

Week 19

5/5/11

James: Thank all of you. This is a real special occasion. I'm James Robison. I welcome you to *LIFE Today*. I've got a very good friend and I want to say a prayer partner. Someone that has -- I guess impressed me as much with just calling out of the -- seemingly, just out of the blue to say, "James, I would like you to pray with me. I want to pray for our country, for our president, for our leaders." We've prayed together and we've prayed for you. Governor Rick Perry is our guest today and would you welcome Governor Perry? I'm glad to see you.

Governor Perry: Glad to here, brother.

James: I just ran up here to see you. Betty wasn't able to get here to this little quick exchange while you're on your journey but I want to go ahead and say I like your book.

Governor Perry: Give her my love.

James: I like your book, *Fed Up: Our fight to save America from Washington*. I really agree with that. Let me pick up on something.

Governor Perry: If I'd had you helping me I would have had a different title. I would have called it "Fed Up but Looking Up." That was very appropriate because it truly is.

James: You called me on your cell phone, you didn't know if you'd have cell service. You said, "I'm kind of amazed, I'm out here on a creek." And I happen to know where that creek is in Austin. But you said, "I'm out here way -- I don't think many people come at all and I'm by myself." And you just called and said, "I just wanted to ask you to pray for our country and just join me." We had a wonderful prayer meeting. I was impressed that you weren't campaigning; you weren't trying to get a vote. You really wanted God to give counsel to our leaders and our nation, and I know you're still seeking that. I actually communicated with you after your inaugural prayer breakfast and I told you that I thought you gave one of the most Christ-honoring, God-centered speeches I've ever heard and it just came out of your heart. Our viewers, they're not the least bit interested in getting in an argument about partisanship. I've try to get them lay down their sectarian divide and all their denominational prejudices just to let God be God and love each other like a family. I'm telling you that our viewers, they

want to know how to pray. What would you say if you just looked out at our Christian audience and they were sitting around here, which they are in their homes wherever, how do we pray for our country right now?

Governor Perry: I tell people, I say listen, God knows what your needs are. You may not name every name or may not even name every name right but he knows what the burdens are. I just pray for God to lift up those who are in need, who are hurting. I obviously ask for his angels to come and keep my family safe and those that are special to me. I pray for our president every day. I pray for his wisdom. I think it is so important for our country and the world to pray for this president, and whoever that individual is going to be, who will be the next president -- for that matter the next Governor. Romans 13 tells us that we're supposed to lift up all of those in authority and ask for their wisdom. I couldn't do what I do without people who lift me up in prayer every day -- starting with my good faithful Christian momma.

James: You know I have said to our viewers and I've written quite a lot about it that our big mistake today is looking to government as though it is God, as though it is all provident, that it is the one that is going to take care of us. And it is actually a little bit reminiscent of what happened to Israel when they found themselves literally sold into bondage to Pharaoh because they were facing some challenges. It looks to me like when we get in trouble, government just gets bigger. And it never really solves the problem because you can't separate us from the compassion connection, the hands on involvement and we really are looking to the wrong source.

Governor Perry: James, our founding fathers recognized that. They knew that government, because they had seen it firsthand with that very far away, authoritarian type of government that was coming out of England in the mid 1700s. And as they wrote that constitution they very clearly understood that government -- as a matter of fact, they wanted their federal government to be rather limited and for the states to have the real authority and the real power because that was the people. As I see what is going on in the world today I'm amazed at their vision, how prescient they were about human kind and our failings as human beings that when you are given power that it takes a really special person not to abuse it. Keeping that authority pushed back to the states, which were closer to the people, was the model that our founding fathers had for our country and my, they were so right.

James: I'm going to read out of your book a couple of things here. The founders understood controlled government. We have allowed government to control us instead of controlling the government ourselves. The American people, you say, are disturbed about that. Here's a very important statement. I want you to pick up on it

