

1/19/21

Week four: WFL

James and Betty Robison

Laney Rene

James: I'm James Robison with Betty. And this eye is still healing. She still kind of sees around what they call a gas bubble that got the detached retina back in place. So glad Betty's here. Glad you're here.

But I am so excited that our granddaughter, Laney Rene is here with us. She is an amazing blessing. I'm telling you, she's got a book that we're giving. She is so amazed herself that here's a book with incredible life-changing devotionals called *Speak Your Name*. Laney, we would have this studio filled if it were not the pandemic and they would all be clapping to meet you. I want you to know, Mimi and I welcome you to *LIFE Today*.

Laney: Thank you.

James: Tell me how in the world did a book come out of you? When I know that was probably the last thing you were thinking about.

Laney: Yeah, absolutely. Gosh, growing up I really didn't enjoy writing that much. Mom homeschooled us all. If you would have told me I wrote a book like now in my life, I probably would have said you're crazy. But really, just when I go back and read it, honestly, I just see that Jesus qualifies us for things that we're so unqualified for. I truly feel like, like I'll go back and read part of it and I don't even remember what I wrote. But I really feel like he's just breathed on it and blessed it.

I've walked through different things and seen Jesus in different ways and so basically, the

book is just showing who Jesus is and the reality of who he is. I just want to share that with other people. So it really is crazy that I've written a book. I kind of can't believe it. But I'm thankful that God's just allowed me to share his goodness.

Betty: Well, you're still very young, but this is part of your journey. Which I'm like you, I never grew up thinking I'd even be sitting here on television. I've written one book, James and I did a book together but I've written one book about my life and I'm like you, I never would have dreamed that I would have come to that place. But God has done some wonderful things in all our lives. I think it is just a testimony of how God can walk us through different things, everything, but we can always come back. We're learning from those situations, to be better in who he created us to be.

James: Did you actually start doing it, what you might say journaling your thoughts?

Laney: About two years ago I felt like God put a devotional on my heart. We started sitting down with kind of different people talking about the opportunity. Each time I just kind of walked away, I was like, I don't have peace about that. About six months ago God opened up a door to do it. I felt like he was already just kind of preparing me. I had started journaling, I was writing a lot. I do share a lot on social media. I felt like that's just kind of been preparation for this. But also, it's another way of sharing him.

When I was 18 years old, I remember walking up to my bedroom going God, I don't know what I'm going to do with my life; like it was mine to do something with in the first place. But I remember just laying down on the floor going, God, I don't feel like I'm supposed to go to college. I don't feel like my life looks like, even my friends, I don't know what it looks like but would you just show me? I remember just hearing one word and that word was "serve." From that moment I feel like just taking the one word that God gives me in each moment and just going with it has changed everything.

So with this, I feel like it was just another thing like okay, I have no idea how to do this. I feel so unqualified for this but each time I've seen you be faithful. Each time when you

ask me to speak, you speak for me, you sing for me, you dance for me. You qualify me. So with this, I just feel like it really is another one of those things that I can look at and go, wow, God! You're so good.

James: Well, I've known you since you were born. And you know, you were preceded by Laura, then Luke, then Lincoln, and then your dad said, last one. The last one got the name "Laney." I started noticing in your journaling...

By the way if people want to say, okay, so you write, you are as you will know in a moment, Sadie Robertson, the *Duck Dynasty* family, dad said that Laney was as great a blessing as his daughter Sadie ever ran into, other than the Lord. And Sadie basically says that.

But I started reading what you write. Where would they find, if people say, okay, let me just see what she's doing on Instagram or some way in social media posting, where would I find that? Where would they go?

Laney: You can go to LaneyRene.com which you'll find all my writings and things like that. But also, just Instagram. I'm HeyLaneyRene.

James: Hey Laney Rene. All right. Listen to what Sadie said, "I first met Laney in our dressing room on a music tour in 2017. She knocked on the door while I was there alone dancing by myself to get the nerves out before speaking. I was going to invite her to a party, yada yada, but it wasn't long before we ended up," this is Sadie Robertson talking, "being the best of friends." This is the forward to *Speak Your Name*. "And then we decided to be roommates. We would stay up 'til two a.m. on regular occasions talking on the couch, eating popcorn, Halo Top ice cream, the odds were we were probably making some kind of funny video. We called our couch 'the pit.'" But then she goes on and talks about how this lady, Laney just literally impacted her life. The way the book, *Speak Your Name* will impact yours.

