

Week 17

04/21/11

James: Okay, thank you! Don't you move. I wish I was there in the room with you. I'm about as close, or you may be in a restaurant, you might be in a bar but just get everybody else looking in the bar. You may be in a hotel -- I don't care where you are but I want you to hang in there. I'm James Robison. Betty, my wife and I welcome you to *LIFE Today*.

Andy Andrews is with us. Now he is funny. He just can't hardly do much without being funny; it is just a gift. But I'm telling you he is a communicator. I'm holding a book called "The Butterfly Effect." Listen to me, scientific fact, a butterfly can start a hurricane. "Oh, that's nonsense!" Wait a minute, hang on. You can change the world. Gnaw! Wait a minute! We're going to get into -- this is an incredibly beautifully presented book. It is a book of such incredible depth and power and beauty and simplicity and it is a book you can read in about 30 minutes and it won't be one second of wasted time. Are you listening? Andy Andrews is with us. We're going to talk about this.

I want you to understand what it is because you need to understand you can have the effect of a butterfly. As a matter of fact, he put this for children in a book called, "The Boy Who Changed the World." That's the cutest little guy! Changed the world. You say, "How can it be?" Would you welcome Andy Andrews? And we'll find out. Andy, good to see you, buddy! Always! Now I've got to tell you this because see, I've been reading. I try to get people to read. Most people don't read and it is too bad. You've written some great books that take a little while to read. You can't read them in 30 minutes. But I read 300-400 page books and then I'll write JamesRobison.net -- I will write sometimes -- I write a lengthy commentary, it is not just one page. Everybody says it is too long. But when it is coming at hundreds of pages and I try to give you a concise overview, it is to help you. What he's done though -- Thomas Nelson has published it -- it is beautiful. You call it a gift book, it is a great gift all right! Everybody ought to read it.

When I got this, I said, "Well, here's something you read in a few minutes that could change everything." Betty and I -- she read it; I handed it over to her and she read it. Gave it to my pastor; he read it. He gave it to his wife; she read it. He pastors 16,000 people, attending Gateway, and it is only a ten-year-old church, it is just growing. He got his family to sit around and they handed it all -- he has three children, they're all married, got some grandchildren. They sat around and they each read and they said

by the time I got to the next part I could hardly wait to hear the next page, because it was telling about the great events, world-shaking events and you think you know where it all started. As a matter of fact, some of the people that shook history and shaped it, you didn't even know who they were. But then when you see behind the scenes, I want to tell you it is a phenomenal book.

One other thing, then we're going to let you cut loose because it sounds like I must be on your payroll or something.

[Laughter]

See the fact is, I love people. When Betty and I left, we went to a time where we could be alone, that weekend after we got the book, and we go to where we can pray and we look out the windows and everything in front of us is covered with butterflies. I went out with a new little Sony high def camera, about this big, can't hardly hold it still, got telephoto lens, and I started taking pictures of the butterflies -- you can see them -- and just trying to get close. Now I didn't hold it still, I wish I had a tripod because they were beautiful.

I mean I'm just saying, look at that -- and that beautiful grace and what can it do. Tell us about this book.

Andy: Well, this book is true. I mean I put the words in certain order but this is nothing out of my imagination. Several years ago the Air Force called me. I'd been working with them and have for the past six years. They called me one night, the general called me actually from Afghanistan and said, "We've got a challenge that we need you to work on." I said, "What is that?" He said, "Well, it's the suicide thing." He said, "We have a lot of young people that are killing themselves. Some of them making the attempt but not when they're mad or sad, because we've tried to get to the basis of this and try to figure out what is happening? And our experts say they're not doing it when they're mad or when they're depressed. They're making this attempt and sometimes successful at it when they determine in their minds that they don't matter." He said, "We've told them they matter 'til we're blue in the face." He said, "But they're figuring 'I'm miserable and I don't matter so I might as well leave.'" So he said, "So I need you to somehow prove a life."

Well, it was an amazing commission and I went straight to my knees. God, please, how do you prove somebody matters? I know how to encourage somebody, I know how to say, "Oh, you're a big part of the team! Oh, we couldn't do without you!" But how do you prove that somebody matters? So the answer came amazingly quickly. I

read a lot. I'm like you in that area, I read a lot. I found that in 1963 a man named Edward Lorenz had presented to the New York Academy of Sciences a theory called "The Butterfly Effect." Now he presented it to the New York Academy of Science and they laughed it out of the place because it was crazy.

