'm believing today for the greatest outpouring of love we've ever seen where you'll say, "James, we're going to be sure every child is fed. As a matter of fact, we're going to help you find children you haven't even looked for yet because we're going to show them love."

That's exactly what it takes to save lives and that's what it takes to stop abortion. I want you to watch very closely and prayerfully. And then do what God tells you to do to give life.

On the mission field

Isak: On this trip we've been to villages where we've seen children singing and dancing, and we've heard life. And then we've seen why. Because they've been waiting in line to receive a bowl of food: Mission feeding. We say it saves lives but here's the reality of what it does. Because on the same trip we've visited villages where mothers have told us

of how they labor tirelessly to try and provide food for their children but they can't provide enough.

Where in one village, one mother says, "I lost three children last year."

Another says, "I lost two."

Another says, "I lost five!"

We're trying to communicate to you what that means. We're trying to create an understanding and draw a picture for you. And now you see it. A child that is lifeless, desperate. Now you see what those mothers go through. Those are not just stories. That's not a mother just flippantly saying, "Well, I lost two children this last year." No!

Mothers sitting in clinics like this watching their children's lives stolen, literally stolen away from them. Why? Because they couldn't give them enough food. Something that you and I can change so easily. Something that takes so little to change, and yet has such massive impact.

The Bible says to us that no man can give a greater gift than to give his life for another. I'm just asking you to save the life of this precious child. Please! Give the gift of life.

End of clip

In the studio

James: You know, I don't think I could bear to look. By the way, our grandson was there with Isak. Our oldest grandson, 28; we have six grandsons, but he has a little year-old baby girl. You see this pain, and when our grandson came home he was just so broken about wanting to help everybody get well.

Betty, we couldn't continue to see those situations if we didn't know we could change it. I remember so well... by the way, Betty and I spent 20 years, we've been working there for 30 years but we were right there all over the country right in the midst of the suffering. And in Angola, and one of those hard-hit areas like that, you remember we tried to save a little baby's life and the baby died? And you tried to comfort the mother who was weeping.

We appeal to you to put loving arms around those children. And then listen to me now because the miracle of what you did, the viewers of *LIFE Today* did, right there in that clinic, right there in Angola, in saving ultimately millions of lives, but right there in that place that looked just like what you saw, you saw one of the most famous pictures that's ever been taken in the history of the world. It was a picture of Princess Di, Lady Di holding a beautiful little baby in front of that place where that baby died, where all those children are dying and we ask you to save them. And she is holding this beautiful, healthy little baby that was saved there. And she appealed to the whole world, "Please don't overlook the hungry and the suffering!" And it moved people everywhere.

But the thing I want you to understand is you took that picture of horror and suffering and turned it into one of the most beautiful pictures that love has ever presented to the world. You remember it well.

Betty: I do. So very, very well. As I watch these mothers I know as a mother what it is like to lose a child but I don't know what it's like to lose two, three, four, or five -- I can't even imagine! My heart doesn't even want to go there. But these mothers are experiencing it.

Please! Let's help these mothers take care of their babies. They need food, they need nourishment. Please! Out of the depth of your heart say, "I want to help." You have so many times and we thank you so much. Let's do it again.

James: I ask every one of you before we showed you that scene from Africa, pray for God's will to be done. I want to ask you, would you help us feed those children? We found 400,000 right now that we can organize into groups. Many of the places they've already got them coming. They've said, "Foods going to be here."

And we want to ask every one of you to help us feed the children for the next months. \$30, \$50, or \$100 we can feed three, five or ten children. For \$1,000 we can feed 100.

Here's what I want to ask you to do. I want you to ask God to move everybody to do more than they might have imagined. If you can feed ten children with a \$100 gift, do it. If you can feed five, give \$50. Don't consider three too small. No, it's not. If you could give \$1,000 the need is there. You've seen it right there, like Betty said. We can't even imagine what those mothers are going through. But you can totally change everything.

We have some gifts to encourage you in your spiritual walk you know will be a blessing because we always want to bless you. But you're giving the greatest blessing, you're giving life, and you're giving it because of the love of God.

Would you dial that number right now? Take your bankcard, use it like a check or go online, get your bankcard, use it like a check. If you write a check, make it to *LIFE* but call us and tell us you're putting it in the mail. We need to know. We need to let the missionaries know, "You can count on it." We want to count on you. Thank you for making the call. Thanks for the gift.

Begin video clip

Announcer: In impoverished and drought-stricken areas of Africa children are suffering. The need is great and without food they face severe malnutrition -- even death.

Through *LIFE*'s mission feeding outreach you can save lives by feeding and caring for

children currently suffering from starvation in parts of Angola, Mozambique and South Sudan.

With previous reserves gone and mission feeding helping in areas of great famine, we urgently need your support to replenish food supplies to reach the 400,000 children who are counting on us. Your life saving gift of \$30, \$50, or \$100 will help feed and care for three, five or ten children.

With your gift we'll send you *The James Code* by O.S. Hawkins, an outstanding devotional to help you go from knowing about God to living for God, and putting your faith into action. You will also enjoy this beautifully grafted leather bookmark.

With your gift of \$100 or more please request *The Passion* translation Bible. This New Testament edition including Psalms and Proverbs ignites *The Passion* of the Bible to modern readers by merging *The Passion* of God's heart for his children with the life-changing truth of his word.

Finally, with your gift of \$1,000 or more to help feed and care for 100 children, be sure to request our commemorative bronze sculpture, "Safe in the Shepherd's Arms."

Please call write or make your gift online today.

End of clip

In the studio

James: Betty and I want to express as sincere a thanks as we can for you saving lives. You've stopped a death cycle. I know, Betty, you noticed in there that they spelled LIFE with these bowls. These are heat-resistant bowls that you, the viewer said, "Give them to the children." The missionaries, we don't want that hot soup burning their hands through an old tin can, an old rusty tin can, whatever they could get. And your love provided

exactly what those letters said -- life.

Shawn, you are saving life. Our viewers have been doing it. I think you're going to want to say, "Would you please send me this book?"

Let me tell you something, my people here on my staff said once they started this book they could not put it down. It absolutely transformed them. And one that said that had never even seen the movie, "Couldn't put the book down."

So I'm saying to you get the movie. If you'd like to have the book, you help us save those lives and say, "Would you please send me the book because I'm going to be involved in prayer," glad to send it to you.

Join Betty and me in saying thanks to Shawn. Appreciate you. Marilisa, you tell her we know where the power lies. Listen. He'll be with us again. Don't miss the next show!