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Week 42: Mission: Rescue Life

James & Betty Robison

Nicole C. Mullen #2

Studio discussion:

JAMES: Well, you know Betty and I have been doing the show *Life Today*, I don't know, about 50 years together at least. And we've been all over the world putting God's arms around people. Do you know why we're able to put God's arms around the least of these and the overlooked? The ones Jesus said is most important to help? He said, "When you help the least of these, you minister directly to me." And you are the sheep. If you wonder who sheep are, sheep are the ones who put God's arms around the overlooked. Well, we've got a lot of sheep because a lot of you people who watch *Life Today* have given life, today and every day. Thank you so much.

We have a wonderful guest. Nicole Mullen has been here before. As a matter of fact, she's been with us this week. But she wrote a book that we want you to get: *It's Never Wrong to Do the Right Thing*. But she's known as a great singer. She wrote a song that really became very popular. When we were talking the other day I said, "She's coming back and going to try and tell you how it happened; tell you about 'Redeemed,'" and my staff said, "The song is 'Redeemer.'" I said, "Well, yeah. But the Redeemer redeemed me, and I got to talk about being redeemed because of what the Redeemer did." And we just laughed. But you're going to.

We welcome you back to *Life Today* again. And the book is great. I want you to get it because it'll bless you. Because we're challenged many times not to do the right thing, because it doesn't even make sense. But it always does if we do what God wants. But the song, "Redeemed" really touched the world; it shook the world in many ways. We want you to tell us, how did that come to be? You're going to sing it here in a few minutes, but tell us how that came to be, that song.

NICOLE: First of all, again, thank you for having me back. I'm honored. But I think the song started way before I wrote it. When I was around 12 years old, we were in church and there was a lady in our church named Sister Dottie. Sister Dottie was one of those people that if she said, "Thus saith the Lord," you could take it to the bank. And so there I was, I mean, just a scrawny 12-year-old. I had -- sometimes, I would stutter and speak fast, and was a closet thumb sucker, you know, just all these different things. But Sister Dottie stood in front of me one day and said, "The Lord will say to you, say not in your heart that you are small, but you are great because I live within you." And then she began to prophesy that the Lord was going to take me around the world singing for him, and that he was going to give me songs in the night.

JAMES: How old were you right then?

NICOLE: I was 12. Earlier that year, my dad had prayed a prayer over my sisters and I on the front row at church for New Year's Eve service. He had gotten to me, and he had prayed that the Lord would use me in singing and take me around the world singing as well. Well, when Sister Dottie says "Songs in the night," I thought she meant songs after like 10:00 or 11:00. I was like, cool! Because I was a night owl. I thought, okay, the Lord is on my timetable. But it didn't hit me until later that he meant songs in the dark seasons of life when life is hard and you can't always see your way in; sometimes you don't remember what was said in the light. He was going to sing over me and sing through me.

So then, fast forward to when I'm around the age of 20, turning 21, and I find myself in an abusive marriage. There were times he had his hand around my neck or he was hitting me in the face or kicking me in the ribs, those times and he would ask me a question all the time. He would say, "Nicole, what is your purpose in life?" And then he would answer, and he'd say, "That's your problem. You have no purpose." I didn't have the courage at the time to rebut him. I didn't have the courage to speak up and say, Yes, I do. But on the inside I was yelling, I do have a purpose!

I do have a purpose! I may not be able to articulate it, but I do have one.

And then the Lord began to show me through a passage of Scripture that he encouraged me to memorize. I think I was 17 or 18 years old, and he brought it back to my remembrance. It's over in Romans eight; I had memorized the chapter. We say this verse all the time. You know, God works all things together for good to them that love God, and to them who are the called according to his purpose. Well, it came back to me that I didn't have to come up with my own purpose because I love God. And because I love God, He was going to work everything together for my good because I was called according to His purpose, I didn't have to have my own.

So I love to encourage other people, too, that you may not have had a word from Sister Dottie, but we have a more sure word, which is the Word of God. And if you love him, then you are called according to the purpose that he's designed for your life. There are general purposes that He has for us to please Him and to serve man. And then there are other specific plans that He has for us individually.