after I read what you said here in the book. For too long the silent majority has sat idly by allowing the political establishments to wage an assault not just on the constitution and the fundamental American principle of limited government but on the very idea that it is a government closest to the people that best guarantees the blessings of liberty. They are actually assaulting that idea and no one can manage our affairs as well as the ones closest to them, and no one can demand and require accountability and know that things are being done right and we're far from that. First there are those who believe in the primacy of the government over the individual referred to so often as progressives or statist. I don't care what descriptor you use, whether you're a democrat or a republican, whether they're well-intentioned or ill-, whether they deny it or not, they simply do not believe in those things that have made our nation the greatest in the history of the world. They don't believe what you say you believe, the statist believe in a powerful activist central government that advances a radical secular agenda in the name of compassion. They call these real social justice issues and they are actual social injustices because when you attack those who create opportunity and jobs and even wealth, the only way you can deal with poverty is to have some potential to deal with it and that means the creativity of opportunity and possibilities in the future. They hide behind the misguided notions of empathy and push token talking points about fighting for the little guy all the while empowering the federal government to coercively and blatantly undermine state, local, and self governments. Now, that's pretty strong statements. I agree with you.

Governor Perry: It is. I find nothing in there that is not spot on. From the standpoint I would challenge anyone to find that different. Government continues to tell you, "We'll take care of all your needs; you just allow us to control your life. By the way, we're going to take a good bit of what you earn and bring it into office and decide best how to distribute that back." Or in too many cases keep people in poverty. Keep people in programs where the only way that they see food on the table tomorrow is that government will take care of them. And now we're into the third and fourth generation of a people who have lost their drive to -- that don't understand the principles of free market concepts. That's what I fear is that we're approaching this time -- and free market capitalism is so invigorating. It is such a beautiful thing for people to take care of themselves, to take care of their family, to know that piece of property belongs to me -- the power of private property. That's the reason I get so passionate about our founding fathers, their vision. I won't use the word "defensive" but I'm just as passionate against those who want to go tell the story that hey listen, we can take better care of you than you can take care of yourself. Now should government be there to defend us against foreign powers that would come in and do harm to our citizens? Absolutely! Are they there to do treaties and to have all the things that you want your government to do? But our government over the course of the last 100 years

in particular -- as a matter of fact, as I write in the book, to me the real journey away from our founding fathers' vision started when they passed the 16th amendment that allowed for the income tax to be collected in Washington to really get their hands onto the huge amounts of wealth that is created in this free market society that we created. We just need to get back to some very simple principles that government doesn't have all the answers, that government needs to be limited. You know the 10th amendment says that the power is not delegated to the United States by the constitution or prohibited by -- or given to the states, those powers are delegated to the states or to the people. It's really pretty simple. I believe in the Federalist 45, Madison talks about the powers in the constitution are very limited and few, but the powers given to the states are unlimited and many. So hopefully, Americans are standing up and saying, "Listen, we can't afford that much government. We just can't afford that much intrusion into your lives. Let's push back -- let's have a little trim down government."

James: We're creating a class warfare that says hate the people that produce opportunity. If people sitting at home think we're going to get government to provide opportunity while they literally emasculate and destroy the possibilities of the entrepreneur and the capitalist, which that has now become a bad word -- sad -- and socialist has become the great word, and government the answer, all of this is very disturbing to me. So when I read about our Governor being concerned about an out-of-control Washington and people that are being literally continually fed the propaganda that the enemy are the producers, or the people that have wealth. They may misuse it. Do you know what I say to our viewers? Don't blame the fertile field of opportunity for any abuse by any farmer. You see, the farmer may need to have some changes and adjustment in his attitude and compassion and be delivered from greed, that's the message of the church -- that's what we ought to preach. The government can't heal that. They can't replace it. And they're diminishing opportunities. Am I on track with where you're coming from?

Governor Perry: You're spot on, brother! You're spot on, Brother James.

James: When people start praying they need to pray for us to return to sensibility and to our senses so we can get back to the sound foundation that our founders, really under God's direction in a Judeo-Christian ethic and biblical principles, they gave us a solid footing. And I see us moving over to where we're trying to walk on quicksand. It is horrible! I've talked about New Orleans and what a tragedy they had. They violated several principles. Jesus said, "Build on a rock." Well, they built on sand below sea level. Now they violated a couple of principles and the real problem was when the dike came down and the storm did its ultimate damage. I have pointed out to our viewers that real wall of protection are the praying people, the church, the people of

faith who will keep pointing to God instead of to some other source, and then free people to do the things free people can do.

Governor Perry: There is so much wisdom --

James: Excuse me for preaching.

[Laughter]

Governor Perry: No, no, I've been listening to you for years, Brother James.

James: You don't even have to add water, I'll just preach.

