

8/16/22

Week 34: WFL, last week

James and Betty Robison

Ben and Candy Carson

BETTY: Welcome to *LIFE Today*! Thank you so much for joining us. I'm Betty and this is James. We're so excited, James, to have this beautiful couple with us, Dr. Carson and his wife Candy.

JAMES: You all are -- they're looking over at Betty introducing them, and I just love you. Candy, I got to know you after I'd gotten to know Ben. You and I had to pray together about some of Ben's decisions. He was making some decisions, would you say they were a little bit troubling to us? But we comforted each other, we prayed through it, and it ended up, he said I believe some people will listen.

Here's one of the things I learned from you. God has always used imperfect people to accomplish His perfect will. Think about it. Some people talk about the failures of certain leaders that might end up being in high places. Look at Solomon -- I think he out messed up everybody, and yet he was an example of wisdom that he didn't even always follow himself, for heaven's sake. And basically, he said at the end of his life it is vanity. In other words, I really in many ways just made a mess. I didn't do the wisdom that God gave me.

Hey! Listen to me. God uses imperfect people. Ben and I didn't have a father. Nobody would have picked either one of us as an opportunity to succeed. Tell people about your journey a little bit.

BEN: It would have been just the opposite. First of all, growing up in dire poverty, my mother had less than a third graduated education and got married when she was 13 years old trying to escape dire poverty in rural Tennessee. When she discovered that her

husband was a bigamist, she had to raise us by herself. I was a terrible student. I was like the worst student ever! The other students loved having me in the class because no one had to worry about getting the lowest mark on a test.

But my mother believed in me when nobody else did. She said, "Benjamin, you're a smart boy but you've got to read these books." She made us read books and stop watching television, or just a few TV programs. If your program had been on, she probably would have let us watch it.

[Laughter]

But the interesting thing was, I didn't want to do it at first but as I started reading those books my whole world changed. I started reading about incredibly successful people from all walks of life. And I started to understand that the person who has the most to do with what happens to you is you. It is not somebody else -- and it is not some circumstance. And that's why we have these incredible brains.

At the same time, my relationship with the Lord was growing. And I had a complete academic transformation. I went from the bottom of the class to the top of the class. Much to the consternation of all the students who used to call me "dummy." Now they were saying, "Benny, how do you work this problem?"

[Laughter]

And I would say, "Sit at my feet youngster while I instruct you." Probably a little obnoxious.

But it was completely different. My brother also did very well because my mother's friends used to always criticize her, "You can't make boys stay in the house and read books. They'll grow up and they'll hate you." I'd overhear them sometimes and I'd say, "You know, Mother, they're right." [Laughing]

But we had to do it. But I think she had the last laugh, but one son became a brain surgeon and the other became a rocket scientist.

JAMES: Isn't that great? Praise you, God! Thank you, mom! I know mom is with the Lord. And just what a mom! I read -- I read starting in the second grade the children's volumes of all the famous successful people throughout American and even the United Kingdom history. I read them. It was amazing what I got about character. None of them were perfect! Our founders were not perfect. They could have disagreed until hell froze over but they came together in supernatural unity that's a possibility for us today. It is a possibility! It is what you long for. Wait a minute! It is what Jesus longs for and prayed for that we would show the world we're his family, we're his followers, his disciples by the way we love one another.

By the way, not just our neighbor. Sometimes it is easier to love your neighbor than it is to love your family members or even your spouse. But we love one another, Ben. The love relationship you and I have for one another, that our families have, was instant when we came together. You knew there were things in me that you wanted our nation's leaders to hear, just like I knew there were in you. And I knew you had to be in a leadership and advisory role, not just an inspirational role. Look what you and I were able to bring the greatest minds and hearts together to speak truth to power -- unwavering, uncompromising truth in unconditional love. Did we do that?

BEN: That's why the Lord put us together.

JAMES: That's exactly why. And that's why these viewers out here, thank you, Candy, way to go! That's why the viewers -- listen to me, you make it possible for us to get God's loving arms around the least of these and the most overlooked people on the planet. This man lives seeing everybody that feels overlooked or that has been deceived, lied to, and even taught that which is totally against the truth. The Father of lies teaches only that. He divides and he destroys. He is a murderer. He doesn't just murder life, he murders the

possibility of love and living with meaning and purpose. You always want to feel like I want to blame somebody else.

Ben, you have lifted the spirits of the American people. And Candy, I have watched your support, you are an amazing helpmeet. You are an amazing inspiration. You are a brilliant woman. You are really strong.

CANDY: Keep it coming! Keep it coming!

[Laughter]

I don't believe it yet but keep it coming.