So a part of the plan that he had for me is he got me out of that night season, and I was so grateful. And then I have to admit, I got myself into a couple of other, you know, just night-seasons, but it was in the midst of me going through a crushing, a heartbreaking situation that God began to sing over me and sing through me. Before I knew it, I had picked up my little guitar, and I had read the book of Job. You know, Job is not really the book you read just to cheer you up. But I began to read it and I was like, okay, wait! Job went through his own night-season. He went from riches to rags, and then back from rags to riches again. But in the middle of his dark season, he didn't know the end, we know the end. He was restored twice as much wealth. His health was restored to him. He had ten more children. But in the midst of it, when it was hard to see the hand of God, Job began to hope against hope, and he began to encourage himself. He said something that I borrowed. He said, "I know my Redeemer lives!" And in the last day, he's going to stand upon the earth. And then Job said, "And though my body be destroyed, in my flesh I'm going to see God.

So after reading that, I picked up my little guitar and I thought, if Job can say it in the midst of his night-season, how much more can I sing it when my night-season is just this compared to

his? So I begin to sing the chorus as if I was taking notes, I was just the secretary, and God was downloading. Then I began to sing the first verse, and it came. I have to admit, it took me another year to write that second verse in that bridge, because I was a little slow. But the Lord is

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JAMES: This is Redeemer.

NICOLE: This is “Redeemer” in the midst of a night-season is when he gave it to me, not on a mountaintop, but in the midst of the night.

JAMES: One of the most powerful things that Job said, all the horrible things that was said, and not knowing why, whatever, but he said, “Here's what --” and boy, don't miss this! He said, “As I look at this, I thought I knew Him, but I didn't know Him like I know Him now. So all he went through, he knew Him, the Redeemer more clearly. So you wrote the song. We got to hear the song, kind of when it was at its height. Were you going to sing it for us? Will you do that?

NICOLE: I would love to -- 25 years old this year. It is! And I’m going to sing it.

JAMES: Isn't that great? All right. Here she is.

NICOLE: I know my Redeemer lives.

Who taught the sun where to stand in the morning?
And who taught the ocean, you can only come this far?
And who showed the moon where to hide till evening
Whose words alone can count your falling star?
Well I know my redeemer lives
I know the redeemer lives
All of creation testifies

There's life within me cries
I know my redeemer lives
Oh, yeah
The very same God that spins things in orbit
He runs to the weary, the worn, and the weak
And the same gentle hands that hold me
Hold me when I'm broken
Conquered death to bring me victory
Now I know my Redeemer lives
I know my Redeemer lives
Let all creation testify
Let this life within me cry
I know my Redeemer

Sing He lives to take away my shame
Oh, thank you, Jesus
He lives forever we got to proclaim
The payment for my sin
Was the blessed life He gave
But now he's alive, and there's an empty grave
And I know
(My redeemer lives)
You see I know my Redeemer lives
I know that I know
I know that I know
I know that I know that I know that I know that I know that I know
Jesus really is
The tomb is empty, yall
He lives
Can I get a witness, that he lives?
See, I spoke with him this morning

He lives

Studio discussion:

JAMES: Wow! I can promise you all the angels of heaven are rejoicing right now. I wish you could just hear the applause of the world, God's people just praising God. I can just tell you I was just -- you know what I was praising him for? It wasn't just that he was the Redeemer that redeemed me. But I was thinking about all the times the Redeemer has redeemed me as a redeemed person who missed the mark, who failed or fail. And how much love. If he's looking for a little sheep that's lost, and he leaves us to go get one, I was many times, I think, that one. James, I just want to take him back close and I want to hold you. He wants to hold you, Betty. He wants to hold every broken heart.

Nicole, you're just so anointed and so beautiful. The glory of God was just all over you. The Redeemer's work continues in you. You're just beautiful dressed up in Jesus. I want you to know you just gave me such a glimpse of the Redeemer working in a redeemed person's life, who truly loved him. But sometimes, as my wife knows, I miss the mark. I feel like she never did. She would say, well, it's just not true. But I just -- I just want you to know how much he loves you, and how much the Redeemer wants to hold you. Think about it. God would leave everybody to go after one little lamb, and hold you, and bring you back into safety where the raging lions, the bears, the predators, the deceiver, the destroyer can't control you. God, Redeemer, set the redeemed free. Restore us all. Let us rest in your arms with the peace that only you can give; in Jesus' name.

Nicole, I think you were supposed to be here today. And I thank all the people watching, as we will ask you to help us rescue the trafficked -- sexually trafficked. This is what we call Mission: Rescue Life. We rescue people from being sexually trafficked, starting as little girls. Can you believe people would want to have sex with a little three-, four-, five-, six-year-old, 10- or 12-year-old? Can you believe it? God, deliver us from evil, and the evil one.

Nicole, when you sang that, I know a while ago you could really sense the Spirit of God, couldn't you sense the Redeemer's presence, even while you were singing about him?

