

James: I'm James Robison. My wife Betty and I welcome you to *LIFE Today*. I'm holding in my hand a book that's been in the bookstores for some time; it is our life journey and it is titled, "Living in Love." I want you to know we're still "Living in Love," even though after we wrote the book and we talked about marriage, we felt like there was more tension coming than really an attack. Listen, God wants to help heal relationships. The enemy is a destroyer of relationships. He is assaulting us. So when you begin to try to help people in relationship with God and one another and especially starting in marriage, to say the enemy focuses the fury of his attack on you is an understatement; he really does! But that's really what we talk about. We talk about our entire journey now approaching nearly 50 years. It is a fierce battle but we've learned -- we've learned some real keys that we share to help you have a meaningful, fulfilling relationship. And we will gladly send you the book. Many people that have read it said, "Oh, I want one for a friend!" Well, if you'll simply help us give someone else a cup of water, we're going to offer to every person who asks, "Living in Love" so you can live in love. You and I talked with Beth Moore and her husband Keith and a lot of you have not met Keith, you've wondered about Beth's husband. Well, the two of them talked to us about marriage. We're going to join part of that discussion and what we wrote in the book "Living in Love." I think you'll be blessed as we join with Beth and Keith Moore.

Begin video clip:

James: I'm praying that America will repent at the invitation of God and a return to sanity, and not because of the holocaust and the hell that we can create in our man thought out processes of problem solving because God is the only solution -- the only way we restore the nation is the transformation of the nation. And the transformation of the nation by transformed people is the only appropriate way to restoration and that starts with fathers and husbands and couples. See, we see a lot of things wrong right now in our nation and in the world but it all comes right back here in this relationship. So why it's a secret, before all hell breaks loose, come into the presence of God.

Beth: You taught us this because when you began to speak to the things of the nation and what could be ahead for us if we do not repent, it so applies to us as couples. You said, "Will we have humility or humiliation?" God just wants us to bend our knee to

him and ask him for help; that in our anguish we are to cry out before the Lord. He's not -- as you said -- he's not just trying to shame us. Listen, for every single one of us who have somehow blown it publicly, every one of us can tell about God coming to us in the private places and going, "Turn right here. This is where I've called upon -- I've not just taken you out there in the marketplace to shame you. I've asked you in the private sanctuaries of our relationship, turn, let me help you and let me heal you right here." Anything that makes it out there because in the secret places we just resisted his voice. So he's not the one bringing the humiliation. He asked for us to have humility before him and that matters so much as a couple. It's pride that breeds quarrels is what the Word of God says.

James: Let me just ask you, Beth. You made note of some things that kind of jumped out at you. Do you want to just touch on any of the others? I don't care if you refer to your notes. I guess I find myself saying, we were asked to help. The only real qualifications we bring, not like some psychologist or some professional counselor, we bring the testimony of a tested life, and transformed lives, and a relationship that is precious beyond words. We so thoroughly enjoy one another and the presence of the Lord and we talk about the imperative of that commitment to him, but also, that commitment to one another. Beth, I was always a little bit disturbed by that very emphatic "God hates divorce" statement and it's so easily interpreted as God hates divorced people. I wondered why do you hate divorce? I pray about this because any time I see -- any time I see people hurting, there is something inside of me wants to make them well. Our little daughter when she broke a doll when she was three and they couldn't fix it. And Betty said, "We'll show it to daddy." She said, "Daddy will fix it! Daddy will fix it! I know Daddy will fix it. We'll show it to him, he'll fix it." I have inside of me, I think that's a father's heart, he wants to fix it. I want everything to be fixed. I want God to make it right. So I've got this longing in my heart but I find myself sometimes saying, "Do you think I can help? Do you think that we've got some help?" We've got the testimony of a transformed life. We've got the testimony of a God that can change everything. When we write a book and we put something in it, I'm asking, is it helping? Is it working? We're helping -- when I look at this "God hates divorce" and I see divorced people I think, don't let them think that. Then sometimes they're treated like people don't like them or they're second rate citizens. I feel as I asked God, he showed me two things, it's a terrible catastrophic event in their life. It is as bad as any car wreck or any cancer that hits their body. It is that bad. It is a catastrophe. We've got to look at them as people who are the victims of a catastrophic event and not who caused it or what caused it. We've got to love them and we've got to want them to be healed wherever they are in their life. He showed me something else. That statement "God hates divorce" and here's what I felt like he said, God hates the things which took place in that relationship that led to the divorce because the courthouse

