

Week 44

10/27/09

Announcer: Coming up, a successful businessman in the field of natural medicine is faced with a crisis of faith when his eight-year-old son is diagnosed with leukemia.

>> I just started to cry. I cried and I cried; I couldn't stop. Between the period when my son was sick, I followed five kids to the grave.

Announcer: With the help of Edward John, he found love and healing.

>> For me, love is about giving. If there is no giving, there is no love.

Announcer: "Real Living" next.

Music

James: Do it.

Betty: Hello! Thank you so much for joining us on LIFE Today. I'm Betty and this is James.

James: You just are so excited about doing the opening and all that. We try to get Betty to share something because people say, "I notice that she listens well and that she doesn't always say a lot." Or do you feel like you're under my thumb or pushed down and held back? I need to know.

Betty: Oh, no, you encourage me to speak. I say things when I need to say them... at home. You know? [Chuckling] Privately.

James: And I've really wanted to -- you can make this part of your prayer. I've wanted to bring this feisty, firm, sometimes furious --

Betty: Me?

James: You! [Laughter] I have said, "Oh!" So I want to you listen to Edward John's teaching on how to conquer your fear and live your dreams and your husband's!
[Laughter]

Betty: That's another show and another day!

James: You need to understand that Betty really wants to be quiet and listen, that's just the way she is. She actually impacts more people with her countenance and her testimony than I do. I want to thank you. A lot of you that are listening put up with me the whole show to see if she'll say something. Maybe she'll say something before we go off the air. That's why you hang in there. We have got someone who has no problem sharing. He opens up like a river. That's why he's able to talk about "Real Living" which really is a reference to R-E-A-L, to the renewal, and the excellence, and the abundance, and the legacy of what we leave behind, the impact and the fruitfulness of our life. Well, Edward John has been sharing alongside of us now for more than ten years and he has been on the mission field many times. He actually came in here and was doing a song, "Time to Give." Little did he realize but one of the working CD's would be played almost simultaneously at the time he was working here to prepare it for television back in Norway with a

businessman; a businessman who had faced some very real challenges because he had a son diagnosed at age eight with leukemia. And he is a man who helps people with their health and highly respected, and yet he's got a battle but he heard a message. His name is Anders. It's a little bit difficult for me to pronounce his name. It is so funny the way we phonetically try to say it. They've been teaching me Struksnes -- Anders and Edward John. Would you welcome Anders and Edward John to LIFE Today? Hey Anders, I want to thank you for coming all the way from Norway over here. Edward, it is good to see you. I want you to give us just a real brief intro. I want our viewers to hear what he heard that really started him on a life-changing journey. He heard "Time to Give," it changed his life. But real quickly, maybe tell us a little bit about him and then we want him to tell what happened.

Edward: All right. Well, first of all, this is an amazing man. He has been behind me for the last five, six, seven years. But I was asked by your team and we together thought about coming up with a song for the missions feeding. At the time I was back in Europe so I was living my life as we would say "Real Living," day-by-day. I was starting my new recording project. I walked up into the studio. I told the guys up there, "I've got to get this album together." I said, "How much?" They said, "Well, if you want to do it right, \$100,000 and more." Me, at the time started on scratch with nothing but I said, "Let's go. Let's roll." So we started. They didn't know my situation but I knew it and God knew it. But I stepped in, we sang. I did the first recording, which was "Time to Give." I came out with it. Another friend of ours that you've seen here before, Geir, he was here a few years ago, a year and a half, took this CD and gave it to Anders. This was now the half done song of "Time to Give." And from there Anders become an instrumental part of my life.

James: So he had to have heard a message and he was facing some real trials himself.

Anders: I must tell you, Edward, the first time I met you, I was in great distress. It was very hard time for me and the family. I had a son that had leukemia for three years. He was in remission after two years and got it back. The chances for him to live was very poor. It was a very tough time at the same time building up a company. I used all of my financial resources to do it. So living in between building up a company and a deadly sick son --

James: It doesn't sound to me like a time to be thinking about a time to give. You know what I'm saying? It kind of sounds like something coming out of space.

