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Week 50: Fall Mission Feeding

James and Betty Robison

"God's Heart for You" #2

James: Well, Betty and I welcome you to *LIFE Today*. We come to a year end and a new beginning of another year.

Betty, you and I have been praying a long time for us to see the great spiritual awakening that we so desperately need. And there's no question the stage is set for it as far as need. Did you ever believe in your life that you would see the kind of things going on -- the anger, the dissension, the division that you're witnessing today? And the assault on things that are precious like marriage, like sexuality, like relationship, like the value of every life, even the innocent and the unborn and the assault, the promotion of that which is really totally against God and against nature as being forced on people? Did you ever think you'd witness this in your lifetime?

Betty: I really didn't. It's been in some ways disheartening to see how far our world, our nation has gone, and pulled away from God. Because this nation was founded on the principles of God and his truth and his love, and it breaks my heart to see what's happening to our world.

It breaks my heart to see what Christians... we have a place here, more important now than it's ever been I believe, James, to stand up and proclaim the truth of God but we have to do it in love. We have to do it in forgiveness, we have to be caring about the truth. But sometimes the truth is hard to take. Sometimes it admonishes us. But yet if we will receive it and proclaim it in the way that God intended, through his word, and live it out, first of all, we have to live it out.

James: The word, the gospel is not just supposed to be declared, preached, it is supposed to be demonstrated, it is supposed to be lived out. Betty and I have been soon married 57 years. We have been on television over 50 years. This is the new year 2020. I'm praying, and you might just make a note of this, that we will have 20/20 vision and that we will see that vision as Paul saw it in Acts, starting with verse 19 but then 20:20 when he talked about the importance of bringing all the elders together.

By the way, those of you who are older sometimes feel like you've just been cast aside and what you think doesn't matter but it does very much. I want to remind all of you that your prayers and your support for the truth and the way you share God's love is critical to the spread of the gospel around the world and to see the church begin to look like Jesus and to see the family of God become healthy. So with all the awful things that we're seeing we have an opportunity right now to see with 20/20 vision.

Paul said, "I didn't hold back anything profitable." He said, "I have warned you with tears and I've called for repentance." He said, "...Three years weeping." I've said many times on this program, I've said to you, I don't know if I can stop weeping. I kind of blame Billy Graham because years ago he called me and said he thought I was Jeremiah. I hadn't even read, "Oh that my head were waters and my eyes a fountain of tears." I'm telling you, if you experience a real awakening in your own spirit in revival you're going to have a broken heart for the areas of God's concern and focus.

Well, we have that concern. I want to tell you this right now. There are some people because Betty and I have felt like we need to speak to our national leaders, our business leaders, our church leaders, a call to return to God and to repentance. And that Christ is the hope of glory and the only hope for peace and for the future -- and for freedom because he is the source of freedom.

He said, "If you'll abide in me, committed to me, committed to my will, my kingdom purpose, actually, because the kingdom is at hand, it is in you." He says that if you will

do that you're going to make a kingdom impact but you're going to be attacked. And he says you need to come together like a body, like a family, and every member of the body is so important. So please understand you are so important.

But we've got some people who are saying because we pray for our leaders or we pray with our leaders or we try to share wisdom with our leaders that we're like becoming partisan, we're not -- we're pro-biblical, pro-principle. We believe that there are standards that matter and we're seeking to call our national leadership, leadership in every area back to God, church leadership desperately, and call the family of God together.

We believe with all of our heart, those of you who have chosen to support *LIFE Outreach*, we think you understand what Jesus said about those who know him and those who don't. One of the most powerful passages in the entire Bible is found in Matthew 27. I want you to listen. I'm just going to kind of go over it really rapidly because I want to really cover some ground. But he's talking about the final judgment, the judgment of the nations.

He says the Lord will call together the sheep and the goats and he's going to separate them. Now I want you to listen to what he said: The king will say to those on his right hand, the sheep, "Come you who are blessed of my father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world -- eternal life."

Life in his presence and his power and the fullness of his glory forever! This is eternity with him. No more war, no more enemy, no more separation, no more death, no more sin. This is where you're headed. But who is it that's called into this final kingdom life?

Jesus says here's who those people, those sheep are. "I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me drink; I was a stranger, and you invited me in; I was naked, and you clothed me; I was sick, and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to me."

Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry, and feed you, or thirsty, and give you something to drink? And when did we see you as a stranger, and invite you in or naked and clothe you? When did we see you sick and come to you?" And the king will answer.

Now listen to the answer because this is... Betty, these are the ones he says are going to enter heaven forever. He says, I'm going to show you what kind of a heart and spirit is controlling them. He said, "Here it is. I say to you to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of mine, even the least of them, you did it to me."

And to those on the left he will say, "Depart from me you accursed ones into eternity fire which has been prepared for the devil and those that carried and delivered his message" -- angels, messengers. They were committed to the message of destruction and evil.

But who is it that enters into eternal life? Jesus said those that see the least of these, the overlooked; those who have legitimate need and met those needs. He didn't say, "You tell Pharaoh to look at them." He said, "You noticed them." You didn't say, "Caesar, take care of them." You noticed them.

And the reason, Betty that it is so important for everyone to understand the way we assist the poor, the way we assist the needy is to see the need, be moved with spiritual compassion, reach out and touch them in the area of need with love and a compassion connection, Betty, that's like a parent that really loves a child.

When you're rearing a child, you don't just hand them all the resources that might someday be theirs and then not oversee their lifestyle. Now those children can choose wrong but you're going to choose right.

Please understand this. The people who are going to enter heaven forever are those who understand kingdom living and kingdom purpose. They don't overlook the least of these. They care about the things that are important to the Father. They care about things that

matter.

A good parent, Betty, when they're raising a child, they don't just fund that child to go out and do whatever they want to do, they give oversight, they require responsibility and accountability and that's precisely what the Father wants us to do. That's what we do with the poor. You may wonder. You say, "James, when you help all these who are poor and starving and hungry, do you keep them dependent upon that help?" No! We get them back on their feet, we stabilize their health and we begin to show them how to live off the land; how to grow crops, how to even learn to do meager irrigating where it is possible, catch rain water, get them in the school. We even move the feeding to the schools to keep them coming there so they can grow.

In other words, it is a process of love. We don't just throw people's money or food at the problem, we flow love at that problem. That is the only way we're going to deal with the serious issues that we face in America. It is going to take the love of God, it's going to take a compassion connection.

This is what I try to communicate, with all leaders, with all business people, all entrepreneurs, all wealth creators, all who have anything. God is not trying to limit the blessings freedom put on us. He doesn't care if you gain and you succeed. He doesn't even care if you gain wealth. He just doesn't want that wealth or that success to capture your heart and take you away from noticing the least of these, noticing my neighbor, noticing someone that has a need and wanting to reach out to them in love.

Betty, that is what *LIFE Outreach* has been doing now for almost 30 years! And these viewers, when they see the need and they know love will meet it and they see a missionary and workers who are filled with the love of God in place they enable them to do it.

That's what you and I are trying right now to get everybody in America to understand. We've got to come together and stand on the Word of God and not compromise. We've

got to return to God. We have turned away from God. Romans one says that if you change God's truth into a lie, if you change it into a lie then you are given over to control by appetites, even unnatural appetites and all manner of wickedness is the result. And God says in the last verse of Romans one you'll not only do these things but give hearty approval to them.

Now what brings about the change? Betty, I am convinced, because the viewers of LIFE who understand what it is to share life, to see the least of these, I believe they know the heart of God and I believe if we join together and pray, and you say, James, speak the truth to everyone with ears to hear, proclaim it from the housetops, from house to house, publicly and privately and personally, proclaim the truth we're going to support that.

Betty, if you and I feel that God wants us to speak truth and someone watching says if you do that and you talk to those people, we're not going to help the least of these anymore, I've got a question, what's going on in your heart? How could anyone refuse to help somebody because they see someone like us speaking to someone in high authority who may have had a failed past, we know many of our leaders have, we know our president has, he's acknowledged that and he's told us, I want to know what is right and do what is right and we're trying to help him.

Can you imagine someone saying, no to the least of these because we're trying to love them and point others in the right direction with that 20/20 vision in Acts 20:20 that Paul had. He was warning people, speaking repentance to them but at the same time encouraging compassion and responsibility which is what the Word of God teaches. Do you see your husband virtually every day of my life trying to get that message out? And do you see what you consider an obvious positive effect of it?