His idea was that the butterfly could flap its wings on one side of the world and set molecules of air in motion that moved other molecules of air that moved other molecules of air that somewhere along the line could literally effect weather patterns on the other side of the planet -- "The Butterfly Effect." It was crazy! But it was interesting.

[Laughter]

And because it was so interesting it hung around in myth and urban legend and comic books and bad movies until finally, in the mid 90s, physics professors working in concert at colleges and universities around the world proved "The Butterfly Effect" was accurate and viable and it worked every time. Now here's the amazing thing, you guys, this is just one of God's laws. The scientific community has given this the status of a law, just like the law of gravity. "The Butterfly Effect" is now known as the law of sensitive dependence upon initial conditions, and it works every time, and not just with butterflies either. It works with any form of moving matter including people.

So what I decided to do then was to find how do we live now? What is happening in our world now and let's reverse engineer it. Let's see how it started. I found the story of a colonel in the union army that no one has ever heard of that made one charge at one odd moment 150 years ago that has our country acting as it does in the per view of the world. Literally, the United States of America would not have been able to stand in the breach when Hitler swept across Europe had it not been for this one guy and one move he made.

I found the story of a man who actually died in Dallas a couple years ago, a man named Norman Borlaug, 96 years of age that has been credited with saving the lives from famine of over two billion people because he did work in the 1940s hybridizing corn and wheat for arid climates. So I looked at his life and I started to try -- I prayed, God show me the edges, show me where this came from?

And I found the story of a man named Henry Wallace, a former Vice President of the United States under Roosevelt. Now a lot of people think, wait a minute, I thought Truman was? Well, that's true but remember, Roosevelt served four terms. He had three different vice presidents and the middle one was the former secretary of

agriculture, a man named Henry Wallace who while he was Vice President of the United States created a station in Mexico whose sole purpose was to hybridize corn and wheat for arid climates and he named a young man named Norman Borlaug to run it.

[Laughter]

So then I looked at Henry Wallace's life. And I found that when Henry Wallace was six years of age there was a 19 year old student at Iowa State University who would take him on botanical expeditions and talk to him about plants and what they could do for humanity and what God had for his life -- this little six year old! The 19 year old was named George Washington Carver.

[Laughter]

George Washington Carver, when he was a little bitty baby lived on a farm. He was a slave and his mother was a slave and they were abducted one night by Quantrill's Raiders. And Quantrill's Raiders took George Washington Carver's mother, Mary and that baby. And the farmer's wife on this farm created messages and messengers and sent her husband when she created a meeting with Quantrill's Raiders and she sent her husband on a black horse four hours north to a crossroads in Kansas. And in the middle of a January night he traded the last horse they had left on the farm for what they threw him in a burlap sack. And he took that cold, naked, almost-dead baby boy and walked him out and put him in the arms of this woman, his wife. And they talked to this baby and sang to him and rubbed his limbs to keep him alive and awake and told him they would educate him and honor his mother who they knew was already dead. They told him they would raise them as his own. And that was the night they told him they would give him their name. The baby's name was George Washington and that is how Moses and Susan Carver came to raise that little baby George Washington Carver.

So you could look and you could say, "Well, how far back could we go to show whose move at what time really was the move that ultimately saved two billion people from famine? -- A number that continues to increase while we sit here. How far back can we go? And how far could we go in your life to show the moves that you make? The energy that you have that God put in your body that literally will change everything. There are generations yet unborn whose very lives will be shifted and shaped by what you do tonight, what you do tomorrow and the next day and the next because everything you do matters. Not encouragement -- proof!

James: I'm overwhelmed. You see it is seeing the story -- yeah, you wanted to applaud. Go ahead. Thank you, God. Thank you, God! Thank you, Andy. Thank you, for the people who cared for a little baby, George Washington Carver. And you were talking about the two billion people saved by that one process of corn and I'm thinking about maize, which is what they call it overseas, the corn. It's our main ingredient in the soup mix to feed the millions of children that we have saved somewhere now probably close to 10 million little children's lives because of what we do.