JAMES: Well, it is just the truth. Let me ask both of you. Do you believe that there's some pretty simple hope for America if we would just start taking some of the steps he talks about in *Created Equal* and then with the American Cornerstone Institute? Which go online, tell them where to find it online because I want everybody watching to support what you're doing.

BEN: AmericanCornerstone.org. There is a lot of good stuff on there. A lot of interviews, television interviews on A More Perfect Union teaching you the importance of our constitution, our bill of rights, our Declaration of Independence, and the things that people need to know. Because we want people to get involved in government. We don't want them standing in the corner with their head down and letting only other people get in there. It is so important.

CANDY: To get a better understanding, a lot of our young people didn't have civics. That was something they were getting rid of in some of the schools, the high schools.

JAMES: Books that teach the truth, they got them out.

CANDY: Yeah. But that's what A More Perfect Union is about. So that's one of the initiatives there. But can I tell you a little story that kind of convinced me about American Cornerstone? The folks from HUD were doing good work, and a lot of good things happening.

JAMES: Is this while he was secretary of HUD that you watched this?

CANDY: And after the election, they wanted to continue some of the work they started so they decided to continue. But they hadn't come up with a name yet; it wasn't until late January they came up with American Cornerstone.

So when you move a lot, you have boxes, and it was my turn to go through some boxes; I'm going through boxes and this one box had "1993." Everything was 1993. I'm wondering if that was such a good year and if I want to know what happened? Then da-ta-da. But I'm going through it because another box I had gone through had some family treasures after I had gone into it. So here I am about to give it another five minutes. 30 seconds later I see this beautiful calligraphy that's the Declaration of Independence. It catches my attention. I take it out. It is a calendar from 1993. I'm not going to look at the whole thing, I don't have that kind of time. So I opened up into the inside back cover.

JAMES: Now this isn't Oprah. We always have to remind everybody we don't have an hour.

[Laughter]

CANDY: I'm almost there! I'm almost there!

BEN: You're making a long story longer.

[Laughter]

CANDY: You know! Ask him for it. But opening up the back cover and it says, "This calendar is to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of a capitol building: 1793 to 1993, and when I looked again, the date that it was done, his birthday.

JAMES: Wow! That's pretty cool! That's just what -- you don't have any problem --

BEN: That was confirmation.

JAMES: We need to restore the cornerstone. The Bible talks about restoring the foundation. And that's one of the things in Isaiah 58 that was a big deal. You are going to restore the foundation. You'll don't build up the walls, the proper boundaries -- I mean if the boundaries didn't keep the oceans the whole world is tsunamied every week. We're living in a spiritual, moral tsunami right now.

BEN: And our rise to the pinnacle of the world was no accident. It was because of those foundational principles that we follow. It doesn't mean that we were perfect. Nobody is perfect. That's why we need a Savior. But it does mean we had the correct things in place. And if we go back to those things, go back to those principles, instead of throwing them out, we will continue to be a very substantial force in the world.

JAMES: This is what everybody needs to know about the founders. They were smarter than the people we see today that we call leaders and sometimes even good leaders. They were really smart and they could defend their position. They could have spent 20 years trying to convince the others in the room how they were wrong. They came together to deal with what was obviously wrong from that Father's point of view, from a historical context of the consequences of not doing, and the positive blessing of doing certain things, they came together to talk about getting the power of the monarch out, getting the nonsense off, getting the freedom to differ, getting the freedom to worship.

BEN: And they understood so well. Because Adam said, "Our constitution is designed

for a moral and religious people, and it is inadequate for the governance of any other."

JAMES: And nothing else will work!

BEN: But also, when Benjamin Franklin came out of the Constitution Hall in 1787 a woman said, "Sir, what do we have here? A republic or a monarchy? He said, "A Republic if you can keep it." This is what's going on right now. We have the severest challenge today and we need to return to those foundational principles that will take care of these problems. We have the purveyors of hatred and division all out there. You have the media fanning the flames. Do they even -- right, that's what I was going to say. Do they understand that they're the only business protected by our constitution because they are supposed to disseminate information to people that is unbiased so that people can make the correct decisions? And, when you stop and think about it, even if you don't stop and think about it if you know your history, the first thing communists do is control the media.

JAMES: Absolutely!

BEN: They're building their own grave.

JAMES: And destroy the principles established in the constitution. You said it and most people don't get this. We are a democracy only in the sense that the majority can choose leaders. The majority can lead to changes in let's say amendments and so forth, to inspire the consideration of certain policies that they don't control. We are a republic; that means that we are governed by law. And the law that governs us governs the government. So that the government doesn't make slaves of the people. That's what we have.

