

Week 20

5/12/11

James: Welcome! Sometimes I feel like I want to literally jump up and down. I'm James Robison. This is Betty. I want to just jump up and down because I'm so excited about what God is revealing to us as we pray for you, about his kingdom, his purpose, through his presence on us to impact and make a godly imprint on planet earth. This is the will of God. Somehow Betty, we've just met in churches and not let the power of the church overpower the gates of hell and destruction. We get the footprints of the world all over people, all over church people rather than the impact of God's glory and his presence. Beth Moore joined with Betty and with me to teach God's Kingdom in You. I love the subheading. This is something the Lord gave me as I prayed about an understanding of kingdom perspective. It is: Living in his presence in the present. It is not deferred to the future. It is not deferred future reward. There is that kingdom of heaven but what about "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth in us through us now," and Jesus teaching us to pray that way? And he likes to answer our prayers -- what does that look like? Well, we're going to join a portion of this teaching, which you can get on DVD, CD, and also get a study guide. We want you to get it. We join that session right now.

Begin video clip:

Beth: I've got something I'm about to burst to share with you guys. It is the first time I've ever seen this. Some of the things we've talked about we've been in ministry a long time, and a long time together so some of these things were truths that God had already shown us but something jumped out at me this time in preparation that I can hardly stand to hold back any longer. It is out of Luke. I want to read Luke 9:1-2 to you and then I want to read Luke 10, verse eight. So Luke 9. Watch a concept take place here. Luke 9:1-2. I always get scared that I've written down the wrong address and that I'm going to get to the reference and it won't be there. So I'm forever telling God to move it there temporarily and he can move it back later.

[Laughter]

But right now it is still where it is supposed to be. So I'm really happy about that. Luke 9, verses 1 and two. When Jesus -- everybody just say Jesus!

>> Jesus!

Beth: Listen, there is power in the name of Jesus. Just say it out loud. Now look at 10, verse 8. Luke 10, verse 8. I can hardly stand this. I'm almost having to get up!

James: You can! Get up and take off.

Beth: I'm not going to do it, but I want to.

[Laughter]

8 "When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you. 9 Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.'

Do you see the coupling here? Preach the Kingdom of God and heal the sick -- preach the Kingdom of God and heal the sick. Here's what I think because we know that by the time Christ went to the cross and he was resurrected from the grave every person in the world had not been healed but many had been healed. He came to bring a deposit of what the Kingdom of God is ultimately going to look like. I can barely stand this. That when he would preach the kingdom, they would heal the sick where they were preaching it. As if to say, "You want a glimpse of the kingdom? Watch this." Here's what I want to say to you:

There is complete wholeness when we see him face-to-face and his kingdom comes. When we keep praying, thy kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. When that fullness of the kingdom comes and it is apparent and obvious in all its bright array and glory, in front of every single eye and every tongue confesses that he is Lord and that he king, we will know complete healing and wholeness. But with the kingdom mentality comes considerable healing and wholeness. I love it because he gave them a taste. You see when the kingdom really is set up upon this earth and he reigns here upon his throne there will be no more sickness -- there will be no more brokenness.

James: No assault of the enemy.

Beth: No! No! We will be healed. We will be whole. So what it began to show me is that in this kingdom mentality and in this message, in this kingdom kind of thinking there is so much wholeness and so much healing to be had. I mentioned to you earlier Matthew 13. I want you to go back there for just a moment because it speaks such riches to me. I want you to see something Christ says. It is right under the portion where it talks about the secrets of the kingdom, that they're given to those that want to receive them and to the ones who have much more will be given. In other words, as

much as you want to receive of the kingdom you can. I'll teach you, I'll reveal it to you through my word. But if you don't want to hear it and you don't receive it you're going to lose what you already had. So there's that continuous yearning for God to teach us. But listen to this part. It says in verses 13-15.

13 This is why I speak to them in parables: "Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand. **14** In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: " 'You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. **15** For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.'