and the papers mean little, it's what happened in the relationship that God hates, the breakdown of communication, the failure to love and to forgive and to be restored. When that starts -- and I've watched people move into their separate worlds, into the separate rooms and they live at best just hanging in there, living in two totally separate -- God detests that. He doesn't like that with his people. We've never learned what it is to come together. One reason we don't come together as the family of God is because we don't even know how to be together as families and we don't know how to be together as couples. God will show us how. Betty and I are doing our best in our journey, not experts but in hot pursuit of the one who knows. See, we're not just looking for answers or trying to give answers, we're in pursuit of the answer and we want the answer to live in our lives reigning and ruling, his kingdom in us. And as we pursue him, and others pursue him, we'll have relationship. God detests that which breaks this loving relationship, and God can heal it. He detests everything that takes you out of the shadow, out of his presence, and out of the fullness of his peace and his glory, and he is inviting us into it. I believe together, you can come to it. I believe wherever you are, you can be restored and healed. I believe there is a future for you, regardless of how miserably you failed or how deep the ditch is that you found yourself falling into or jumping into. He is the one who will lift you up and set your feet on the solid rock and you can have a future. Do you bear witness? I mean you're the Bible teacher. Am I okay?

[Laughter]

Beth: Let me tell you something, this is the very reason why I think "Living in Love" is not only for married couples, I'm going to tell you, even if you have gone through a divorce, two divorces, three divorces, or perhaps you have never married and can't even imagine ever wanting to, people need to know that relationships like this exist. What you two are sharing in the book, to me, it speaks straight into the life of a couple but it would also speak straight into the life of the individual. It talks about tenacity in relationship and seeing something to a place of mending. What God can do to change lives so we can be rich in relationship, that every crisis doesn't have to lead to a death of some kind. So many people out there that I've met that have grown to love you two on this program see you over and over again, speak of you not only as brother and sister but they look at you as also a father figure and a mother figure. There is a security that comes to us when we read about a couple that has made it, that they've done the hard thing, that they've stuck it out and they've always recommitted to love, not just to a lasting marriage on paper. I want to say that over and over because that's what you guys have defied. There are a lot of people that just -- my parents lived to be married 54 years but they did not retain the kind of closeness, they did not let themselves be restored back to the place to truly live in love. So I want to say that it is

not only the married couple -- yes, it is about a couple's love but it could speak health and healing into every single's life, into someone that's gone through a dramatic loss of a relationship. It has so much to say. There is not a person out there that would not receive from reading this book. Okay, right here.

[Laughter]

Keith: What do you do with three people that talk that much?

[Laughter]

James: Yes, sir!

Beth: Yes, sir!

Keith: I'd like my turn.

James: I see that hand!

Keith: One of the things I like to say, I had a fraternity brother and he went, "Keith, don't let her change you." I was like man, if there was somebody that needed change, it was me. Then especially in your early years in a marriage, there is that who is going to be the boss? And it's like... it's going to be me! And to her, it was going to be her. You just kind of -- it's like two -- well, it's like a cow and a bull running into each other. You just knock each other down and bruise each other and bloody each other. And finally there is crying and all of that, and finally, I personally got to the point where I went -- I can't beat her, she is my dang stand up equal and I don't want to hurt her anymore. You have to get to the point where in those struggles, which are honest struggles, they were real and we were fighting with as much integrity as we knew how but you have to get to the point where you don't want to hurt the other one. And you've got to do that honestly. I think that's what a lot of people -- Beth and I have talked about it before. You can either stand there and fight it out honestly with the one you married first or the second one or the third one; it is the same fight. You're going to take it to the next one, plus the scars from the first one. Anyway, that was my little part.

