

Week 4

1/21/11

James: I want to welcome you to this special program. I'm James Robison. Betty is here with me. I want to say something to you in a very direct way even as I open. I experienced, personally, a year ago one of the greatest battles of my life for my life, and we had just come out of a battle with our daughter Robin fighting cancer, a very deadly form of cancer, and the incredible miracle of her healing and my healing and just the subsequent victories. And the battle caused me to recognize that so many people are in a battle that I wanted you to know that God, he cares about you. And I just have to tell you that I really do believe there is something to noticing the need and pain of others, and seeking to make a difference that in the most amazing way seems to bring the miraculous intervention of God, whether it is comfort or healing. Betty, when I see our friends and hear from -- the great prayer request is for health issues. And I realized that really, in my opinion and we've shared this when we talk about what God has taught us about taking care of ourselves, and I've had a lot to learn in that area, that the church ought to be the leader not just in praying for healing but in divine health; that we ought to inspire people to have take care of their health. So whenever people tell me they have a challenge, whether it is their health, or whether it is financially, my heart goes out to them. I really do believe that there is something about caring about the need of others that as Isaiah 58 says, if we really, really care about the suffering God answers us in our cry and he does something in our life. There is something about people looking beyond their need and caring about others that seems to have a positive effect on us in our need.

Betty: There is something, James about giving out of the well of life that God has instilled in us when we come to know him; something about pouring out himself through us, his vessels. And he ought to -- it is automatic, James, that God is going to respond to us in that way, too. The moment we give of ourselves, we give of the Lord and what is in us, he is going to restore that in us again. And we -- we always come away more blessed.

James: We've been sharing for years that we really are, as believers, a river, a channel. Jesus said it clearly that when we really trust him and we receive the fullness of his spirit that out of our innermost being flow rivers of living water. That means that coming out of us is literally the essence of life; not just the expression of life, but the essence of life. This is his promise. What we receive -- freely you've received, freely

give, release it. Now I'm -- as directly as I know how -- telling you this: We care about your need but if we care, how much more must God care. He does! He wants to meet your need. Father, I'm praying you will meet the need of every person watching. I'm praying that every challenge they face, God, you will show them the way out and you will show them that in them is a river that must be released in Jesus' name. Now here's what I want to ask you to do. I want you to just look through the eyes of Jesus and ask him if there is some place he wants to flow the river of his life and his love through you. Is there some dry thirsty land -- a dry, thirsty, barren life, drought-stricken, disease-ridden, defeated, oppressed, beat down -- and God wants you to lift them up. I shared with you in my journey and my battle against staph infection, when I was too weak to do anything but listen, God showed me -- and if you haven't gotten in that chapter on your own and looked at Isaiah 58 and how you can be a well-watered garden and an ever-flowing spring, and see how God answers our prayers when we meet the needs of those around us, it is amazing! It is absolutely amazing! I want you to listen to the heart of God literally expressed through a woman, you talk about a challenge, this precious girl, this gifted musician, Tammy Trent lost her husband to water -- incredible! But how God showed her the way of life and how giving life filled the emptiness in her own life. Listen to her. By the way, you and I together can release the river of God's love and life to others. Listen to this.

Begin video clip:

>> Our mission teams have traveled around the world from Africa to Asia to South America to Central America and that's what I'm doing here in eastern Europe with *LIFE'S* mission team. The heartbreak for me, being on this trip the last couple of weeks, is going into these villages and spending time with the children and seeing how the water source that they have surrounding them is literally killing them. With every sip they take, they are drinking death. This is what -- this is what they're using to drink. They are drinking this stuff. The smell -- if you could smell this right now it is like sewage water. They are basically drinking sewage water. Seeing the families that we've seen and hearing the stories that we've heard, seeing firsthand for myself how this water offers them death basically, there is no life in this water.

>> I want you to take a look at this water, Tammy and see if you dare drink it:

>> I cannot imagine anybody having to drink this water. I'm so sorry. What a reminder to me that even eight years ago water had represented death. Where I remember

sitting on the edge of the water with my husband Trent, and I will never forget that day for me standing on the edge of the water in his scuba diving outfit ready to go on the greatest expedition of his life. I remember waving good-bye to him. I had no idea at that moment that that would be the last I would ever see him again. He slipped into the water and he was gone. At that moment, water represented death to me. I have seen firsthand the difference this ministry can make in the lives of hundreds of thousand, millions of people all over the world. The water that *LIFE Outreach International* can bring to these people by coming in and drilling them a well that will give them fresh clean water, this to me now represents a whole other story. This to me now is water that gives life. What a difference for me! What a trip for me! What a reality for me. Thank you! Thank you *LIFE Outreach* for bringing water that gives life.