Laney, when I began to read what you wrote because I know you as my beautiful little granddaughter and we've been close since you were getting around walking, we did stuff together always, as I did with your brothers, I felt like I was reading a miracle. I started texting you and saying, "Laney, this is bigger than you. I can't even believe this is coming out of... It is like amazing writers that we're blessed to have on *LIFE Today*. And all of the sudden I realize I'm reading what's from my granddaughter. And then all of the sudden it began to roll."

What do you think was going on there in this process? Do you think it was something the Lord was first taking you into, but it was going to spill over like Sadie talks about and begin to have a positive even transforming effect on others? Has it pointed to Jesus? Is that what you saw?

Laney: Honestly, like I said, I go back and read, and I can't remember what I wrote. The other day I picked up something and I was talking about Moses in one of the devotionals, and I thought, I don't even know that about Moses. How did I...? I feel like yes, it's the Holy Spirit, him just coming. And each day when I would sit down to write, I was like God, I don't know what I'm doing but what do you want to say? What part of who you are do you want to show us?

And yeah, I think also, from 18 to 20 I was traveling a lot of or 22, as a back-up dancer and in that season is when I really feel like I knew Jesus since I was a little girl and I can remember moments of when he was very real to me but in that season, I felt like I came to the end of myself and really just recognized that I had nothing without him and he showed me who he was. And when I saw who he was, I saw who I was. And so I think it is just him pouring himself out over me and it just being, I pray it's just an overflow of that.

James: That is precisely what it is. Now you are married to a wonderful person. Sadie talks about how you all prayed that you would meet the right people. You met them very close to the same time. I think actually, just went on a date together. Clayton and I met on

Sadie and Christian's first date. And it is actually crazy. So that happened, they told us they loved us on the same day. We got engaged three weeks apart. We got married three weeks apart. And then now we're both pregnant with little girls.

James: And they're going to be born pretty close together too.

Laney: Yes! A few months.

James: So the next time you see her she will not be with child. She's going to be holding a child. All right. This is an amazing, amazing journey. We are giving this to every single person who will help us put the arms of this Jesus that she says "Speak His Name" and boy, will you get it on the power in the name and the person Jesus who wears the name Jesus, Lord of Lord's, King of kings.

And Laney, when you start out writing, and this blesses me because you wrote the introduction and you start talking about, listen to this, "Though we are in this world, if we believe in the name of Jesus, we are no longer of this world. We have been adopted into his kingdom." Oh I wish people got that! "Into it now, and forever, and his kingdom is our new reality. It's where we live in kingdom reality. King of kings, losing our life in his purpose to find it. This world is often run by systems, diagnosis, status and statistics but we were created for a new kingdom and a new reality."

Laney, what God did in you, it's like you know I was the shyest kid on the planet. Nobody could believe I could preach. Nobody would have believed you were... We knew you danced, you praised the Lord, you were outgoing, you were very much athletic like your brothers. You just loved to do all kinds of stuff. The thing about it is, this was a miracle of God. So now when you see this and we're sitting here talking and praying that everyone will go to LaneyRene, we're going to put up websites there. She has a song about The Name and you can get that in streaming. You'll find out how, you'll want to.

Laney, what is your prayer right now that as people get in the presence of God, because

you wrote in the presence of God and your granddad's looking at this and thinking, Laney? This is amazing! You look at it and it's amazing. You remember it was so much bigger than you that even when you go back and read it, you think, where did it come from? I'm telling people I say things I never thought of before but I know the source because of the let's say the character of what's being said, the person and that's what happened to you. So what do you want God to do with this book?

Laney: I pray it would just be that it's a reminder for people just to speak his name over their life, over their family, over their homes, over their health and see just what his name carries. Mom and I always talk about, which we'll have her pretty soon.

James: She's going to be on the next program. Mom will be on the next program with Laney. You get to meet our daughter, Rhonda that you haven't met.

Laney: We always talk about how when you say someone's name you think of the person that they are. With Jesus there is so much to who he is. One of my favorite verses is Psalm 145:3 and it says, "There is no end to the discovery of greatness that surrounds you." That just means there is always more of him. So just as a person, when we call on his name, sometimes we don't know what we're asking for. We don't even know the fullness that his name carries. There is always more to discover but his name still carries his person. His name still carries who he is. So when we say Jesus, we're calling on more than we even know that we're even calling on but he is there.