Beth: That was so good, baby. There is a hill that you've got to get over. There is a hump. If we keep quitting we're just going to do it over and over and over again.

James: Do you ever get the impression God is -- don't forget what you were about to say -- that God is looking down at us and he kind of gets tickled just looking at us? I

really believe he does. I hear him pretty good. You're a Bible teacher too and you're a Baptist Bible teacher, do you think people can hear God or do they just have to read the book?

Beth: Oh, I believe we can hear God, all right!

James: He likes to talk to his kids.

Beth: Oh, he does talk! He will talk to his children.

James: So he just told me what he was doing looking down here. He said, "If that is not the four least likely people you ever saw!" You know what he is saying? He is saying, "If anybody doubts how big I am, just look at the four of them!" He is big! You agree? He is big in us!

Beth: Because we've been so much worse than we feel free to tell you. Isn't that the truth?

James: And we've got as big of problems as anybody watching us on TV all over the world -- he is bigger! He is bigger! Excuse me, Beth! Excuse me, Betty. Go for it!

Beth: Go Betty!

James: Put your hand up like this.

Betty: Is that the way you do it, Keith?

[Laughter]

Keith: I may need a fan.

James: Here you go.

[Laughter]

Betty: I think we're maturing in our relationship when we can get to a point where the whole core of our heart wants to be a compliment to our mate. I feel like James wants that of me. He is my encourager. He is my biggest cheerleader. And he wants God to bring -- he wants God's best to come out of me. I think if we can get to that point -- that

doesn't mean you don't have those other challenges but you work through them together.

Keith: It's a pretty far development stage; don't you think? There is a lot -- that's kind of where you end up when you are way up here. It takes a lot of work in-between where we're at to get up there.

Betty: You've got to be determined that that work is worth it for that relationship.

James: And learn to cheer for each other. Learn to be each other's encourager. We make a real big deal about trying to get that through. She is my encourager. I never preach -- some people say, "You preach so good! You're such a good communicator." "Honey, how am I doing? Did I do okay, sweetheart? No, come on. Don't just try to make me feel good. Tell me the truth. How did I do?" She told me that I was getting preaching -- what's so funny, so typical wife because she'll motion at me when I'm preaching -- get the spit out of the side of your mouth. The other night I'm going to preach at Gateway Church and she says, "James, do you realize -- you know you sweat like crazy, now you cry like a baby..."

[Laughter]

And she said, "Do you realize that you get up there and you take your handkerchief -- ." And she's over here going, you go, hmphh -- and then you go splsbbb and then you go --. She said, "Can't you get a head handkerchief and a mouth handkerchief and a nose handkerchief?"

[Laughter]

But the minute I get through --

Keith: Give him a sponge!

James: And I get in the car and I say, "Now honey, tell me the truth." You know what? She never speaks -- the minute we walk out of here before we get back to the green room she's asking, "Now tell me, how did I do? Did I really do okay? I mean did I really say --." You know what? We encourage one another. You say, but do you ever tell them that -- you know like it's in the book, but she comes in, "How do I look?" And she will say, "Do I look all right?" Let me tell you, the day she looks all right that's when you've got trouble. She does not want to look all right. All right is not a choice! And I tell her... I never tell her, "Those clothes make you look good." Never! I say, "You

make those clothes look good! That looks great!" And do you know what? And if I think something doesn't flatter her, will I tell you?

Betty: You tell me.

James: And I will tell you with respect, even if you don't like it. She will say, "I'll just not ever shop again. I will never go -- I'm through! I'm through! I'm not going --."