End of clip

In the studio:

James: Boy, you talk about God meeting the need of a broken heart. I talked about the challenges in our life, our daughter's battle with cancer and mine with staph infection, just in the last couple of years and how God filled our hearts even in the battle. But you think about a girl that lost such a wonderful husband; just went out in the water and he was professional and he was a swimmer. Gone! But did you hear the fullness and adequacy of God to answer her heart cry? Did you see the focus that Tammy Trent had, looking where God is looking, and not caught, trapped, held captive by her own pain or challenge? -- But rather releasing this ever-flowing river? This is what we're asking you to do. But wait a minute; this is what God asks us all to do. It is what we at *LIFE Outreach* have done with the family of faith, with believers from all over the world and caring people, some who don't even claim faith. They just see human need and they want to meet it. How much more should people who know God, the God of love want to give love? How freely should we want to release this life and love of God. This is what we're asking you to do. There is a telephone number on the screen; you notice it is an 800-number. Love pays for it. Love makes that available to you. But right now it is available, literally, as a lifeline to release that river of hope and life to someone else; to release in faith what God has entrusted to us and say, "I want to make a difference in someone else's life." God says when you relieve the oppressed, when you don't hide from those in need -- you meet the need, you meet it out the compassion and love -- God will answer. God will make you a well-watered garden that is a fruitful garden, a beautiful garden and an ever-flowing spring, continually receiving like a river and a river's release; they don't become a storage point, a reservoir. Would you help us drill a water well? We're committed to drill 415. Would you drill one? Would you give ten people water for the rest of their life? \$48 will do that. The need is so great and yet the answer so simple. Watch this. There will be a

phone number there. Do you see it? Write it down and say, "You know what? I'm going to release love toward the need I see." Watch closely.

In the studio:

James: Let me tell you, there are people who see those scenes and run from them. Boy, that rips my heart. I run to them. There is something inside me, Betty, that says run to it! A drowning child, a burning building, to get people out -- there is something inside that says run to it! I wrote about racing Jesus to the side of the suffering. Racing him. There is something inside of us as believers that should cause our heart to leap toward the pain, not turn away from it. "I can't stand to see it." Can't stand to see it? We can correct it! There are some things we see, some problems and there is not a thing we can do about it but this is a problem we can solve.

Betty: We can, James! As I was watching that, I saw the dirty filthy water, the diseased water that is going to take the life of quite a few children if something is not done. It is the water of death. But James, I think about the water wells and I think that's the water of life. You know what? It depends on the source and we can be the source with the drilling of the wells. We can make the difference and give these children an opportunity to live.

James: Would you go to the telephone right now please? If your heart was breaking and I opened the program letting you know we care about you. God cares about you. God wants to express his love and heart, however, through us. We don't just sit and wait, we become the release of the river. And there really is something about finding relief in the release. When we weep with those who weep and can rejoice with those who rejoice, we don't get stuck in our own pain. Rejoice with those who are blessed -- we do! But we weep with those who weep. It's two sided -- you do both. You're not stuck anywhere. We're asking you to dial the number that you see on the screen. I'm asking you to dial it right now. I've often said run to get to the phone. Take your bankcard, say you know what? I'm going to use this to do one of the greatest things I'll ever do in my life. I'm going to release the river of God's life. I'm going to release it toward others the way I want God's life and the river of his adequacy released toward me! I'm going to release what's been entrusted to me, however meager it is! Jesus said the greatest gift ever given was the widow's mite. She gave what she had. That's what she gave. She was led to do it. Not manipulated... led. That's how you release it. You

just freely become a channel of blessing. Would you dial the number? Take your bankcard, make the best gift you can. If you can drill a well, boy, what a joy. People say, "It is one of the exciting things we ever do." It costs us \$4800, that's the average. Some places it is a little less, some a little more but the average over the year is \$4800. Perhaps you could give half that amount, \$2400 and pray someone joins you, or \$1200 and pray three people join you. But keep in mind, \$48, ten people water the rest of their life; that's what that gift will do. We want to send you the book that's been in the bookstores. Many people have told us how much it meant. Some of you said, "James, I want it. I would love to have it!" "Living in Love," it is our journey; nearly 48 years or 48 years married and 50 years in a love relationship and knowing one another. Beth Moore's book, "Praying God's Word," a tremendous help to you to bless you. The journal that our daughter, after she had won the battle with cancer and while I was still battling staph came to our home and said, "Daddy, God told me to give you this journal." I carry a journal like this everywhere I go. I write the impressions that God puts on my heart. I told her it is one of the greatest blessings I've ever had, coming from our daughter. We want to send it to you to say thank you if you'll help us drill those water wells. Incredible, beautiful bronze that talks about the father's love and his heart. We want to send that to those of you who will make a special gift to help us drill those wells. Would you go to the phone? Would you use your bankcard like a check? Write a check, make it to *LIFE* but call us and tell us what you're mailing. Or you can go to LifeToday.org and go online right now and make that special gift. Release the river. Isaiah 58. God's got a promise for you; he will answer. You'll become a well-watered garden. You'll become an ever-flowing stream, a river of life. Release it! Thank you for making that call. God has promised to bless us as we bless others and what a privilege it is to be a blessing.