That word understanding in the original Greek language is a word that means if we were to give a picture image to it it's putting puzzle pieces together. And it speaks such truth to me because throughout the course of God giving us, bringing us a soft and tender heart toward him instead of the calloused hard heart, when we're really willing to see God cause me to see meaning in what I'm going through, cause me to see where you're working, cause me to see something of the kingdom in this pain I'm going through. When we really want to have eyes that don't just see but they perceive, and we want to have ears that just don't hear they truly listen. Then he says, "If you'll give your heart to me, I'll bring you a measure of understanding where a couple of puzzle pieces start coming together." You know, Betty, we won't get all of them until we see him face-to-face but a couple of them can come together and change everything for us. And when I see God has had meaning that this piece and what he's called me to do really does, come to think of it, go with this piece, go with this piece, go with this piece. When you wonder when you have a background like mine of abuse, of course, God is not the author of any kind of abuse or bondage or sin, but he did allow it. And why did he allow it in my particular life? Because of what I was called to do and what you may be called to do. Every bit of what has come behind us in our brokenness has use in the kingdom. When we begin to see that he can use it to bring ministry to people and to bring compassion and humility to us as we serve people it starts bringing a couple puzzle pieces together and then there is healing -- then there's healing.

James: It is so important that you understand this healing that he's referring to is wholeness. It goes so far beyond the physical. It is very interesting that Jesus did these incredible miracles and healed people whether they were lepers or blind or crippled. But in nearly every instance and probably more occasions than not he would say, "Don't tell anybody." You may say, "Why would Jesus tell these people not to tell everybody?" The same reason as when he fed the 5,000 that people immediately looked to God without a total understanding of the wholeness and the meat to eat the world knows not of, the living bread. And he knows people think that Jesus is just

an automatic fast-food service. So if we can get to Jesus he is going to give us all the food. In the same way when we get to Jesus my crooked arm will get straight but not necessarily my crooked life. See, they don't understand. Many times you're looking, not a thing wrong with saying, "God, heal the sick, heal me." But I know a lot of people who have a healthy body but a sick soul because they've never been made whole. So when you're looking for this kingdom power and you're looking for the kind of healing Jesus is talking about, that doesn't mean for a moment, Beth we shouldn't ask God to heal our diseases and our afflictions. But on this planet, disease will still be stalking. That's the difference in the ultimate kingdom, that is the future kingdom where the enemy is no more, where all the former things are passed away. But in this kingdom, we've got to understand, don't hesitate to ask God for miraculous healing. Don't fail to pray and say, "Pray for me." Pray what's really right. The largest number of calls coming into our phone center are always about, 60-70% of them every day is dealing with physical illness. So it is not an insignificant thing. Somebody has either got a family member that they love or someone they love that they're close to that are fighting a physical ailment. So it is right to ask and God does do miracles. But don't -- don't -- don't settle for the physical or what you see readily and miss what you don't see readily, and that is the impact of the kingdom and receiving what God gives. You know when you were talking about the servant and you were saying to us a while ago about how we found joy in that. Really, in essence, we have joy serving you in the sense that we want to share what God's given you with others. That means we're serving you in the proper sense of the word. At the same time you're serving us. You're saying, "James, I'm trying to help people that you love and that God connected you with and maybe I give you and Betty a day that you're not under that responsibility, which lets you be in the presence of the Lord." So in this sense we're serving one another. Now here's the thing you've got to understand about servanthood. You don't serve someone to get something. When you serve God and serve others you can't help but get what God has for you. You don't stop the blessings of God when you wish the blessings and bestow the blessings on others. That's why when I give to the hungry, or I give money to drill a water well or I give to do something in any mission outreach or to support my church, I'm not giving to get, I'm giving to bless. And when you live to bless, you can't escape the blessing of God in your life because he is looking for the people, the persons, the vessel through which he can flow his blessing on everyone. We live -- that really is the correct servant heart. And also, when you give, Jesus said it is more blessed to give than receive. See, when I give... if I meet a need or seek to meet a need or I give in love for the glory of God and for his purpose, the moment I have done that, I have experienced a greater blessing than receiving what may come my way. Betty and I, in our nearly 50 year journey or 50 years of being in love and 48 years married, we've never given a gift because we thought we were going to get some reward back. We never have! You say, "But God