So my prayer would just be that when you say "Jesus" you don't get caught in just the mental battle of not knowing what to do in anything but let his name bring you peace, let his name be your rescue, let his name just be everything that you need. This book is to be a reminder of that, to lead you to him and nothing else.

Betty: And he is enough. I remember when one of our other grandchildren, one of our grandsons was very small and I was talking to his mother, your Aunt Robin. I wasn't feeling well and so she said, "Chris, come over here and pray over the phone for Mimi."

And he's just a little toddler. He gets on the phone and he says, "Jesus!" That was it! That's all we need. And I think that's what you're talking about. He is the fullness of everything. We're to be the vessels for him to fill up to overflowing.

James: I want you to listen to the name, listen to the song. This is just a little clip from it and you can get it streamed, we'll tell you how, and it will bless you. Just listen as Laney sings about the name.

Laney Rene sings:

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus

Jesus, my partner

Jesus, my friend

Jesus

Jesus, my healer

Jesus, my love

Jesus

Because I believe who you say you are

I can sing of the goodness of your heart

And I won't live above the world you saved

Speak Your Name

Speak Your Name

End of song

James: Oh I feel like my face is going to crack. I'm just grinning because not only can she write, we didn't know she could sing. Her mom sang. It's just God. Let me just say to you, Father, thank you. Thank you, Jesus. Laney, we see Jesus in you. I just saw Jesus pouring over everything you wrote, not knowing that it would be in a book that we would be giving away with hundreds and hundreds of life-transforming insights. It seems to me

like, sometimes, Laney would just come to God with what might have felt like emptiness or maybe confusion or questioning. And you just sort of dumped it on him and it was like he just picked you up and starts flowing life in you and through you. Is that kind of what happened?

Laney: Really, just kind of what I was talking about that season earlier, between 18 and 22. When I was 22 I just kind of felt like God asked me to give up everything that I was doing and everything I found myself in, and what I felt was my identity. When I let go of all of that, I started just to... I remember being on the road actually and going to my bunk. Every night when I would close the curtain to... basically, when you get on a tour bus, you have your little bunk, you close the curtain, whatever, but it was like my safe haven. It was the safe place. And every night when I got in there I felt like Jesus was waiting for me there. I was the most broken I'd ever been, and the most lonely, even though I was surrounded by the most amount of people I'd ever been around. And God just showed me who he was. He comforted me. Like I said, there is so much more but just a glimpse. I remember saying, "God, would you hold me? Would you hold me? Hold me, hold me, hold me. Comfort me. Heal my heart." And he did. It's just been now seeing more of who he is every day.

James: Let me just say to all of you who are watching, you say, "You're just excited about your granddaughter." Well, we've got five of them now. We've got three more greats. So more coming, another one here coming soon. No, it's so much more than that. We're amazed at the Jesus. We're proud of all of them. They're all amazing to us. But what we're watching here is just one of the great miracles that I've witnessed. I believe that you'll want to get the book.

And Laney, we're going to show everybody your uncle that's on here all the time, Randy, Randy Robison with Sheila so often. But Randy has four children. He's about to be a grandfather. The deal is that Randy has been all over the world on the mission field. He saw something and he wanted to talk to you about it. This is powerful. And I believe it is going to move you to begin expressing the person whose name, Laney will tell you all

about. Watch closely.

On the mission field:

Randy: Normally, we come to you from various parts of the world to show you the outreaches of LIFE. But today I want to come to you from my home state of Texas. In fact, this is right behind my neighborhood where for the last 20 years I've raised a family. All four of my children were raised here. We've enjoyed this area of this creek that flows into this pond. And while this has been a fun place for a family, there's one thing that we would never do. We would never drink this water. Truth be told, many around the world have no choice but to drink contaminated water that's even worse than the creek near my home.

In Cambodia, I met a man named Vaughn who had lost both a child and a grandchild to waterborne illness.

Open Captions:

>> I cry when I think of my daughter and grandson who died.

Randy: I left heartbroken that Vaughn's surviving grandchildren were still drinking the same water that killed their brother. For decades my parents have led this ministry's fight against unsafe drinking water, and they've inspired many of us to join them. *LIFE Today* viewers empowered our team to drill a well in Vaughn's village and now his entire community has clean, safe, drinking water.

But the fight is not over. In another part of the world there is a mother giving her daughter contaminated water, dirty water because it is the only choice she has. Right now you and I have a choice of life and death, but it is not a life and death choice for us, it's a life and death choice for her.