Our founders gave us a republic just like Benjamin Franklin said, "If you can keep it." The only way you keep it is that the majority doesn't start dismantling it, taking all the foundation stones away, the cornerstones. That's what you're doing, everything you can, with American Cornerstone. That's what you try to show people in this book which is

phenomenal. He exposes the dishonesty and the damage of critical race theory. And you did it so simply but clearly and -- and you didn't do it to be mean. You didn't do it to try to prove somebody wrong. You tried to show that we are really close. Think about it. You pointed this out. We elected a black president twice. Do you know what I found myself saying? Praise God America has reached a place where we could have big crowds rejoicing over a black president. Now here's what I was praying for: God let him be a wise leader.

BEN: Wouldn't that have been nice?

JAMES: That's the issue. He had heard so much stuff in our education system and had listened to people who were not the best to listen to. And you can be as smart as Barack Obama or anybody, but if we listen to something other than the Father's truth, biblical truth, and historically confirmed principles, that when followed benefit the people, when abandoned, catastrophic consequences. You don't have to quote scriptures! History confirms the benefit of the right cornerstone and the right foundation. History confirms it and history confirms the consequences that are indescribably devastating if you forsake those.

Everything you're doing with American Cornerstone, everything you write, everything I hear you say, and you, Candy, you say it, I'm telling you that is the key to restoring our foundation. Ben, we can do it in a matter of years. In the next few years, we could totally turn the ship of state towards safe harbor, but we've got to do it together.

BEN: Well, you're doing a big part of that, helping us get back to the point where we look at the right things again. This is America, the home of the free. This is supposed to be the place that people come to when they want relief. What is happening to us is that we're starting to listen to people who have another philosophy, people who want to fundamentally change us into something else. What does our money say? It says: "In God we trust." What does our pledge of allegiance say? It says: "One nation under God."

JAMES: People want to root that out.

BEN: What does our founding document say? It says that we are created equal and that our privileges come from our creator -- also known as God. And all we have to do is recognize that the reason that we went from a bunch of ragtag militiamen to the pinnacle of the world in record time is because we clung to those principles and values.

And if we throw them away, we will go down and it is going to hurt the entire world because this is the nation that has stabilized the world. Before the United States became a great power, you had all of these despots going around stomping on anybody who was weaker than them, raping, pillaging, what have you. As we become weaker, you're going to see them all rise again.

JAMES: All right. All people don't always take good advice. Ben, we can try to give good advice. That's what you do in this book. I want to send it to every single person that will help us give a cup of water to a thirsty child. I want you to keep doing what you're doing because you're putting the arms of love around people that are overlooked, just like we do all over the world, a third world, you're doing it here. And boy, there is a lot of need right here because we came out of the needy area of poverty, no father.

BEN: There is going to be more need.

JAMES: Absolutely! But there is the answer and AmericanCornerstone.org. I want to ask you to support them. We've given them a check from *LIFE Outreach*; that means it was from you too. But I want you to help him. Betty, we're going to send him a check from us. And we're going to pray about helping him every month, and that means it is a part of our budget.

Ben, our viewers love to notice the unnoticed and the overlooked. Our viewers care about the least of these. And they minister not only to them and their families, but they minister to Jesus because Jesus said, "You do it to the least, you do it to me." Everyone who

watches *Life Today* tells us they like everything we do. But perhaps giving Water for LIFE is the most exciting thing they do.

Well, I want you to listen to somebody you respect. Now, remember, her husband drowned in water years ago. Well, boy does she give the water of life to people all over the world -- Tammy Trent. Listen closely. Please!

On the mission field

Tammy: James and Betty, I've been partnering with you guys for years, and what a privilege it is for me to travel the world with you and to tell the story of so many people. I've gotten to spend some time with Violet today and it is another heartbreaking story. I want you to hear it.

>> My child, he became sick because we used this dirty water. So I took him to a hospital. But because it was very far away from here my child lost a lot of blood. All they could say at the hospital was that he had a lack of blood. In the end he died. His name was Ellis.

Open Captions

>> How old was he?

>> He was three years old.

Tammy: I know it is hard for you to continue to share your story and talk about your loss. But I'm going to take this story and I'm going to be able to share it with people that I believe can help you, and that can bring clean water to you and your family, the rest of your children, and this entire village.

Thank you so much for allowing God to do something with the broken pieces of your life

and believing -- believing and trusting that help is on the way. I believe it is.