[Laughter]

Governor Perry: I'm reading a little book, John Quincy Adams wrote some letters to his son about reading the Bible and about the wisdom that's in the Bible. My friend George W. Bush, he read his Bible every day to find those pieces of wisdom to guide. Again, I think we're in a time of great revival in this world.

James: I think it is an awakening.

Governor Perry: I know there is a lot of concern. We've got this economic recession that's going on. You've got all of these -- the Middle East is in turmoil. You turn TV on and you really get concerned about what you're seeing. I happen to think that our greatest days are ahead of us. I think in America, from time to time we have to go through some difficult times and I think we're going through those difficult economic times for a purpose, to bring us back to those biblical principles of -- don't spend all the money. You work hard for those six years and you put up that seventh year in the warehouse to take you through the hard times; not spending all of our money, not asking for Pharaoh to give everything to everybody and to take care of folks because at the end of the day, it is slavery and we become slaves to government.

James: I'm praying that the pressure drives us to God, not the government. We have a local school district, the Hurst/Euless/Bedford, H.E.B., I know they'd be glad for me to mention that Trinity has been really a football power for quite a while. H.E.B. we're located in the Euless area, Hurst/Euless/Bedford. Our school superintendent and his name is a little bit difficult to -- it is Buinger. Dr. Gene Buinger and the teachers saw the challenging times. They began to cut costs. He keeps his office in the dark. They turn the lights off every time they go out of a room. They drilled their own well to

water the athletic facilities and they ask everybody who used refrigeration and things at the schools for their meals and stuff to pay for the electricity. Well, when we've had to cut back and we've had budget challenges they're all right because they thought ahead. And they're in the top three in the highest salary but they're prepared. To me this is what I see pressure driving us to make sound decisions and we've got a school district here and a superintendent and teachers that did what I believe America needs to do when we face challenges. I want what we feel to drive us to our knees and to help us look up to God and turn people loose in freedom to be the productive citizens that they can be. I sense that's what you're talking about.

Governor Perry: Freedom and liberty is what makes America the great country that it is. Every time, through whatever way that a freedom is taken away, whether it is by their money that is taken away in the form of taxation or another regulation that takes a freedom or whether it is a frivolous lawsuit that again -- or for that matter a failing school where a young person doesn't get to meet their full potential because the school's failed for whatever reason that might be -- that's the warning call for us, is that anything that takes freedom away, we need to be very cautious about. And to clearly -- and I tell people, listen, we're not perfect in Austin, Texas. I rail against Washington, D.C. and their unfunded mandates or coming in here and trying to tell us how to run our clean air permitting process or how to educate our children or this last huge program, the health care bill, how to deliver health care. For the life of me I can't find that in the constitution. I don't think that is a federal responsibility. It should belong to the states. But at the same time, the state of Texas can't do that to the local school boards and to the local cities and to the local counties, even though it may be a really good sounding idea, Brother James, if we come in and say, "Oh, we want you to do X., y'all pay for it."

James: They've got to make their own decisions.

Governor Perry: You've got to allow the people at the local level, I mean -- I talked about this in the book, *Fed Up*. The government that is closest to the people -- that is the government that governs best.

James: Let me just say that we're going to be praying for you and for our great state. Would you like to say thanks to Governor Perry for being here with us? People all over the world, people down under are praying, people in the east, people all over America, up in Canada are praying for us. We are right now because of the love of God, and our viewers, we're feeding 500,000 little children that in so many instances won't even live if we don't help them. I want you to listen -- and Governor, you'll appreciate this. Listen to a missionary talking about his little son and a little child and

what's happening on his continent that he loves. I believe you're going to hear the heart of God. Just listen closely.

On the mission field:

[Child crying]

Isak: My dream is that I can travel around my continent, the continent of Africa and not see children die anymore.

[Child Crying]

Isak: These children are reaching out to us. They're counting on us. They're relying on us. My little boy, he reaches out and grabs my face the same way. He looks at me with different eyes though because he -- when he grabs my face there is a look of life in his eyes. There is an expectation and anticipation of what life is going to be, of everything that he can be. You see it, you sense it, you feel it. When Augusta reaches out to me, what I see is a hand that says please, just do something. I'm asking you to give Augusta the opportunity that my little Peter has, at 11 months old, to be a child that is not suffering the battle of life and death simply because of being born in the wrong place at the wrong time. Please, you can do it. I know you can and I'm asking you from the bottom of my heart. Help us save this life and help us save the tens of thousands of lives that Augusta represents because life begins here, life begins with mission feeding.