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: Oh, I love that lady's smile. I love... I'm telling you, that is so beautiful! Do you know that you -- and you saw many of those containers that were filthy -- full of filthy water, you are the one who can take away that dirty water and give a fresh clean cup of water. Betty, the missionaries are going to tell them about the water of life. We've told you through the feeding outreaches -- and I don't know if there is any way to really count how many people's lives have been saved through the water, we just know the cycles of death have been stopped. But over 10 million people that we know of through the missionaries' reports back have accepted Christ in those areas and they tell us that when you give people water and you meet their basic need it is so easy -- it opens the heart. It just makes the ground so fertile to receive the seed.

Betty: It is a demonstration of the love of Jesus. When they're hurting physically, they're so needy, you have to offer help for that need and that's what we do. We get into their hearts through the help with the water. You're such a part of that. James and I want to thank you so very much for loving and caring and sharing alongside us.

James: You know that saying that, "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."? That really is true! I think that they don't really want to hear about the love of God until they have seen the love of God. Really, we as Christians, Betty -- one of the real problems we've got today is because we don't notice and we don't care and we've been deceived into believing that power brokers and governments can take care of everybody and there is no connection -- there is no love connection. There is no responsibility, accountability; there is no sense of we can go somewhere. But we don't let governments, even in other nations take our resources. We go directly to the people. We work with people who have hearts full of love and we don't let people manipulate. We go right to the source and it works. That needs to be an inspiration by example that we set in all of the advanced countries of the world; certainly here in the United States and Canada. Show the love of God, demonstrate it. We're asking you to do that. Would you go to the phone right now... would you do

that please, and dial that number? Listen to me, if you get a busy, just say, "Thank God others are calling!" They're either calling for help or they're calling to help. Would you make that call? Use your bankcard the best way you'll ever use it... as a life card! Let's give fresh water. Let's release the river of God's life and love. You'll find tremendous joy in doing it. And you'll find, as I've said over and over and it is simply the truth, you want your prayers answered? Seek to be an answer to someone else's prayer. I'm living -- Betty has joined me in this journey -- we're living to be an answer to Jesus' prayer; that the family would be one with the father and one with each other expressing his heart, putting his arms of love around a broken world. Thank you for making that call. Thank you for your gift. We've got gifts to bless you! You're giving the great gift of life and we want to help you grow in your spiritual life.

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

Begin video clip:

James: Betty, it breaks my heart to think about little children like this so precious coming here and living on the side of a dump! And this is where they get water and it is diseased ridden!

Betty: It is just water that can kill them! They drink it, they swim in it and everything alive walks through it. We need to help them.

James: It's really pretty simple but it takes all of us doing our part joining together to give not only a cup of water as Jesus said but a well of water. I pray you'll make that life-giving call today. And children and their families, in so many parts of the world, will receive a chance at life because of the love of God shared through you.

End of clip

In the studio:

James: If you did get a busy, just say thank you, Lord! But don't you stop calling because you're calling to give life. Some may be calling because they need prayer, they're desperate. "Praying God's Word," Beth Moore -- what a blessing she is! And then "Living in Love," what a joy to live in love with you Betty! Fifty years we've been in love; 48 years we've been married. This is our journey. So many people said, "Tell us, how in the world you've been able to stay in love and really enjoy one another." Well, it really shouldn't be a secret and we shouldn't be the odd couple. It is for everybody. It is God's gift. You can live in love. We've given you some insights that will be helpful. Simply ask for the book, we'll be glad to send it to you. You may already have read the book, you want to get one for a friend but we just thank you so much for your help, and encourage you to keep sharing life. Let the river flow freely... and how about telling your friends to watch *LIFE Today*? Check out my web site: JamesRobison.net. Commentary every week about issues for which we are concerned as believers. Thanks for watching. We enjoyed the time with you.