End of clip

In the studio

JAMES: Violet -- I asked Betty if I could just talk to her. Sweetheart, I don't know you, but I love you. And I've gone over to 70 countries, and I've gone to virtually every major population, populated country in Africa. I've been trying to get arms around moms like you, so they don't experience what you've experienced. You see, Betty and I lost a daughter. We couldn't have had a more perfect girl. We had her for 40 years and she left three beautiful teenagers. Now she has four little grandbabies that are so beautiful. So we know what it feels like. I just want to say, Violet, we're going to get our arms around mothers like you and we're going to save their children. So what you need to know is you lost a child but you're going to help save thousands of children. I promise you are! Because Violet, we're going to drill a water well in your area. People watching are going to drill. There is probably somebody sitting here saying, I'll drill it. Get me! I'll pay for it. I believe that because that's what Betty and I have said. We've gone in the area, and we said before we walked out, we will drill a well here.

God has blessed a lot of us enough that we can do that. But there is not a single person watching that couldn't give what most people do, \$48. Think about this, it will give ten people water for the rest of their life because, the well we drill, and we maintain them, will last a person's lifetime.

Where do you give a gift where you can give ten people Water for LIFE for \$48? Where do you do that? Right here. \$144, 30 people Water for LIFE. Think about this, \$1200 and three people join you. God, please! I'm giving \$1200, I need three more -- we've got a well. I can give \$2400, and one joins me, I've got another well.

But we have people who tell us the most exciting thing they do every year is drill a well.

We have churches that tell us that! We have churches that make it an emphasis and they'll drill several wells. It's the most exciting thing to watch what happens when people come together. It is what Ben Carson talks about, we're *Created Equal*. We're supposed to be a family of God understanding and appreciating one another just like the members of our body right here. We all need each other to be the hands that work. That's what the church is to be. That's what Americans and Europeans should be, and Canadians should be -- one family putting arms of love around all the pain in the world.

Please! Right now if you want to write a check make it to *LIFE*. Go get the check but call us and tell us you're putting it in the mail. Make it out to *LIFE*, that's what you're giving. I would like to ask you if you would consider getting your bank card and always use them like a check. But get that bank card, go get it! You can hear me. And then go online or dial that number and make the gift God put on your heart.

If you can give a well, do it. Lord, I believe they will. I think there is somebody that can give several. Give them joy doing it, in Jesus' name.

But if you can give only \$48 to ten people, it changes everything! Please right now would you respond? Would you give life? Would you give a cup of water? Jesus said you won't lose your reward. Let him determine what the reward is. To me, the reward is enough to know I blessed somebody. Blessing others is all the reward I need. I don't like to focus on us, I like to focus on others.

Would you do that please? Thank you so much for giving life. Thanks for watching *Life Today* but thanks for sharing *Life Today*. I hope you share it every day in some way. Thank you!

Begin video clip

ANNOUNCER: Across the globe, hundreds of thousands of lives are lost each year to

waterborne disease, and nearly half of those are children under the age of five. Through Mission: Water for LIFE, you can give mothers hope and children a future as we provide clean, life-giving water for thousands of children and their families before it is too late.

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 for ten. \$72 will provide for 15. And \$144 will help provide life-giving water for 30 people for a lifetime!

With your gift of any amount, we'll send you the *God's Daily Promise* devotional set. These four seasonal devotionals each contain a daily scripture, inspirational message, and room to journal your prayers and insights from God's Word.

With your gift of \$100 or more, please request the "Faith, Hope, and Love" coaster set. All four beautiful sandstone coasters come in an elegant natural wood holder and artistically display the words of First Corinthians 13:13.

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 inspiring bronze sculpture, "Let the Children Come."

This is the last week! Please call, write, or make your gift online.

End of video

In the studio

JAMES: Father, I've just been asking him, this is our last week, we need a miracle! I wish we'd have such a great miracle we could call the missionaries and drilling teams and say hey! Drill some more! People want to drill them. Find more areas of need, in Jesus' name.

Would you be the miracle somebody longs for and prays for? Would you be the answer to somebody's prayer? You want your prayers answered, how about being an answer to somebody's prayer? We're going to send you beautiful gifts, incredible daily devotions, and the beautiful coasters: Faith, hope, and love. I love these. Betty, don't you know these are beautiful? And then the bronze, "Let the little children come to Jesus." That's what he said. This is just so powerful! Look at, "Let the children come." This is so beautiful!

Would you right now put your arms around some children? I think you are. We're going to send you these gifts to bless you. And everybody that gives any gift to give a cup of water and you want Ben Carson and Candy's book, it's fabulous, we're going to send it to you to bless you. And then AmericanCornerstone.org. Got it!

Ben, Candy, thank you for blessing us. Thank you for sharing with us this week.

BEN: Thank you for saving lives around the world.

JAMES: That's the viewers.

CANDY: Amen and high fives!

JAMES: Love you! Love you! Thank all of you for loving others so effectively. God bless you.