Anders: No, I learned a lot from this process and I will tell you more about it. But when I met you the first time, I felt instantly a man with unconditional love. And for me, love is about giving because there is no -- if there is no giving, there is no love. It's a very important connection. I remember I spoke with you and I was taking an interest to your song. I haven't heard you sing before. I didn't know anything about you. So before I left I got a demo from the CD and I got into my car and I put it on and played it loud, "Time to Give" and I just started to cry. I cried and I cried. I couldn't stop. It was -- something happened. At the same time, a relieving process, a relieving feeling at the same time. It

was also -- I could feel from your song what kind of man you are. I learned your story, going away from career in sports, not only football, I know that you also was one of the most talented in ski jumping in Norway. You had talents in sports that very few had at that time.

Edward: You didn't know that, did you, James? I was a ski jumper.

James: The thing is he is watching somebody that -- I hear loud and clear two things, he saw someone with a lot of ability as the world knows it but you somehow followed love and he saw love.

Anders: Yeah, I saw love, for sure. Although I was brought up in a Christian family, with very loving parents, I kind of lost faith in church when I was 18-19. I saw more judgment than love. And somehow I had a great battle with myself when I was 18-19 and I chose to go my own route to look for people who showed love that would give something to others. I prayed for that every day for my kids, for that one thing, "God, please give them your love."

James: Let me just ask you, I want our viewers to hear a little of this song but I want to ask you, and I want you to come back and tell us the journey. But are you seeing some of that love go into your family? Are you seeing it?

Anders: Yeah. Yeah!

James: Let's play some of this song and then I want to hear about it. I want to about your son, the battle with leukemia. Listen to this. This is what Edward sang that touched so many lives.

Tell me what have we done
To this beautiful world?
This place isn't safe anymore
Tell me what has happened
To our innocent children?
I don't see them on the streets anymore
What has happened to the prayers of our fathers?
Where has love gone between sisters and brothers?
What's going to happen to the next generations
Who's going to rise up and declare
It's time to give
Time to pray

It's time to lay our lives down for another
It's time to rise up and shine
A holy light into the darkness
It's time to love and to obey
And to live what we believe in

It's time to lend a helping hand
To a dying world in need
What has happened
To compassion?
Who's going to stand up for the soul of man?
Who's gonna build a bridge across these troubled waters?
Lift up holy hands and declare
It's time to give
Time to pray
It's time to lay our lives down for another
It's time to rise up and shine
A holy light into the darkness
It's time to love and to obey
And to live what we believe in
It's time to lend a helping hand
To a dying world in need
Oh, how beautiful
Are the feet of those who bring good news
Oh, how wonderful they are
Um yeah

Oh, how beautiful are the feet of those
Who bring good news
Oh, wonderful they are
It's time to give
It's time to pray
It's to lay our lives down for another
It's time to rise up and shine
A holy light into the darkness
It's time to love and to obey
And to live what we believe in
It's time to lend a helping hand
It's time to give
Time to pray
It's time to lay our lives down for another
It's time to rise up and shine
A holy light into the darkness
It's time to love and to obey
It's time to live what we believe in
It's time to lend a helping hand

To a dying world in need

James: And boy, it is the time. The thing when I look back years ago at Edward here and singing what he was working on -- and he wrote those words because they were being written in his heart and with his life, and continue to be. And that really, when we're talking about "Real Living" in the series, the music videos are a great part of what he is teaching. So there is a captivating sense in that great anointing. But what he's sharing just through the word, just like you could hear the word all through that song, it will be a blessing to you in your life. And all the way from Norway, Anders, it's pretty easy to see how you could see that love. Everybody, all of us wish we had the rhythm and the ability or even to write songs like that, I can't do that but I sense, I discern and I know love and I knew when I saw this guy and got to know him that I could see that love and still do! And so it impacted you but then you blessed him to help him. Well, you blessed us because from Norway, you blessed us. You helped make these things possible. Now your son with the battle with leukemia, you starting a business, you care about people's health but yet you have a health issue in your own family.

