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Week 12: Rescue Life

James and Betty Robison

"Lose Your Life to Find Your Life" #2

BETTY: Welcome to *LIFE Today*! Thank you so much for joining us. I'm Betty and this is James. And we're going to get into God's word with you today. I think you'll be blessed.

JAMES: Well, we're going to continue in the book of Acts. Some of you may not believe that I remember over a week ago. And by the way, I'm so happy many of you found kingdom purpose by saying I'm losing my life to find it in all of its fullness and fruitfulness and blessing. And I think I'm going to hear a lot of good testimonies of how you brought that up to somebody that if you really want to find life, now just think about it, if you want to really want to find life, if you try to hold on to it you're going to lose it. Because you don't really understand what's there for you. But if you'll lose it for my sake, which is what? Kingdom purpose. I'm telling you, you take up the cross, the death to your way, to live to his way and you find it. It's amazing.

I tell you what, you sow that seed, you let people know I'm going to show you something that you can find beyond anything you ever imagined, it's so far beyond religion or church life. This is the real life of God in us.

Betty, we were talking and like I say, some of you can't believe I remember that, I'm 77 years old. You think I'd start going downhill. Don't have to. Here's the deal. I read the verse because

we'd just gone through the boldness of Peter and John and the disciples. They took notice that they were not highly educated men but they had been, now think about this, they had been with Jesus.

Boy, I wish everybody could notice not that we'd been to church but we'd been with Jesus. That is--that's amazing. And see, when I lost my life in kingdom purpose with the fuller understanding to do what he called me to do, to be an announcer of good news, an evangelist, the moment I did that everything around me began to change. Because people saw somebody walking with purpose and joy and peace that shook them up. It was like a miracle watching God take this shy guy and capture the attention of people everywhere; wasn't it?

BETTY: Absolutely. It was transforming. For me, I could not believe it because I knew you before God called you into ministry. I knew that shy kid. I knew the one that didn't want to be noticed, wanted to stay in the background. I just saw God do a transformation in your life. And the freedom that he gave you, I began to watch. And through that freedom is how I came to know the Lord in a personal way. So thank you.

JAMES: Well, just thank God. And listen to me. We closed talking about this notable miracle and about how they tried to shut them up. They said, "You can't stop us. And who are you to say... And there is no way you're going to stop us."

But by the way, have you noticed the move today to try to take away free speech? I promise you the big assault will ultimately be on the proclamation of God's truth in love, in unconditional redemptive love. That's how truth has to be presented if it is going to be effective. That's how people filled with the spirit do it.

Now I close, and we're going to go in the fourth chapter of Acts but I close with this verse: *And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the Word of God with boldness.*

Now please remember this. There is a spiritual language and so many people argue about the gifts of the spirit or about tongues or about... Stop the arguing. There really is no room for debate. It is just given. Here's what you need to understand. When the disciples were filled with the Spirit at Pentecost--please don't miss this--they didn't come out speaking a prayer language. They came out speaking the language of all the people who needed to hear the gospel of the kingdom. The King has come. You crucified him. God raised him, he is alive to live in you in kingdom power. They preached it in the language of all the people even the dialect. In other words, like it was southern dialect or eastern dialect or Asian dialect or Latino, Spanish, it didn't matter. They could hear it so clearly. They heard the gospel. If we live spirit-filled we're going to be able to speak the language of the people we're sharing the gospel with. We won't look like some strange person out-of-place but somebody who can actually communicate.

That's what God did with me, Betty. There wasn't any group I couldn't talk to. It's still that way. It's miraculously that way. It doesn't matter who it is. And by the way, he can do it with any of us. Okay.

But the real characteristic is the communication effective. But some other characteristic of being spirit-filled. They spoke the Word of God with boldness. There is a tremendous need among believers today, members of the body of Christ, the church to become courageous, bold! Bold! Literally on fire for God. Fearless. This must happen.

Father, I pray it on the people who are listening right now. No fear! And the enemy is trying to intimidate us, trying to silence us. We'll not be silenced. The truth will not be silenced; in Jesus' name.

You pray that God tears down every restriction and every barrier and give us the wisdom to know how we can protect the First Amendment, a gift from God--not just our founders, from God. Let's protect those precious things! It's so important!

