

7/18/19

Week 29: Summer WFL

James Robison and Randy Robison

Pam Tebow

James: It's a joy to be here with you. You can see this is not Betty. This is Betty's son, my son, Randy. You've seen him many times with Sheila. Betty is coughing. Whatever has happened has kind of taken her down for a while. Just pray for her and just know that she would be here if she was just listening except we wouldn't be able to hear because she hadn't been able to stop. She's being cared for and she is praying for us.

We have a very beautiful precious woman here tonight for Randy and me to talk to and for you to listen to. She has a son that is, you just got to go ahead and call him famous. His name is Tim Tebow. Let me just tell you this. The first time I heard of Tim Tebow is when he was playing for his university there in Florida. I walk in, and our son-in-law who is about 6'5", Terry Redmon, he says, "I really like that guy."

I said, "Who is that?"

He said, "That quarterback. I like everything about him." He said, "He's the real deal and he loves Jesus."

So that got my attention because I respect the son-in-law.

I began to watch him. I did notice he had something unusual, John 3:16 under both eyes. He went on to win the Heisman Trophy. He's also gone on to be one of the greatest witnesses I've ever seen. And one of the most attacked people by so much of the media it breaks my heart. But it ought to show you how twisted the thinking of much of the mass

media is because this is a remarkable person.

Well, his mom is here. Now I want you to look at this. She wrote a book titled, *Ripple Effects*: Discover the miraculous motivating power of a woman's influence. And it is written by his mother Pam. And this woman risked her life to bring into this world that young man named Tim because she was told it was not a wise decision.

Would you welcome this brave mother and missionary, Pam Tebow, to *LIFE Today*?

Pam: Thank you!

James: Pam, we're glad to see you. You don't mind us liking your son?

Pam: Of course not! I like him too.

James: All right. Why, when you heard from the doctors that having this baby, which they even said was like a tumor maybe, at best you were going to have a challenged child, if in fact that baby didn't take your life. Why did you risk bringing Tim Tebow into the world?

Pam: Well, you have to hear the whole story. We were missionaries in the Philippines on a very somewhat primitive island and my husband was out preaching in a remote place, doesn't remember the name of it but he remembers this. That he became very aware of all the abortions that were taking place in America, and he had been active in the pro-life ministry before we left for the Philippines. It was in the context of weeping over aborted babies that he got down on his knees and he prayed. And he said, "Lord, if you give us a son we'll raise him to be a preacher and we'll name him Timothy," which means honoring God.

He came home. We had four little kids and he told our kids and they got all excited and started praying for a little brother named Timmy. It took me a little while to get on board

because I had been very sick the year before and so I was very acquainted with the poor medical conditions. And yet, I prayed along with them. And we went to the best doctor in town and she said that -- did some tests -- that I needed to abort and abort immediately in order to save my life. She called Timmy, "a mass of fetal tissue." He jokes that his brothers and sisters called him "Timmy the tumor" when he was young, but it wasn't so funny at the time.

We knew that we had no option. We had no plan B. I couldn't go anywhere, I was so sick. There weren't any others doctors. So we decided that we would just trust the Lord. We knew that there was a risk and I've met many people since whose mothers had given up their lives for their children and I knew that was a risk. But we knew we could trust God and God would be God if he took my life. So we made that decision to trust him. We did. And it's a great story. It's a great story.

I was sick the whole time. And then we moved to Manila. My husband flew me to Manila as soon as I was able to travel. We gave birth in a hospital. My husband was next to the doctor when Timmy entered the world. And he had delivered thousands of babies and he said that he had never seen such a big miracle. Because Timmy was truly a miracle; that he didn't understand how he survived. He said God must have been involved, which of course he was. He said this was the biggest miracle he had ever been a part of.

James: And that miracle continues. Aren't you glad this mom decided to risk to deliver that miracle?

Pam: We're glad! We're thankful.

James: And said, "This baby has potential and promise." And everyone does.

Don't you think right now what your husband was already praying about before this pregnancy and this birth that that deep concern he had is a concern on the heart of God that we see every life as precious with unlimited potential and promise? And we really,

in America, we really need to cease immediately shedding innocent blood.

Pam: We do. We need to love life both physically and spiritually. Another thing our family is passionate about is the gospel. We've gotten that from my husband because he's so passionate about getting the gospel to people who have never heard it, even once. So our family has also taken up that charge. So we're thankful for that, for life physical, and life eternal.

James: An answer to pray in your husband's concern, that son wore for the whole world to see, the gospel.

Pam: And you know, 94 million people Googled John 3:16 after that game.

James: Isn't that great?

Pam: It is great. It is great!

James: All right. Let's talk about this. Why the title, *Ripple Effects*?