Betty: Absolutely! And just as you said, how can we choose who we'll pray for, who we'll share love with, who we will go the extra mile with, who we will be determined to reach out in the love of Jesus and say, well, I don't like that person so why should I spend time trying to tell them about the change that can come in their life if they know God?

God didn't pick and choose when he chose us. He said come! All that will come and receive me into this life that I want to give you, eternal life, if you'll just accept me and ask for forgiveness. Well, I think everyone has that right to do that. And so how can we put limits on who God wants us to pray for and who God wants us to reach out to, James?

What if God had not chosen -- you said, "Well, I don't know about that person. They can't mean... They'll have a lot of struggles in life. Why would I want to fool with them?"

How can I, when God received me, how can I not receive someone else that may be at the moment they don't know God, they don't think that they want God, but I know that they need God. So how can I turn them away and not pray for them and reach out to them?

James: And when we reach out in love, we watch the transforming effect of the gospel. You have watched me witness to people and share God's truth faithfully with people who had a terrible past but who said, "I want you to pray with me. I want you to pray for me. I want you to encourage prayer."

Betty, it has broken my heart to have some people say, "Because you pray for our president, you pray with him, you talk to him, you've traveled with him, we're not going to help you anymore." What does that do to your heart when you hear something like that from someone?

Betty: Well, it breaks my heart because this is what God has called us to when we accepted him was to serve him and to take his truth, his word and make it -- it's a living word! It's a journey in life. And just as God has walked us through our journey, we haven't always, in our walk we don't always do everything the best way. We've had to come back and repent.

In our journey, James, when I accepted Jesus, I just didn't become mature all of the sudden in the ways of God and in the knowledge of his word and truth, I had to grow into it. I'm still growing. I'm 76 years old and I'm still growing. So it is a daily walk. And we

must be patient when we don't think someone is walking into the light, into God's truth as quickly as we think they should because my walk has been kind of slow at times when I'm learning and God's teaching me.

James: You know the patience you've had to have with me as God's worked with me and your love has been a transforming force and power in my life -- and so has yours. We've told you many, many times that your prayers have carried us. I want to tell you right now that your prayers are what's making all the positive difference right now in our nation, and there are some positive changes.

I know you get very weary of hearing all the arguing and all the scuttlebutt and the accusation and people don't always handle problems appropriately, but here's the beautiful thing about prayer. When Betty and I brought to your attention the least of these all over the world, we did not know if you would help. But when you saw them, the spirit of God moved you to help and miracles occurred. Nations were changed by it and miracles are continuing to occur in those places because love never fails.

Right now we're asking you to pray for our leadership in the church, in the business community, and in our nation, and for our leaders that God will transform everything, and he is working miracles.

Right now we've had some people say, "Well, we're not going to help you because you prayed for leaders that didn't live right." But they're trying to do right because God has moved in their heart -- because they want to see prayers answered. They want to see wisdom prevail. All of us as believers, we want it. We want the least of these touched here at home and around the world. And you don't help the poor by throwing money at them. You've got to have a compassion connection and we don't let Pharaoh determine how the people's money is used to control people. We want to help people.

So right now we've got an opportunity to live with 20/20 vision and to see a miracle occur right here in 2020. Please pray for us. Please pray for me as I do talk to leaders and

spend time with them because I'm never going to waver. And I'm going to speak truth with unconditional love.

Would you help us here at the year end and beginning the new year? Would you help us reach out and put God's arms around the least of these? Right now with mission feeding we can feed three children, five children, ten children for \$30, \$50, \$100 for the next months. I want to tell you, we need a miracle surge of support. I don't want to say no to one child.

Father, I pray we'll see the greatest outpouring of love and support we've ever seen in our ministry through your yielded family members full of your love, in Jesus' name.

I want you to watch. Watch closely. Let God speak to your heart and then do what God leads you to do.

On the mission field:

Open Captions:

>> One of the urgent things for this challenge is high mortality rate. Most of these children, some of them are not even able to live up to five years. Kwashiorkor causes high mortality in these clinics if we don't assist.

Randy: Kwashiorkor is a specific type of malnutrition that's common in rural Africa.

I've knelt by the graves of children who died from malnutrition so I know its deadly effects. But while knowing and hearing about malnutrition is one thing, seeing it is another. Malnutrition, hunger, these words fail to convey the suffering of a child whose body is shutting down from a lack of food. And words alone will not heal that suffering.