says that he'll bless you and he'll just pour all this out." But see he doesn't just talk about material gain or money. He says, "I'll give you the ability to forgive. I'll give you the ability to love your enemies. I'll give you the ability to lend and help people without ever thinking about it being repaid. I'm going to let you live in this liberty." This is the blessing pressed down and running over. It is the river of the life of God. And when you begin to let it flow freely, I'm telling you, it is amazing. And you will never -- and you must never measure what is coming back monetarily. If the enemy thinks that he can short circuit you in your relationship with God by hammering you somewhere materially or monetarily, get ready for the hammer to come in that area for most of your life. And if you think getting a bunch of stuff is really the absolute evidence of the presence and blessing of God, you've been deceived by the enemy. Because the things that come -- this is one of the most powerful moments of my life, Beth, when years ago, I saw a lot of people who had lost everything and maybe even lost a child or lost a loved one and they just loved God so much. I realized that my love for God had waned. It was as though I'd actually left first love. He wasn't first. Ministry was first and things were first. So I said to the Lord, I said, "God, why don't you just take everything away from me?" And boy, it was just like he spoke it, "So you love me more than nothing?" Oh! Then he said to me, "I'm going to give you everything and see if you'll love me more than everything." You know what I've had -- it's been an interesting journey because I so... in the purest sense of the word want to help others. I want to bless them and assist them, and be a friend, assist them on what's on their heart. And I've watched God bless people, even in business. They wanted to bless me and it is almost like I became a partner when I wasn't asking for a partnership or a relationship; the relationship I wanted was I want to bless you. I want to help you help others. And lo and behold, it afforded Betty and me things we never thought we could have, but those things don't have us. None of them! None of them! It is not like, "Well, why don't you lay them all down and give them all up?" I already did. I never took them in the first place. I was never after them. I was after him. And he said, "I'm going to let you enjoy some things of this earth, enjoy them richly in your spirit." Not riches but richly with life. You know what? He's still first. He's still first. Could you be trusted with blessings that you can see even in the monetary or material realm and him be first? I'm telling you, those blessings of this world that we see, those things of this world, they really do grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace. The problem is that in the light of those things he grows dim and we don't see clearly. Do you get my drift here with what I'm saying?

Beth: I get it. I get it.

James: Because you've been blessed. You've been blessed. Many people have been blessed but if those things become an unhealthy distraction or an unhealthy attraction

he becomes dim in our vision but he doesn't have to. That's the thing I want you to understand. If you pursue him he says he will give you the desires of your heart because he has shaped the appropriate desires into your heart. Does that make sense? See, you don't need to lose your dreams if you let him be your dream, be your pursuit, and you lay your dreams at his feet. He loves to bless you and even fulfill those appropriate dreams. But ask him to meet your needs and accomplish his purpose not just give you your desires. Say, "God shape the desires of my heart." When he is the desire of your heart and you want something for some reason, it will be in the ultimate for the blessing of others and the glory of God. Does all of that make sense?

Beth: So good! So good! My grandson Jackson at four years old said something that we have quoted him about so many times. He'd heard, he has godly, godly parents and has heard his daddy preach a number of times and has heard about the concept of asking Jesus into your heart. That must have just turned over and over in his mind because he is just a little guy and he is still in his little human nature completely because he is just -- we grow up, we have to grow out of our selfishness; it is in us from the start. But he said, "Daddy, I just want to ask my own self into my own heart."

[Laughter]

Why do we have to ask someone else into our heart? Why can't I just ask myself into my heart? But that's us in our human nature, like I want to be full of my own self. I want to be big on ego. But one of the things that God did to bless us most is say, "You know what? Die to that ego so that I can raise you in my spirit." And it is one of the most challenging things we have in kingdom living is understanding that it is in the crucified flesh and the risen-ness of his spirit in us that we have the victory and that we have the fullness. That's where things don't have any kind of clutching grip on us. That's where we find ourselves completely free.

Betty: Don't you think that the goal toward obtaining that fullness that only Christ can give us is through asking him for his understanding and his wisdom so that when the blessings come we're able to know how to respond and be a blessing? You know through his blessing, and to be a blessing and not to miss out. Sometimes I think we tend to miss out on blessing others because we aren't getting that wisdom and understanding because we haven't opened the door for him. The sensitivity, that has to come from God to see someone that's in need, to care that someone's hurting, to care that someone needs Jesus. If we don't have that -- God building that sensitivity into us, through his word and his wisdom, we're really missing out on the blessings of God.

End of clip

James: Boy! Betty, Beth and I have said many times that we sort of pour our heart out and then you'll just open up. And so many times you capsule a lot of what is in our heart that we're trying to express, and you express it so beautifully. Betty shares throughout this series. It was so wonderful. Beth and I, obviously, we just sort of come with an overflow. Beth made a statement during the teaching session that is listening to me now is like trying to lasso the wind. Somebody else said it is like trying to get a drink of water out of a fire hydrant -- I mean the flow is coming and that's where Beth and I sort of live, in that release. And Betty is such a beautiful quiet spirit and God's glory is all over you. I want you to get the insights we share. I want you to understand kingdom reality now, really living in his presence in the present. This is every truth that you've ever seen about the Christian life from a perspective of understanding it in the sense of spiritual gravity; it is really the purpose of God when you become aware like you are the atmosphere and when you realize that your attitude creates an atmosphere that can actually create a climate, and a climate then creates a culture and the culture grows, we need to grow what the kingdom produces. And kingdom life releases a river of *LIFE* and a river of love. Here's a place where right now -- you talk about getting joy unspeakable -- you release the love of God where the need is so obvious and where the results so incredible. I want you to watch this. You are the difference maker.