Now I want to take you somewhere. I want you to look at this. The next verses right after they had this infilling spirit: *The congregation of those who believed were of one heart and one soul: Not one of them claimed anything belonging to him was his own.*

Jesus said you lose it to find it. They lost themselves and their possessions in the lordship of Christ. We are divine servants of the kingdom; we're overseers of God's garden, planet earth to make it fruitful in every way. And God wants to bless us economically. God wants to bless us with security, with protection, with the shelter of the Almighty, with the hedges and the boundaries essential for protection. The Word of God is filled with the importance of boundaries, limits, walls that are appropriate protection, even the boundaries of the ocean, set in place.

Okay. When you realize you've been left here as an overseer, that means not just 10% or the tithe is God's, it's all God's. That's really the way we need to live. By the way, when Robert Morris preaches *The Blessed Life* that comes through and people get it. And when the truth of that gets them, everything in their life begins to change.

Look what these disciples did. All things were common property to them. *And with great power the apostles were giving witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus.*

This Jesus that was crucified, died, buried and raised is living in them, us. *You could see the power of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was on them and there wasn't a needy person among them for all who are owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales and lay them at the apostles' feet, and they would be distributed to each as any had need.*

That's not socialism. The farthest thing from it! Betty, they brought the gifts to those that had need. Do you know what that means? That means that they knew something about these people. There's a legitimate need. It also means they had oversight. You're not going to give it to someone who has no accountability, no responsibility. You're not going to fund people who are going to live foolishly and selfishly. Which is what socialism does. It takes people's money and throws it at a target they never are able to hit. Because if you don't teach responsibility and accountability, and if you don't have a compassion connection you don't work effectively in an assisted living center. You don't work effectively giving healthcare. You have to love and care and have a compassion connection. The resources must be there but if you don't have that compassion connection... the greatest thing we see about all of these healthcare workers, Betty is their faithfulness, their fearlessness, they're willingness to sacrifice. It is compassion that they're saving lives like they are. That is precisely what happened to these new believers who came together in the power of the unity Jesus prayed for. In that supernatural unity they began to be overseers of all God entrusted to their watch care.

And boy, it got really serious. In the next chapter you find that you don't play games with God.

You don't become a deceptive person. You don't move back to selfishness and self-centered living. We're supposed to care about ourselves. We're supposed to care about our children. We're worse than an atheist if we don't work and care properly for our children. That's all good. You go to work, you want to help your family but just don't make possessions and money and the monetary the goal. Let God be the overseer of it. He may expand it vastly but if he does, he still needs to be the overseer and the wise guidance system for all that he's entrusted to your watch care.

Well, this is what needs to happen right now. Everywhere you're seeing positive things happen you're seeing people who are accountable and responsible. And all these people who want to teach people to be dependent upon a source other than God, and the love of a neighbor for his neighbors because we loved God with all our heart and we love our neighbor properly because we love them as ourselves and we love ourselves properly when we put God in the right place, and we want the best for others. This is the way God wants the church to live, setting an example. Not of socialism, not of communism but of common concern, compassion, love and the courage to stand against deception, against dissension and division, against depending upon a source other than God.

Right now we're not making good decisions in many areas of leadership and it's just obvious to anybody who has wisdom. We're not making those decisions right. So what do we do? We pray for God to give wisdom and guidance and to bring this out-of-control process under control.

Betty, we really need to begin praying right now for wise leadership. We're not going to have perfect leadership because all of us are imperfect. But God answers prayer; and we were watching God answer prayer miraculously, in amazing ways with people you wouldn't expect

but it is because of prayer. If we'll be like these Christians right here praying together in supernatural unity, sensitive to God, wanting to share, we're going to see miracles.

Betty, that's precisely what our supporters do. If somebody asked you to describe the people who pray for *LIFE Outreach* and pray for us, who watch us, who see us show a very legitimate need and an effective way to meet the need, how would you describe the viewers? If somebody said, what kind of people watch your program and help you do what you do?

BETTY: Well, they're not people that necessarily have everything they want, everything they desire but they're people that have a heart of God; that wants to help those that are in real need. They're people that want to be servants of God. You know there is a difference in being a servant than being captive, James, of being a slave. Being a servant is a choice I think we make. Because with being a servant, I feel like there comes more freedom, James. Because we are free in him to do as he's directed us to do.