Anders: By the way, Edward has written many other songs and lyrics that reflect exactly the same thing that this song, "Time to Give," "Sorry" and many other songs. I really want people to listen to them because they reflect not only a love to God but love to men, to mankind, to people, to those who are close to us, to those who are in Africa, etc. That's why I decided to support Edward as much as I could. At the same time, a few days after I heard his song, Edward came along with me. I prayed a lot at that time because of my son, because of the situation we were in but I was in pretty good faith about the situation, or going from faith to despair is more what you could say. One day, two days after Edward and a friend, Roger Samudo is living in Los Angeles, they came to visit. They came along with me in the night, I think it was 12 or one o'clock in the night, we went up to the hospital when my son was in his bed and I was very, very much afraid of him going into a bone marrow transplant, which is not a sure thing. It's contrary, four out of five die in the situation. So Roger and Edward came along with me. And when he was asleep, he wasn't awake at all, we prayed for him and Edward took the lead in the prayer. We prayed for him maybe half an hour, 45 minutes. And I felt, afterward, a peace I never felt before. I was 100% sure that my son at that time was cured -- was by God. I felt 100% -- I could have gone to the doctor, "You don't need to do anything more." But of course, they wouldn't have accepted that. So we needed to go forward with the treatments. But from that day on he hasn't been sick one day in five years! [Applause]

James: Thank you, God!

Anders: It's really amazing -- not one day has he been sick since. Even the day he went through very hard treatments after this, he was isolated for four months. His immune

system was zero; just a light cold could have killed him. So it's really, really amazing.

James: Let me ask you this, Anders, do you believe if people just give Edward a chance, that's why we try to put the series together, we just want to bless people. You're trying to help people with their health but you think if people would give Edward a chance to sing God into their heart, you might say, and to share the word, do you think it would be a real blessing to them if they'd just give him a chance to help them?

Anders: I'm absolutely sure! I'm 50 years -- I lived my life. I've been through a lot of things but the heart that this man has, I never met anyone like it. But his music, listen to his music, not only his Word but listen to his music -- it tells everything.

James: You know what's shouting inside of me when I'm listening to you say that? This is so unusual. This is supposed to be the norm; this is "Real Living." This is the way God wants us to be. Here I am, I can't sing. He didn't know he could sing. He said he only knew three chords and he couldn't sing well but sings -- it is incredible. But I couldn't talk. I wouldn't get up in front of anybody. I never gave a report in school, I got a zero, I wouldn't get up in front of the room. I ate by myself; I couldn't talk. God said, "Hey!" Betty couldn't sit here on television but she does. She glows. God will use people. You know something you said -- and by the way, we want to help you to just God releasing that river. Don't compare yourself to us and say, "Well, I've got to do what Edward or James or Betty --." No, no, no! You just let God flow the river through you. You see Anders doesn't have to sing. I don't know if he can sing a lick. I don't know.

Anders: I can't sing at all.

James: That doesn't make any difference -- what difference does that make? Y'all might think, well, if I get right with God I'll have hair like James! Well, you might have hair like Anders so you don't know. Here's the deal, he's following God -- and you know you said something that I want to share with our viewers. You're trying to help people with their health and you said a lot of people, just like with your son had a battle, sometimes it didn't seem like it turns around but with children that are hungry, you said before we came out, children that are hungry, we can always correct that... we can give them food. That is an instant cure. Would you say thanks to Anders for coming all the way from Norway to share his story with Edward?