End of clip

In the studio:

James: I know, Isak, you're overseeing with your dad, Peter Pretorius, the work there. And I well remember when you came right here to the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex and I looked out at you as a young man, a rugby player, likely to be a professional athlete in your home country of South Africa, and I said, "You are a very special young man that you can deliver God's message and God's love." And boy, have you ever! Because you left everything to love the people on your continent in Africa, and you love your little boy and your daughter, and your family. You want to stop burying the children on your continent. Isak, thank you! The viewers of *LIFE Today* in Australia and the United Kingdom, Canada and the U.S., and everywhere they're watching, I believe they're going to be putting their hand up toward God and saying, "I want to be an answer to that heart cry. I want to rescue those children." I saw that little fella reach out and take your finger. God wants him to take his hand. We are his hands. We're his

body! I don't think they see him high and lifted up like they should but they can and we lift him up by expressing his love. We release the river of his love and life and life springs up. I'm asking you to reach out and touch someone with love by dialing a number that you could always call if you want somebody to pray with you. Many have already called today to say, "I've touched Jesus today. I'm getting the help." Many of you have said, "I'm giving my life to Christ today." But I'm asking you to reach out and touch someone with love and say, I want to make a gift. Did you know that with \$100 we can feed ten children for the next several months? Did you know with \$50 we can feed five, with \$30, we can feed three? I don't think there is a person watching that couldn't say, Hey, I'll take three... or five. And I want you to know I'm always going to ask you, if you can, put arms around ten children or more. If you've been blessed of God where you could help several hundred children, do it. Betty and I try to do that. We asked God to let us do that. And as we sought to bless others -- and we're so blessed. We take such joy in blessing others and inspiring people to bless others. Would you do that? Would you move right now to the phone? Would you take your bankcard and use it like a check, please do it. If you want to go online, LifeToday.org, you can make that special gift right now, if you write a check make it to *LIFE* but call us and tell us you're mailing it. Please do it! We want to send you an incredible teaching series, God's Kingdom in You: living in his presence in the present. Seeing the power of God here now, not just waiting to go there to be with him. When he comes in glory it is wonderful. Let his glory come on us now and release his love. Would you do that? We want to send you a series that will mightily bless you. Please make that call. If you get a busy, you be persistent and determined and you say, I'm going to get through to be an answer to someone's prayer and an answer to someone's need. You can be. Thank you for it!

Begin video clip:

Announcer: At this very moment a child is drawing her last breath struggling to stay alive due to a lack of food. Sadly, this impoverished child is not alone and without our help, many like her throughout Africa face death as well. Today you can make a difference. You can save a life! *LIFE's* mission feeding teams are in place right now ready to answer the hunger cries of half a million children throughout remote areas of Angola, Mozambique, and Sudan. With previous food reserves gone and Southern Africa facing its worst conditions and food shortage in more than two decades, we desperately need to replenish our supplies for the feeding programs immediately! Your lifesaving gift of \$30, \$50, or \$100 will help feed and care for three, five, or ten children for three full months. With your gift we'll send you the God's Kingdom in You audio series and companion scripture guide. James and Betty Robison, along with

Beth Moore, inspire you to live every day in the power and presence of God. With your gift of \$125 or more to help feed ten children you may request both the video DVD and audio series with scripture guide. As a bonus we will also send you Jim Hylton's new book, the supernatural skyline. Finally, please prayerfully consider a gift of \$1,000 or more to help save the lives of 100 children and be sure to request the beautiful new "Heart of the Father" bronze sculpture. Please call, write, or make your secure gift online.

End of clip

In the studio:

James: I really am anxious to send you the incredible teaching material, God's Kingdom in You. It is his power, the weight of his presence making an impact on everything on planet earth. We want to be a blessing to you. I want to thank you so much for your help. I do want to remind you, Governor Rick Perry's book, Fed Up: Our fight to save America from Washington. And that is from excessive out-of-control big government; it needs to be brought under control and we really need to pray for our leaders. Pray for Governor Perry. Join me in just saying thanks so much to you, Governor. Our prayers are with you. God protect you and your family. Thank you so much for watching and sharing *LIFE Today*!

>> God said, "No, I didn't call you to Los Angeles to be relevant, I called you to be revolutionary."

Announcer: Finding the one great thing you were made to do in this world -- next week!