[Laughter]

Beth: This is why we love them so much! This really is life with them. We can get so tickled we cannot even sit up. This is the truth!

James: Let me tell you what -- do you have anything you want to throw in because here's what I want us to do as we wrap. I want to talk about the invisible force that is fiercely focused on destroying your relationship. Was there anything else you wanted to bring up before we go there?

Beth: Well, I did think that I just had to make a note about Princess because when he was saying earlier that we're such dog lovers, boy, are they too! We really met our match. I love that when you were talking about -- just finding that sticker in the paw. When they've got their little black dachshund, Princess and how it may seem so painful at the time trying to pull it out but once you get it out then they're free.

James: But see, when she comes in there with her little paw up like that, I go here she is. She is so pitiful.

[Laughter]

And you approach them and she's got a sticker. I don't say, "Stupid dog! You dumb dog! How did you do that? Why did you... Don't you know to stay out of that? How many times have I told you, don't you do that!" Does that look like some of your conversations when the other person has a problem? Stupid!

[Laughter]

I learned that watching Beth and Keith!

[Laughter]

Beth: I'm scared to know which one was which!

[Laughter]

James: We'll let the people figure that one out!

[Laughter]

But what I do is I love –

[Laughter]

Keith: I just want to see if you still respected me.

James: Are you confessing or do you want to say something?

Keith: I wanted to see if you still respected me, that's all.

James: What we do though is we lovingly invite them over to help them get it out and that really is the way the prodigal's father was and we need to be like the father of the prodigal in our hearts.

End of clip

James: You know we've been talking to you about marriage and we appreciate getting to talk to Beth and to Keith. I really do encourage you to get the book "Living in Love." I think it will mean so much to you and to your spouse, even those of you who may have lost a marriage and how you rebuild for the future because we deal with that. What happens when someone has failed in their relationship, how do we deal with the challenges that come to every marriage? We will send you the book if you will simply help us share water. As a matter of fact, you're going to see Beth Moore as she talks about the importance of giving fresh water. We continually share the water of life. Some people need Water for Life. And I'd like for you to listen to Beth. I believe really listen to the heart of God concerning needs that we can meet. Here, watch closely.

On the mission field:

Announcer: More children die on the continent of Africa because of a waterborne illness than any other natural or man-made disaster. The severity of this problem is

why *LIFE Outreach International* has responded with all available resources to try and alleviate the suffering and dying. But the battle to save lives is far from over.

Beth: We still have 400 million people in Africa that do not have access to clean and fresh water. Now I want you to understand what that means as that translates into lives in all the rural villages of mothers and children that are drinking filthy water, preparing whatever food they have with water that we would never even dream of washing our hands in. It is an absolutely critical need and in many, many cases a matter of life and death. Do you realize that of 85% of the children's deaths, under five years of age, 85% of those are from water-borne diseases? This gets to be an exception. This is exactly what we're after as we're drilling wells so that people can know that they are drinking life and not death. It doesn't get any better than this! Join me in being able to give a cup of fresh life to this child. This is Water for Life and this is what we're after!

End of clip

In the studio:

James: You know we face a number of challenges, especially related to children's diseases and really heartbreaking situations where we oftentimes don't seem to be able to find the answer. But when you see, as Beth referenced, children in need and then you see her just simply giving there on the mission field a cup of water and you realize, Betty that that really is the solution, it is not something you wonder about, will it work -- but it absolutely works. We're asking you to help us literally give a cup of water. I think for Jesus to say, "If you give just a cup of water in my name you won't lose your reward," and I've said many times with Betty that it is reward enough to know that I've blessed them. If you think about all that God has in his heart when he's talking about our needs being met and when Paul told the people who were members of the family of God in Philippi, the Philippian church, that because you, and he actually said, you were the only ones that gave time and again to the need in his mission work. And he said, "As a result of this, my God shall supply all of your need according to his riches in glory." So there's the most incredible promise. Betty, we have found, as so many of our viewers have, that when we reach out and give life, it is amazing how God blesses our life; not only the fact that we bless them but it is as though Jesus says your reward, it is as though God is looking in and meeting our needs. Many people have needs. I find when I meet a need, it is amazing how my needs are met.