Anders: I would very much like to add only if I can, during the period my son was sick, I followed five kids to the grave, and especially, a young girl, little girl two and a half years old. And I was in talking to her parents a half hour after this little beautiful blond girl died, playing in the hallway just two days before. But you are helping millions of these small young children in Africa, that's what encouraged me to come here today.

James: Thank you! [Applause] Would you just listen for a moment. This works. Little children all over Africa are lining up right now. Betty has been praying for years, I'm so glad you've answered this prayer, through you -- you know when Anders said "You -- I've come up because of you," you're the you. It isn't James and Betty. I promise you, we do

our part. We not only could wish everybody gave as freely and maybe as abundantly as we do, but everybody is not able to but you can give as freely. The point I'm making is that we love to give and if you would just today say, "I'm going to do something" because it is like Anders said, this works. You can save a life and you see images of little children's faces and you see the little skin that just rots off the bones, it is skin ulcers and lack of nutrition. And we heard our grandson say this summer to us, he actually texted us, "I watched them put a needle in a little girl's neck trying to keep her alive. As they did, Mimi and Papaw, she was holding my finger." He said, "This is not right." We're asking you to help us try to save those children when they're in that desperate of condition because it is love that makes that possible, that last attempt to save them if they can get them to the clinics. But we're trying to get them out in the bush in the crisis area and give them food. And you're the only ones that can do it -- you're the only ones that can give them the food. We're sending Edward's teaching on "Real Living" to all of you who just help us feed three, five, or ten children, whatever you can do. Just help us care for these children that you see and put your hands out and pick them up and do what will work. This is not a medical hope or a doctor's hope, this is reality. This is real life-changing, life-giving help. So I ask you to dial the number and use your bankcard, use it like a check and make the best gift you can. Or if you write a check, call us and tell us what you're mailing and mail it. And please don't put it off. If you can help us care for 100, do it. We'll gladly send you the "Real Living" series, the beautiful music, that's with it, those great videos just to inspire you and people you love, maybe your whole church group. We want to bless you as you bless others. Thanks for making that call. Thanks for your gift.

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Edward: We went out to visit some schools where joy kind of overtakes you to begin with because you're out there and you see these kids get their food and they're singing songs and they're welcoming us. It makes your heart leap with joy. So every bowl of food that we serve, it is also a reminder that there is probably a hundred times or a thousand times more kids that don't get that bowl of food and that breaks my heart. I pray, Father God that as hundreds of thousands of people are watching today, maybe millions, Father God, that every one will say, "I'll do one." If we would do that, then millions upon millions of ones would be saved from starvation. That's all it takes -- and it doesn't take much. It is amazing what can happen if we just get one. So I'm asking you to go to your phone, pick it up, dial the number that's on your screen and help us in saving one more life.

James: You know, I'm rejoicing and just thanking God for the impact Edward John has had on so many people and continues to have. What a blessing for Anders to come all the way from Norway and tell you how God has impacted his life. And then to talk about wanting to come all the way over here not just to say thanks to Edward but because of

you helping those children. God bless you! Thanks for your help. Would you say thanks to Edward John and to Anders again? Anders, thank you so much! God bless you! God bless your son! God bless your family. Edward, we bless you, buddy! Thank y'all for watching LIFE Today! More than anything, thanks for sharing LIFE Today! Through your witness, through helping others.

Though the whole world fall around me I'm confident in this that you'll never leave me nor forsake me. I'm so amazed at the way you've placed your breath of life in me, father, and you've taken me from the dust of the earth and given me life so abundantly in you. What a joy it is to tell everyone within the sound of my voice:
That holding your hand is so easy

It's so easy
Knowing you'll never... never leave me
Peace like a river
Joy inside
Is what your love
Always provides
Oh, whoa
Peace like a river
Peace, love, and joy
That's all that you provide
It's wonderful
Easy, marvelous and beautiful

Beth: Isn't there something in us that just wants to be pursued?

Announcer: To know and be known -- tomorrow on LIFE Today!