On the mission field:

Isak: You can hear right now the dull cry, the dull moan of children who are dying. Just a dull moan that comes from a child that doesn't have enough energy to cry; in fact, he doesn't even have enough energy to live any longer. It's the sound that we've come to know as the sound of death. These children are calling you and I'm going to call on their behalf, and I'm going to make their cry a cry of a call of action that says please, open your hearts and act. Do whatever you can do because children are not supposed to die. Children are not supposed to find themselves battling life and death each and every day -- that's not what God intended and that's not what is right or what is fair. You can change it. If you would hear this call today and you would allow it to be a call to action that says, "I'm going to take an action that is going to save lives today. I'm going to give them that basic human need that they have, just a bowl of food a day! And through giving that bowl of food, I'm going to save their lives, and I'm going to end this cry. I'm going to end this cry of death and I'm going to turn it into a song, a celebration, a joy of life."

End of clip

James: I just thank God that when I saw the need and held the children, and when I walked by the mound after mound where hundreds and even thousands of little graves, most of them about like this, maybe some a little larger, that held little children's bodies, I'm glad I didn't turn away and walk away. I'm glad, Betty that I saw those children, surely as Jesus saw the one sheep, when 99 were safe and secure and he was out there. I'm so grateful that when Betty and I came back with a broken heart and shared it with our viewers like you that everyone didn't just change the channel and turn away. But people like you -- just like you -- and maybe you are one that has done it for years, you reached out and you touched someone with the love of God. And you said, "I care enough to share" and you wrote a check or you called the number and used a bankcard, the most appropriate way you'll ever use it, to give life. So I'm asking you as we do twice a year from feeding programs, I'm asking you as we do twice a year from feeding programs, I'm asking you to help us feed the half million children like those Isak was pointing to and you can see the big pot of soup there -- likely they just sat that feeding center up but I'm asking you to help us keep all the feeding centers going. I'm asking you to give a gift if you could help us feed 100 children by giving \$1,000 for the next months or \$100 to feed ten; would do you it? \$50 will feed five, \$30 will feed three -- I don't know at what level you can help but to those three, five, or ten children, boy, it means a lot, and to the family and to the mother and that nutrition center. Betty, you know that old building, that brick building, and they had the little intravenous feeding and those little emaciated bodies, we helped set up those clinics, and we've helped put the sugar and oil and the little intravenous feeding for the ones that are very near death, you pay for that -- viewers do -- our viewers do!

Betty: Absolutely. And you know as I was listening to Isak talk and ask for your help and I heard the cries of those babies that are going to die if we don't help them, I'm so grateful that when our children were babies, I never heard a cry quite like that one. Because you see, every time our baby cried indicating they were hungry, they got fed. These babies don't have a chance without our help. I hope you will join with us and let's give these children a chance to turn their cries of death into laughter, joy in life.

James: You know as Isak pointed out, a lot of them are too weak to even cry where you can hear them... but I believe you heard. Would you dial that number please? Or go online LifeToday.org. You make a check, make it to *LIFE*. Take your bankcard, use it. Could you help us care for ten of those children... or five or three or perhaps even a 100? We have some gifts for you. God's Kingdom in You revealed through you in situations like this. We want to bless you while you bless others. Thank you for making that call. If you get a busy be determined for the sake of those precious children, you get through. You give them life.

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: We really would like to ask if you can, help us care for 100 children and ask for the beautiful collectible, this bronze, it is absolutely beautiful. This one is titled, "Heart of the Father." God wants to put his arms of love around the world. Would you help us if you possibly can? We want to send you God's Kingdom in You. We want to be a blessing to you but we're asking you to join us blessing others and revealing the heart of the father. We need your help. We have a half million kids right now that the missionaries have located. Would you put arms around as many as you possibly can? Thank you for doing that!

Announcer: Connect with *LIFE Today* through your favorite social media sites. Just go to lifetoday.org and click connect.