Pam: Well, both my oldest and youngest child, both my daughter Christine and my youngest son, Timmy both said they came up with the title, so I'll let them fight it out. What *Ripple Effects* really means is influence. If we impact the life of someone and they turn around and impact the life of someone else it's like throwing a pebble in a lake and watching the ripples just circle out farther and farther. They just keep going.

As a young mom I felt like that's the greatest impact that I could have is to impact my kids and to raise them with the heart to impact people in their spheres as they grew older. Then you have the ripple effect and later on grandchildren, etc. But I feel like God created all of us to have *Ripple Effects*. That that's his plan for us for purpose and for influence. If we have a small sphere of just a small family or a large sphere and we have a political office or a greater opportunity for influence we still, whether it's small or great

have the potential for life-impacting influence.

I think that motivates us. We all need a purpose. A purpose that is bigger than ourselves. A purpose that wakes us up in the morning and drives us. I feel like having an opportunity to impact someone's life for eternity is a great purpose.

James: Randy, when you listen to this mom and you had two sons that grow and two daughters grow up, and two of your children now married, when you hear this spirit what does that say to you with knowing the love and investment you've made and the prayer and time for those children you love so much, and you listen to this influence, what happens in your heart?

Randy: Interesting you should ask that question because as your son you have had huge influence on huge amounts of people. I mean stadiums full of people across the country, television across the world. Yet for me, I knew that as my children were growing up that my influence was to be with those four and with my wife, and that was my missionary field and I focused on it. Yes, I worked in ministry, I wrote books and things like that but sometimes we look at people like you and say ah! I don't really have that much influence. But it is that influence where God calls you to have influence.

We talk about your one son, Tim because we all see him, because he's got that visible platform. Did you notice what she is wearing around her neck?

James: She's got a key.

Randy: Tell us what that is.

Pam: Well, the first time he made money when he quarterbacked for the Broncos, he bought all of our family very nice Christmas presents, and this was mine. When I opened it up I cried. My kids were joking they said, "It's the key to his heart."

He said, "No mom, you're the key to my success." It really touched me -- really touched me.

Randy: And that's really important because a lot of people, I know a lot of our viewers, they wonder, am I really having that influence? But as your son said to you with that symbol that you wear to this day, sometimes it's just that influence on one person that makes all the difference in the world.

Pam: And I was just an anonymous missionary mom -- no one knew our name.

James: And you really didn't care. You just loved people.

Pam: No! We were kind of alone on the mission field and yet, you can still have great influence. I had my little children around me. And I considered, like you said, Randy, that is exactly it. They were my most important opportunities for influence. And later on it grows but if you just impact that one child then they can turn around impact many. We never know what God's purpose for them is.

James: All of our viewers who, when we show them the mission field, and you talk about being missionaries and how much your husband longs for the gospel to go to the whole world, and you know our viewers like that. If people want to know what you're doing and all the things that are on your heart, you actually will let people, because we can't take people to the mission fields with us because there is no place for them to stay.

And the missionaries say, "We're so encumbered with the burdens of starving, dying people and you're helping us, if you bring a lot of people in for us to take care of, we can't take care of what we've been sent to do." But where you all are based in the Philippines you actually can have people come and see the mission field and be involved; is that right?

Pam: Absolutely! My husband loves to train people to present the gospel. And he has

open doors to go into all the public schools in the Philippines. In fact, that's his goal. He strategically covers all of the islands in about five or six years.

James: So if they wanted to come and learn from him and go, what website would they go on to find out how they can inquire and how they can come, and you and your husband teach them and let them do what they come to do?

Pam: And he has a lot of staff that help and train. You don't have to know what you're doing before you go. The gospel message is very simple.

James: But where do they find out about it?

Pam: Bob Tebow Evangelistic Association: BTEA.org. It's pretty simple.

James: That's on the screen. It will be in the phone center if you say we want to know. I need you to talk about something here. It's in the book. By the way, this will teach you the importance of the ripple effect and how there's no pebble, no person too insignificant to make a significant, lasting, high-impact ripple and have that effect. But what is this? Show me this.

Pam: So, we were shopping, my youngest son, Timmy and I. By the way, I have four other kids that are great and they all have an impact. They all have taken this influence seriously. One's on the mission field, another just had a movie called *Run the Race*, which is very successful, Christian faith-based movie, football related. Imagine that -- football in our family. And my other kids as well, they're great kids.

But Timmy was the youngest and we were shopping in a store and he's very nutrition-conscious because he wants to be the best athlete but he's also frugal like me and he saw this box of cereal on sale. So he sheepishly put it in the grocery cart. And then we rounded the corner and there was a little kindergartener that recognized him. His eyes got big. And then the next day he went to show-and-tell and he held up this box of

cereal and he said, "This is a cereal Tim Tebow eats for breakfast."