You're so kind to do that. You're so loving. It doesn't mean you don't have challenges, you don't have situations you think, how am I going to get through this? But when you hear of another need, you lovingly give and reach out to that need. So thank you very, very much. That's what you're like to us.

JAMES: When Paul was talking to the Philippian Christians, and you remember Philippi is where God threw the jail doors open and got Paul and Silas out of stocks. I mean they were in real bondage. And God freed them. He wants to free everybody from bondage. But those incredible Christians in Philippi, time and again he said, think about this, this is the greatest Christian, the greatest missionary that ever lived! And he said time and again, "You alone, you

kept sending." Amazing! Amazing grace!

Well, I think that's the way you are. I've often said I think our viewers are Philippian church Christians because time and again you'll meet a need. Even when you're challenged, and we've all been challenged by COVID. But every time we say there's a need that's a legitimate need, here's an effective way that love, in redemptive power and delivering power sets that person free and changes everything. They get food, save their lives. They get water. They get set free from sexual trafficking. They get the loving assistance they desperately need. And it's to live effectively. I'm telling you, that's absolutely amazing. That's kind of viewers we have.

I want you to watch something that most people just turn away from. Don't turn away from it! Don't turn away from it! Our viewers are so excited about this that a bunch of them said, "I tell you what. We so believe in this. It is so needed. It is so horrible that it happens and so great when freedom comes, we'll match any gift people give up to \$320,000." And basically we're asking for \$64 or \$128 to work a miracle. And it actually is doubled because of the love of God flowing through a kingdom servant, the viewers of *LIFE Today*. You really, really are special. I want you to watch and I believe you're going to become the miracle someone desperately needs.

On the mission field:

Open Captions:

>> Girls? How old do you want?

>> Young.

>> How old?

>> What's the youngest?

>> Huh?

>> The youngest.

Don: We couldn't imagine the extent of the evil that allowed four-year olds to be trafficked and sexually abused by men coming from all over the world. We knew we needed to do more.

One day our phone rang, and it was a young girl trapped in a brothel calling for us to help. So we gave the information to this other organization, but we had to wait three days for them to get into position to do a raid. But it was tipped off and none of the girls were rescued. And now they were moved to a new brothel and we didn't know where they were or how to get them out.

We would never let this happen again. So we partnered with the government and started our own SWAT team. Everything turned around. Instead of raids being tipped off, there was hardly ever a raid that wasn't successful. And now that girl that made the phone call, she is not only rescued, she's not only healed but today she is a social worker of our SWAT team. And when a rescue happens, the first person those girls see is her. She's also testified against a brothel owner. All the girls were rescued, the brothel was shut down, and no girls were being hurt there again.

So much incredible work has been done through the power of Christ but there is still so much more to do. There are girls trapped in brothels. We know where they are and we know how to get them out but we can't do it alone. We need your help. Together we can defeat the greatest evil of our lifetime.

End of video

In the studio:

JAMES: Thank you, God! Thank you, God.

Just remember this. Every time you hear a story like that, now please know that what we do at *LIFE*, we don't duplicate what God has already set in motion. We find the anointed individuals... "Anointed" means gifted by God, divine enabling, the power of God to accomplish God's kingdom purpose. We find people who are anointed by God to fulfill a mission purpose

effectively and we pour the oil into that lantern and we watch it spread.

And we do this all over the world. It's been so effective. We don't try to create something God already established. Many of these people are so focused in the midst, they don't have time to go raise funds. But if you put the oil in that light, it just spreads everywhere. And that's what we've done around the world so that thousands and thousands have been rescued. And then as they're restored, they're given a whole new life.

Betty, our viewers are the most amazing people, in my opinion, on the planet! And we're told by people who understand support bases that you are the most Christ-centered, loving, self-sacrificing if necessary, whatever it takes, to get God's arms around the people he gave his son to redeem.

So here's what I want to ask you to do. Now think about this. It takes an average of \$128. For some of you that's quite a stretch. Now remember, we've got a matching gift. If you could give \$64, you'll immediately have \$128! Pow! Another person had been reached. They'd been reached, they've been rescued and then the restoration process. So please, if you can give the \$128, I pray you will, then you're going to actually rescue two.