My parents started mission feeding as an act of love and honor for human life. It continues to save lives in Africa today but only if it is supported by our viewers.

We cannot forget that there are those that we can still save. All those children who are on the edge of death, they're malnourished, they're hungry.

When you help us get mission feeding to a village in need, you're stopping malnutrition in its tracks. You're telling these children that they matter and that they are loved. Help us provide food for children who desperately need it now. Help save lives today!

End of video

In the studio:

James: What do you think listening to your son, our son talk about those precious children?

Betty: Well, it blesses me because you and I have been over there many, many times and we've seen the hungry, we've seen the mothers that are just weeping because their babies are gone. We couldn't get to them in time. But we've also seen the difference that it's made.

It's not just James and I, it's not just *LIFE Outreach*, it's you -- you've made the difference! You've been a part of what God continually wants to do and that's reach out to the poor and the needy and these precious little ones that can't do for themselves and they're going to die if we don't get the nourishment to them.

So I hope you see how important it is for you to join with us and to help us as we care for these little ones so that they might grow up and have an opportunity in life.

James: I see every one of those little children and I've seen those graves so many times. I just say God, please! We've been told that we've saved up to 15 million children's lives. We, meaning you who watch us. You're the ones that really reach out as the sheep of God's pasture who love him and minister not only to them but to Jesus. I want to thank

you.

As we close this year, I've been told that if we don't have a miracle response that we're actually going to have to say no to some of the missionaries' requests. And one of the things, Betty that just tears at my heart is I've heard back from some that because I pray with the president and I traveled with him and tried to advise him.

He asks us to surround him with prayer and with wisdom, and I made it clear wisdom comes from above, just because I'm doing that and I'm trying to call America back to God people are saying, "We're not going to help you anymore. You're a false prophet."

I can't even tell you how that's cutting my heart. And to think well, if you don't stop helping somebody we don't like, trying to show them the ways of God, we're not helping you. God, please!

I'm saying to you, what I'm doing here at home is for you, your children and grandchildren and great grandchildren. Preachers and leaders have called from all over the world and said, "Do you all realize there, James that where freedom goes there, that's where it goes all over the world? Please call people back to God. Please keep doing what's right and going the right direction."

If you believe it's important for us to proclaim the truth and demonstrate it, not in word only but deed, I'm asking you for the greatest love gift, yearend new year beginning ever in your life right now, and I'm told we must have that kind of miracle.

Would you please go online or dial that number and make the gift God's putting on your heart? Would you do it right now? Please help us say yes to the missionaries and the least of these. Thank you so much for calling. You be determined to get through or go online. Thank you for your gift.

Begin video clip

Announcer: Mission feeding began with a promise to be there in times of crisis for thousands of hurting and hungry children in their time of need.

Now more than ever we need your help to save lives by feeding and caring for children across the continent of Africa. With food reserves gone and many areas experiencing severe famine, we urgently need to replenish our supplies to reach the 400,000 children who are counting on us. Your gift of love can be the miracle answer to a desperate mother's prayer.

Call now with your lifesaving gift of \$30, \$50 or \$100 that will help feed and care for three, five or ten children for three full months. With your gift, we'll send you the authored worship CD by Anthony Evans. This powerful full-length album includes unique versions of some of today's most cherished worship songs that are sure to uplift and inspire you.

With your gift of \$100 or more please request the "Filled with Faith" and "...Joy" travel mug set. These 12-ounce mugs are crafted with large handles, double-layered insulation and vacuum sealed lids to prevent spills. Each mug includes a message to remind you of God's blessings and faithfulness.

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 video**In the studio:**

James: Well, I'm believing here as we approach the year end that you're going to make a

great year-end gift to give people hope for life. We're not only going to feed them, care for them, we're going to point them to life forever. Anthony Evans *Altared* CD. Boy, that's the title. Boy, its changed lives. It will really bless you. All the gifts we send!

But Betty, our viewers are giving the greatest gift, what we just celebrated Christmas is the life Jesus gives us, you're sharing that life. You share it with the least of these and with everybody you want to see God get his arms around. Betty and I say thank you for all you're going to bless. Pray for us as we seek to point everyone with ears to hear to the King of kings and Lord of lords. Thank you so much for your help!