Betty: Absolutely! And Beth said it just right, there is nothing any better than this when you know that you're putting a cup of fresh clean water in their hands, the opportunity to have that purified water compared to what they've been drinking and had to -- I can't even imagine the taste that it must put in their mouth with that contaminated water, James, but to know that we can be a part -- have the opportunity to give them fresh clean water.

James: Let me tell you exactly what our goals are. If I could just say to you directly that we have a goal and we find these places because the missionaries bring them to our attention so the love of God is already in place and the missionaries say, "Would you do this in our area? Would you help drill a well?" We're committed to drill with your help and it is the only way we can do it. We can only release the river when we receive. We release what we receive. That's the only way we can do it. So we're asking you to help us drill 415 wells in 15 nations. These are in critically needy areas where the love of God is already in place and now we demonstrate it to save lives, and win millions of people to Christ. Here's what I'm going to ask you to do. If you can help us drill a well and I began praying before we came on the air, God, touch 100 people's hearts and enable them to give a well, that's \$4800. Could you do that? I've asked God today to touch that many people's hearts. Would you be one of them? Would you say, "I can drill a well." Would you go to the phone and dial that number and say, "I'm writing a check" or "I'm put it on my card like a check"? If you could give part of a well, \$2400 or \$1200 and pray for another person or for three other people to join you, we'd have the well. But keep this in mind, \$48 -- ten people water for the rest lives. \$144 -- 30 people water the rest of their life. We want to send you, for any gift that you make, we want to send you the book "Living in Love." We also have Beth Moore's book "Praying God's Word." What a blessing it will be! We have the beautiful journal like our daughter Robin gave me after she had won the battle against cancer and said, "Dad, God led me to give you this journal." I can't tell you what a blessing this has been to me as I write down what God says to me. And then "The Father's Heart" bronze, for those of who you will help us literally drill a well. You drill the well, or pray for another person or three others to join you. We want to bless you and we thank you for making that call and making that great gift of life. Please do all you can today.

Begin video clip:

Announcer: Water, without it life as you know it cannot exist. But for millions of children and families, their own available water is filled with disease and once ingested can lead to death. But one new water well can turn the most barren desert into an oasis of life! With your donation today Mission: Water For Life can drill 415 water wells this year in 15 nations! Your gift of \$24 will help provide clean water for five people. A gift of \$48 will help provide for ten people. \$72 will provide for 15

people. And \$144 will help provide fresh clean uncontaminated water for 30 people for a lifetime. With your gift of any size we'll send you "Living in Love," James and Betty's new book that shares keys to an exciting and fulfilling marriage. You'll also receive Beth Moore's bestselling book, "Praying God's Word." With your gift of \$100 or more, you may also request this beautiful leather journal to record and reflect on your own personal times with God. And finally, with your gift of \$1200 to help provide water for 250 people or a gift of \$4800 to help sponsor a complete well, be sure to request "Heart of the Father," our beautiful new bronze sculpture representing God's fatherly love for us as his children. Please call, write, or make your gift online today!

End of clip

In the studio:

James: Betty and I thank you so much for your help! And you know Betty, sometimes people get a busy when they call and that's really -- it ought to make your heart leap. That means somebody else is already called ahead of you and others calling but hey, listen, please understand how important it is. And \$48 -- ten people the rest of their life. We're sending Beth Moore's book, "Praying God's Word," our book on marriage, "Living in Love" for any gift as you help share life and share fresh, clean water. Thank you for making the gift God put on your heart. Thank you so much!

Beth: We could be close, and partner in the fact that we have an enemy in common.

Announcer: Tomorrow, Beth and Keith share how they overcome struggles in their marriage.