Now remember, we've got some gifts. By the way, this went over so great by Jordan Rubin and other doctors on these *Natural Remedies*, and Betty has found them to be effective, I found them to be effective, it's amazing! So we just want to offer that again. But let me tell you something that's really great here too, *Jesus My Refuge*; this is a journal that gives you great verses about how he is your refuge in any circumstance. And we're sending it to you. We'll send you Jordan Rubin's book on the *Natural Remedies* for any gift. We send that and *Jesus My Refuge* and a beautiful pen to journal with for a gift of \$128 or more. Now remember this, \$1280 will rescue 10 but now 20, and we'll send the beautiful "Divine Servant" bronze because you are a kingdom servant.

Would you right now, please, go get your bankcard or get a check and make it to *LIFE*? You're going to be setting people free forever because we point them to Jesus. And we demonstrate that

love because of your support. Would you please get that bankcard and use it like a check? Would you go online, or would you dial that number that's a prayer line and many have called to say, "I've lost my life today in his kingdom purpose to find it, to begin a new life." But would you call until you get through? And say, here's my gift. I want to put it on this card. Or I'm sending this check. Thank you so much for doing it. God is blessing someone through you, and I pray you begin to live in the fullness of kingdom blessing. Thanks for sharing it.

Begin video clip:

Announcer: Human trafficking is one of the world's darkest sources of criminal activity and money. As a result, children and young people are being abducted and sold at the hands of violent predators into a never-ending nightmare.

Through Mission: Rescue Life you can reach out to warn children who are at the risk of being trafficked, rescue those already enslaved and restore young lives giving them a future. With a generous \$320,000 matching gift now your gift of \$128 to help reach, rescue, or restore one child can be doubled to help two children. Your \$64 gift will be matched to help save one child from the horrors of human trafficking. And a \$32 mission rescue gift will be doubled to \$64.

With your gift today, we'll send you *Natural Remedies*. This beautifully illustrated and essential book explores ancient nutrition and the health benefits found in God's creation. A valuable reference with biblical insight to help you live your best life.

With your gift of \$128 or more, you'll receive the *Jesus My Refuge* journal and pen set filled with scriptures reminding you of God's covering in times of need. You'll also be reminded to pray for those seeking refuge from the horrors of human trafficking.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1280, which will now help rescue 20 children! And you may request our inspiring bronze sculpture, "Divine Servant."

Please call, write, or make your gift online.

End of video

On the mission field:

SHEILA: What I've seen here is the abject poverty that people are living in. So many young girls are forced into prostitution; they're trafficked because they're desperate. There is no money in the family. So often the father is a drunk. There is debt. And the oldest daughter, sometimes when she's 10, 11, 12, that's the only opportunity because so many of these girls, they've never been to school. I asked one girl, "How old were you when you left school?" She said, "I've never been to school."

So because they're illiterate they can't get a decent job and the only job they can get is at the mercy of a sex trafficker. So I just want to ask you if God has touched your heart, if you want to stand with me, to stand with James and Betty and say we want to do something now, will you go to your phone, will you go online? Will you call that number? Will you make the best gift possible so that we can reach, we can rescue, we can restore? Because surely that is what Jesus Christ has done for every single one of us. Would you make the best gift possible? Would you do it now?

End of video

In the studio:

JAMES: I pray with all my heart every one of you watching will help us. If you could give the \$128 to rescue one it will be doubled to two. *Jesus, My Refuge:* We'll be sending this book along with the *Natural Remedies*.

But listen to this. There are verses all the way through it but they are about refuge: "As for God, his way is perfect. The Lord's word is flawless. He shields all who take refuge in him. The eternal God is thy refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms. And he shall thrust out the

enemy from before thee and shall say, "Destroy the deceiver's intent, destroy the enemy's desires." The Lord repay your work and a full reward be given you by the Lord of Israel under whose wings you have come for refuge."

You are providing refuge. God is our refuge. Jesus is the refuge. Boy, you talk about, Betty, just to read these verses and then journal as you just read scriptures about the refuge God offers. And we offer it to others. You've just done that with your gift today.

Betty and I just say thank you in behalf of all of who work with those trafficked, all who are being trafficked and who will be set free because of God's love expressed through you. Thank you so much.