And you think about the missionaries that are there doing it and you think about the viewers on television because there wouldn't be the missionaries there if there wasn't the little person at home who says, "I don't have much." And we get a lot of checks written with a little shaky hand because you want to stop somebody else's hand from shaking and somebody's heart from breaking. And we've got a lot of people who have been very successful and say, "But I'm not going to sit on my success, I want to make a difference." You just start thinking about the chain reaction of all that happens.

You look at my life, I'm the product of a rape. My mother didn't have anyone. She was 40, going to be 41 when she has me. She doesn't need this baby. She's never had a baby. She doesn't have a husband. She doesn't have a good stable job. She goes to get me aborted. A lot of people read my story about a woman taking me and reading an ad in the paper, they say, "Oh, what a great thing a woman did." Wait a minute, my mother went to a doctor and said, "I can't have this baby. You need to abort the baby; it is a product of a forced relationship." The doctor said, "No." Was that a butterfly effect? It set in motion our children, our grandchildren, the people we've touched all over the world. Where do you trace it back? Who put the conviction in that doctor? Who gave that doctor an understanding of the preciousness of life? This is the thing you need to understand. You are -- you have the incredible ability to impact the whole world. Andy?

Andy: This is an amazing thing to me. I look at your ministry and this very moment is a product of that doctor's decision -- this very moment is a product of that one flap of those butterfly wings. My wife and my little boys, we watched one of the shows one night and we saw the opportunity to help these children. So that became a family project for us. We said, "How much money do we spend on fast-food? How much money do we spend on coffee and Coca-Colas? And how much money do we spend that we could stop and put here?" When you look at the little bit it takes to help... And see, here's the thing that I want people to understand, not only can we help, not only can we be the initial flap of a butterfly wings but when we save a life, what will that life do that might not never have been available except for you.

James: And God is putting in my heart to see the delicate beauty of all creation in the power of love... in the power of corporate love. I tell people, when you pray together with focused prayer, it releases a river force that can turn a turbine and light up a whole city. And so when we pray together, and we come together, and we move together, individually and collectively, you think, what kind of air would be put in motion with a whole bunch of butterflies? God understands this. I get more broken hearted every year I live. People say, "Well, you're just getting old and senile or something." But it's really not the truth. You know the more sensitive I become with God and I get with him, the more sensitive I become to people... and the more sensitive I am with Betty and to others. I'm glad. I haven't lost my firmness. I haven't become a sissy. I'm a cry baby but I'm not a sissy.

[Laughter]

I can macho with men as anybody. But I just see the potential. So when I see something like this and I love you, you went from just being a comedy and telling funny stories to impacting corporations. But you come back to something so simple for everybody. I want everybody to read it.

I'll tell you what, as a matter of fact, I want to send it to you today. We'll send the book if you'll just help us in any way. I want you to see what we're trying to do. I want you to see the need that you can effect with arms of love. Greater power than any butterfly, you can set this in motion. Healing streams, life-giving love. Watch closely.

On the mission field:

Hush little baby don't say a word

>> There are kids on the street. Bad people come to this country because they know that.

Momma is going to buy you a mockingbird

>> They will kidnap a child and they'll bring them down to the city and it is dark and dingy and filthy. They're screaming for home; they're screaming for their mom and dad and they won't comply so they'll torture them.

And if that mockingbird won't sing

>> You know if I hadn't heard the story about a precious little two year old who had been trafficked from the age of one, I would never have believed how vulnerable they are to traffickers. They are in danger.

Momma's going to buy you a diamond ring

>> An innocent child being abused, being raped ten times a day, every single day, what that does to a child's view of themselves, of their self-worth -- to their bodies!

End of clip

In the studio:

James: Some man trying to coax a little girl into becoming his toy. I don't even think that I have -- apart from God just supernaturally moving -- I don't think I have the ability to communicate the desperate need to rescue these little children. I'm so broken that anyone's that trapped. My heart goes out to those who are trapped. But those who are exploited, little children are literally bought by those in the sex trade industry from families that are poor and they're telling them they're going to take those children to school in town and they're going to educate them and help them and they put them into this incredible sex traffic trade and bondage.