[Laughter]

So, the next day we had all these calls from parents saying, "Oh, thanks a lot! Thanks a lot. Now we have to go buy Cocoa Krispies."

But I wanted Timmy to understand the importance of influence. How he influenced that little kindergartner to go buy Cocoa Krispies. It could also work in a positive way. He could influence him to love the Lord, to read the Bible, to have an impact on his classmates. So I found this poem, typical mom fashion. We take advantage of the teachable moments.

James: Is that poem going to be in this book? Okay, let's hear it!

Pam: Yes! I'll just read you a verse. "There are little eyes upon you and they're watching night and day. There are little ears that quickly take in every word you say. There are little hands all eager to do everything you do. And a little boy who is dreaming of the day he'll be like you." And it goes on.

But the whole point is that little boys wanted to do what he does so he has to be intentional about the way he lives his life if his goal is positive influence. So I found a picture. It is a good old FCA picture called "Influence" and there is a little boy with a football jersey carrying a football and he's watching a group of older boys have a Bible study under a tree. I put those two together and gave it to him and he's taken it everywhere that he's lived. I wanted it to be a reminder that reminds all of us that we do have the opportunity, that great opportunity to impact lives around us.

And we have to live our lives in such a way that people who are watching us, they'll catch it. And more than just catching our lives, they have to catch our words, the things we say, our actions. Everything about us, they watch us. What are they going to see? I want

them to realize, I want people to realize that it is important. We have to think about all of those things, put it together and then take advantage of it and impact people in your sphere.

James: Let me have your hand. I want all of you to look right here. This is the most precious sweet heart. She has a sweet heart like Betty has. But let me tell you something, I think she has a sweet heart like a lot of you have, even some of you guys watching. You have a tender heart. I have a tender heart. I'm not a soft guy. I'm really pretty tough, sometimes forcefully too tough. It breaks my heart if it comes across wrong.

This precious woman has had a ripple effect. All the four children that preceded Timothy prayed with mom for him, for a little boy that had a massive ripple effect. It was like dropping a boulder in a pond. She created a wave. But see, it all started with this precious mom and this missionary dad.

Father, I just pray you will bless everything that Pam, her husband and family do. Don't ever let the other children feel overlooked because little baby brother's had such a massive ripple effect. Let them understand the importance of their life and their journey. We just thank you for the Tebow family. We ask you to bless them. And let's people go to their website and say can we do something with them? Pray for them. Help them. Maybe go to the Philippines; go to the mission field. Lord, let our viewers find the best way for them to have a ripple effect and see their importance; in Jesus' name.

Would you say thanks to God for Pam and the Tebow family?

Pam: You know the most important ripple effect of all, I think, is to share the gospel. That's the greatest opportunity we have, to have a real eternal impact.

James: That is what our viewers do, Pam, so well. They're remarkable. You know what I know? You're praying, you're thanking God for this ripple effect from a mom. I don't think there are any more powerful influences on the planet, the influence of women, and

of mothers who understand the potential that they have. I just want to thank you because there is no question our ministry is so often carried on the shoulders and hearts of women who have a mother's heart. So much of the characteristics of the Holy Spirit is the characteristics of mothers.

By the way, the "Fruit of the Spirit" bowl, this is one of the prettiest things we'll ever offer. It has the "Fruit of the Spirit" inside the bowl and outside. And we're to be full of the spirit. Listen to me now. We do something together that has a ripple effect that changes everything. We give people Water for LIFE because without clean water they won't live. And we give it to them because of the water of life, that's the gospel. That's the power of it.

I want you to listen to the heart of a woman that lost her husband. And listen to what she says about loving others with a ripple effect. I'm telling you, you can flow that effect of love to people that never thought anyone would notice but you do. I know you do. Watch closely.

On the mission field:

>> How do you fight an enemy that you can't escape? One that you're forced to rely on knowing that at any moment it can strike those you love the most? This is the story of a young mother named Vivian and others in her village.

Open Captions:

>> I thought my kids were doing well, but all of a sudden, I started seeing the life go out of them. Their legs and cheeks became swollen and their hair turned gray. The dirty water made them very sick... Within a week, two of my children died.

>> The sorrow is truly almost too much to bear! But Vivian must stay strong for the sake of her remaining children. She knows that the contaminated water in their village, the only water source they have, was draining the life from her family. But she has no

choice. With every bout of illness in her home Vivian's fear grows.

Open Captions:

>> After the death of my children, my husband got sick as well. One of my other children just got sick yesterday with the same symptoms as the two that died.