End of video

In the studio:

James: Sweetheart, if I could just tell you, I'd look right in your eyes and I just love you and want to give you clean water. Randy, thank you for being a great father to those children, and being a missionary with us all over the world and hosting *LIFE Today*. You and Sheila are a real blessing.

Betty, I'm praying that every single person watching right now will say, "I'm going to be the miracle that family longs for, that grandfather and father that lost a child and a grandchild, the miracle they pray for."

Betty: Absolutely! Randy showed us the before and the after. The before is so tragic where these children, they have to have the water, they have no choice. Those parents have to give them, or those grandparents, it breaks their heart I'm sure. But the afters, that's what I enjoy so much. And if you've ever given to the water you rejoice in it too. If you haven't, this is the opportunity for you to see the results and to know that you are saving the lives of all these children. When they're jumping around that water, the fresh water that's coming in, James, they've got big grins on their faces. It makes my face and my heart light up. Won't you experience that too? Let's give the water for them to have life.

James: You know, Betty, we've watched them jump up and down when the water comes up out of the ground. They know it means something they've never had but many of them prayed for it. And you are the miracle that provides Water for LIFE, and we'll tell them clearly, first demonstrating it about the water of life. You're going to see his love, you're going to see his life. And you're the ones that make it happen.

Do you realize as we have found 350 more areas, we know there is subsurface water, many times revealed by a bore hole that becomes contaminated and filthy. We know the water is there. We can get to the water, encase it, and give them a pump that works not

with unreliable energy or power that is so often missing intermittently in those villages, we give them a manual pump even children can work as you saw.

We provided a miracle in that village where you saw the broken heart of that grandfather and father. You are the one who provides the miracle, and it is the love of God through you. It is because of the name above every name, the name of Jesus that you've experienced. Would you right now show us the greatest outpouring of love perhaps we've ever witnessed? The wells cost \$4800. I think there's someone watching right now saying you know what? I've done that once before or several times, I'm going to do it again. Some of you say I never have but I can do that. I'm able to do that, and in challenging times I'll do it. \$48 will give ten people water the rest of their life.

Think about that! Could you give part of a well, \$2400 or \$1200 and pray three join you? Or another person joins you and we've got a well? Please right now go get your bankcard, use it like a check. Or if you write a check, make it to *LIFE* but call us and tell us what you're putting in the mail. We need to know that. If you use your bankcard you can go online and use it or you can call that number and use it.

Father, I pray everyone watching will simply follow your lead in Jesus' name. Thank you so much. Please do it now. Give life.

Begin video clip

Announcer: Dirty disease-filled water. How desperate would a mother need to be to consider giving this contaminated substance to her child? For many mothers and their families living in extreme poverty, this is their only choice.

But with your help they won't have to make this choice ever again. Mission: Water for LIFE provides clean, disease-free water for thousands of children and their families

giving them a life free from the fear of death. With your gift today you can help drill and establish 350 water wells this year. Your gift of \$24 will help provide clean water for five children. A gift of \$48 will help provide ten. \$72 will provide for 15. And \$144 will help provide life-giving water for 30 people for a lifetime.

With your gift, we'll send you *Speak Your Name* devotions and declarations on the reality of Jesus. Filled with stunning imagery, these 40 encouraging devotions by Laney Rene serve as a reminder of the power of Jesus' name.

With your gift of \$100 or more, please request the "Be Refreshed" pitcher. This beautiful ceramic pitcher is decorated with Proverbs 11:25 and is sure to make a lovely addition to your table or home.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1200 to help provide water for 250 people or a gift of \$4800 to help sponsor a complete well. And you may request our brand-new, inspiring bronze sculpture, "Divine Servant."

Please call, write or make your gift online.

End of video

In the studio:

James: The sculptor of this beautiful "Divine Servant" bronze came here to us to tell us what God put on his heart. Boy, has he shown people a lot of divine servants. It will be a blessing. I hope you can give \$1200 toward a well or give a well.

Remember for any gift we're going to send you *Speak Your Name* and I promise you, you're going to get a lot out of that name as you read what Laney has written that God wrote in her heart. And the beautiful pitcher; you're going to give people more than a pitcher, you're going to give them Water for LIFE!

Laney, thank you so much. We're going to talk to mom on the next program. Are you good with that?

Laney: Yeah!!

James: Mom is now a grandma. There's going to be another grandkid in the family. Thank you so much for watching *LIFE Today*. And from the bottom of our heart, thanks for sharing *LIFE Today*.