We have built a *LIFE* Center in Thailand, which is the capital of this incredible, despicable practice. It is the most beautiful place you've ever seen. It was paid for by somebody like you. It's staffed by people, in many instances, left everything of comfort to be a comforter, and we enable them to rescue lives, thousands of them. The cost to rescue a child is \$128. We're asking you to help us rescue thousands of little children in different areas of Asia, which we will not be able to mention those names and areas, perhaps jeopardize the safety of the workers.

But we're asking you to help us by right now reaching out and touching someone with love by dialing that number, take your bankcard and use it like a check, that's how they use them or you can go online LifeToday.org. If you write a check, make it to *LIFE*; address the envelope. But would you help us rescue one of these children? \$1280 we can rescue ten. It is the most supernatural outpouring of love to literally rescue a helpless child and put them in the most indescribable blessed life because they're surrounded by the love of God. But you are the enablers.

See, those in the sex trade and those that put people into this addictive bondage, they're enabling that activity and taking people captive. You're going to set captives free. That's what Jesus does. That's what the king in us does. He sets captives free. I'm

going to tell you, if you want to live in freedom, you start living to see other people set free and this is something you can do. This is not wishful thinking, this is not trying to find a cure, we've got the cure and it is love expressed through hands and hearts like yours and through those precious workers and yes, in the facilities that love, God's love through people like you has built.

We have some beautiful gifts to bless you while you give these precious children the great gift of a chance at life. Thank you for going to the phone. Please don't be distracted. If you get a busy, you call until you get through. And I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your help.

Begin video clip:

Announcer: Human trafficking... it's hard to believe it is happening! But at this very moment innocent children, many very young are being sold and forced into sexual slavery and exploited in every way imaginable and someone must save them!

With your support of mission rescue life you can help rescue more than 5,000 children from the horrors of the sex trade in parts of Thailand, India, Cambodia and other targeted nations. Together we can reach vulnerable families and children by providing much needed food and relief. We can rescue those already ensnared by offering them a way out and we can restore their hearts, minds and bodies to enable them to enjoy life as God intended.

Your gift today of only \$128 will help rescue a child and change their life forever. And with gifts of \$64 or \$32 we will combine your gifts with others to help rescue one more child from the shame and pain of this lifestyle. As our way of saying thank you, please request "The Butterfly Effect," how your life matters. The story of this book reveals how you were specially created by God to make a difference and have the power to change the world.

As a special challenge, please prayerfully consider a gift of \$1280 to help rescue ten children. With your gift be sure to request our beautiful new bronze sculpture, "Heart of the Father." This is the last week so call, write, or make your gift online!

End of clip

On the mission field:

>> All around the world are little children who need someone to help them, to love them. Many of these little ones, mostly young girls are in danger of strangers taking them, abusing them, and making them do you terrible things.

Jeanne: She was 13 when she came to the city to look for a job. What happened when you came to the city?

>> Their lives are full of pain and despair. Their innocence stolen, their hopes and dreams shattered. But a good thing is there are safe places in the world built with kind people who care about these children. And *LIFE Outreach International* is there to love them and give them a safe place to live where hope and dreams are restored.

[Children singing]

>> But what makes me sad is there is still lots of children out there whose lives are in danger and they need our help.

[Children singing]

End of clip

Begin video clip:

>> To me the question is, as a believer, is not should I give... it's how you cannot give. When you see what is behind us, the children and the difference that it's made in their lives and it's a privilege and God calls us – it's a call by God to give to the poor, the needy, the orphan, the widow and it is not if you desire to do it, it's our duty. It's what He's called us to do as believers is to reach out to others. It's how can you not give?

>> When I first got involved, my wife and I with Life Today, and watching the TV show, and knowing that we could be a part of a blessing to others, and when I think of joining Life Today I think... I know -- I'm totally at peace with the idea that I have

joined God where he is alive and working. I'm just so thankful that I get to be a part of it.

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End of clip

In the studio:

James: Would you join Betty and me in saying thanks again to the author of this book, and our friend Andy Andrews? Thank you, Andy! Bless you and your family. Thanks for being here. Thank all of you! Hey, thanks for making a difference. You are the difference makers. Because God's made a difference in us we can make a difference in the lives of others.

Would you join Betty and me in saying thanks again to the author of this book, and our friend Andy Andrews? Thank you, Andy! Bless you and your family. Thanks for being here. Thank all of you! Hey, thanks for making a difference. You are the

difference makers. Because God's made a difference in us we can make a difference in the lives of others.