>> The water that they're getting from this, it is so contaminated! It is filled with waterborne illness. It is literally killing people. I got to sit down and talk with a mother yesterday who has lost two children in the same week because of this very water right here. But they don't have any other option. I'm asking you to believe with me that together we can give them fresh water every day.

End of video

In the studio:

James: Tammy, let me just tell you, we love you. Thank you for going all over world in behalf of the overlooked, the thirsty. Giving water to save the lives of people, knowing water took the love of your life. We love you, Tammy!

And to all of you who are watching, and here Tammy Trent is such a gifted singer, musician, communicator and writer. She's there because of the power of God's love in those who know the Father and know Jesus. And we don't overlook those who are too often overlooked because he doesn't.

And that precious mother that lost those little ones, we've got a perfect cure -- it's the cup of water Jesus says that you gave in his name. Our missionaries always give them Water for LIFE and tell them about the water of life that inspired that gift and that love. And they so readily receive the message of the gospel because they've seen it. When you see love on display and demonstrated, which you make possible when the brokenhearted missionaries who find the need are able to meet the need because you care enough to do it. You are the ones that enable them to be effective.

Right now, as we're trusting God to drill these 400 water wells, over 6,000 drilled now because of people like you, would you right now go online or would you just dial that number and take your bankcard and use it like a check and make the largest gift you can? The wells cost \$4800. Many people say we don't do anything that excites us more than give a well.

If you can give \$1200 or \$2400 and pray three others join or pray one other person joins, then we have another well. But the majority -- the majority of the income comes from people who say, "James, I can't afford to do that but I can do something." Think about this. This is amazing -- \$48 will give ten people water the rest of their life. That is a lifetime investment and eternal impact investment.

Would you please right now go online or dial that number, take that bankcard. By the way, if you write a check, make it to *LIFE*, that's exactly what you're giving. Would you call and tell us you're putting it in the mail or make that gift right now with that bankcard? We want to send you a beautiful, beautiful daily prayer calendar that will inspire you every day, the mercies of God flowing freely, and the incredible "Fruit of the Spirit" bowl. Let me tell you something. You put fruit in this or some decor in this or serving it, it is absolutely a beautiful display. One of the prettiest things we've ever given to say thank you for demonstrating the power of his spirit, the fruit of the Spirit. And then the beautiful, "In the Arms of the Shepherd" bronze.

Whatever God's leading you to do, do it for his glory and kingdom purpose. It's going to be the difference in life and death and eternal life for so many. Thank you so much for making that gift.

Begin video clip

Announcer: Today, a mother living in extreme poverty will do the unthinkable, give her children dirty, diseased-filled water that she knows could kill them. With no other choice what else can she do?

With your help, clean water is on the way. Mission: Water for LIFE provides a way for parents to save the lives of their children to offer them a bright future free from the fear of death.

With your gift today, you can help drill and establish 400 water wells this year. Your gift of \$24 will help provide clean water for five children. A gift of \$48 will help provide for ten. \$72 will provided for 15. And \$144 will help provide life-giving water for 30 people for a lifetime!

With your gift, we'll send you the "New Mercies Each Day" desk calendar. This 17-month calendar will not only help you keep track of important dates but also remind you of the Father's love and goodness with scripture quotes and encouragement from all the hosts on *LIFE Today*.

With your gift of \$100 or more, request the "Fruit of the Spirit" bowl. This beautiful and decorative ceramic bowl features scripture revealing the "Fruit of the Spirit," a lovely addition to your table or home.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1200 to help provided water for 250 people or a gift of \$4800 to help sponsor a complete well. And you may request our "Safe in the Shepherd's Arms" bronze sculpture.

Please call, write, or make your gift online.

End of video

In the studio:

James: I just, from the bottom of my heart, want to say thank you. I want to let you know this. We've talked about these gifts. If you'd like to have the book, *Ripple Effects* that Pam wrote, really the Lord wrote it through their lives and the beautiful love of God through this precious mom and husband and those other kids, the whole world has seen. On the back is a picture of this family.

Of course, Tim is engaged and maybe by the time this airs they may be married, I don't know. In a few years there will be grandkids everywhere. Well, there already are! Look at that! Isn't that amazing!

Tim, you've got to get busy too, you know. Aren't they a beautiful family? And you're a beautiful family. I told Pam that. Our family will pray for their family.

Would you join me and Randy saying thanks to mom, to Pam? And for the *Ripple Effects*. Pam, we love you. Our viewers will pray for you. They'll go online, they'll find out how they can maybe do mission work with you and your husband.

Thank all of you here for your encouragement. Thanks for watching. Thanks for your help.