NICOLE: Yes, sir. Yes, I'm more convinced, too, that he uses what he breaks or what he allows to be broken. My life has been broken in many places, as you all know. But it reminds me of how he took the loaf, took the bread, he blessed it, and then after he broke it, then it was multiplied. And so in my breaking, he gave me a song. Then he said, I'm going to bless you, broke you, now let me multiply what you've given back to me.

BETTY: I think as we go on this journey with the Lord through life, and we're quite a bit further along than you are, I think we come to realize, too, you can look back and say, remember how many times he has redeemed us and he continues to. And so that relationship with him becomes so sweet! It's so much closer as you grow in him and on that journey. And you thank him every day because he said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." He's forever with us.

JAMES: Nicole, I thank you for being here. But I want to say to all of you who are watching that you're supposed to be here. Nicole was here for the Redeemer. She magnified the Redeemer for you. He not only redeems us and our salvation relationship to be born into the family of God, and we are truly born again into that family. You just invite him to come in and he'll come in, but he comes in as Lord and Savior and King Jesus. But then as you walk with him, sometimes, we're like the little sheep that just wanders off. Sometimes, the sheep are led off, sometimes, they're attacked and hurt. All of us are under attack. All of us can be misled, misdirected. But she's here singing about the Redeemer for you to be in the arms of the Redeemer. And I want every one of you to know, *It's Never Wrong to Do the Right Thing*. I think you'd be wise to consider getting the book. I think it'd be wonderful if you'd help us rescue people who are sexually -- right now -- trafficked, many of them little children. Many of them have been trafficked for 10 years, 15 years. Some of them for a lifetime. Some of them 'til they just dump them out or kill them, drug them to death.

Please ask God to pick you up and take you in his arms. Ask the Redeemer to restore you for fellowship to make you all He wants you to be. You need someone to pray with you? There's a prayer line there to call. Say, I want to turn my life over to the Redeemer, and I want to be restored by the Redeemer. We'll join with you.

And then I want to ask you this. In this Mission: Rescue Life, would you consider helping us rescue someone from the predators? It takes \$128 to reach somebody, to rescue them, and to restore them. Would you help us restore somebody and give them a new life? Would you do that? All around the world, we're going to set people free. Could you restore ten with a \$1,280 gift? We have some beautiful gifts for you just to say thank you. We'd like to say thank you for putting God's arms around the overlooked, the least of these. Thank you! We'll gladly send you what we've mentioned to bless you. If you want Nicole's book just simply say, I'm going to help you rescue those, and I sure would like to have her book. We'll send it to you.

Nicole, be praying for everybody right now that's watching, because they're going to look in and see a scene of need, and they're the ones that meet the need. And boy, they've been great. You know, our audience prays for you and loves you. Thank you for being the miracle so many people pray for. Please do what God leads you to do right now.

Transition roll-in: [Children are the Targets]

Open captions

>> The old lady, she fix the small girl to have sex with the foreigner. They pay a lot of money for the virgin.

ANNOUNCER: Human traffickers target innocent children but then become enslaved in a multi-billion-a-year industry called, "The Sex Slave Trade."

RANDY: A human trafficker came through here many months ago and promised this young lady's sister a better life, luring her away. They haven't heard from her. She's gone.

CAROL: We're fighting for children that can't fight for themselves. Children who would otherwise be used in the sex trade or bought and sold like animals for monetary gain. It's not right!

LISA: It's kids just like these that right now they're begging but they are also bait for predators. If we don't get them off the street, they will be the next trafficked victims.

ANNOUNCER: When these children become enslaved, if they comply horrible things are done to them by the human traffickers.

Open Captions

>> When I was a child, I saw a lot of things in front of my eyes. There are cages somewhere. They are keeping a child as an animal. Just tie the hand, both hands like that, and the customer will have sex with the child.

CAROL: It is tragic what is happening to children, innocent children. And it is not right! Our hearts are burdened by all the children that are crying out for help today, this moment, that need intervention, that need help, and that are waiting for someone to hear their cries. And we can only do it with your help.

Studio appeal:

JAMES: Boy, I tell you what. I was just looking at those little children, I love them. I can help get God's arms around them. I've had my arms around them. And all over the world, we've set free thousands and thousands of children and precious girls that are trafficked, held captive. They not only hold them as a prisoner, they try to get them hooked on drugs so they have that much more control of them. I'm telling you, only the miracle and the love of God can get them free.

That's why we ask you to help us set these prisoners free. Betty, we know it works. The love of God never fails. These people have been so mistreated. We watch them be set free to a whole

new life because of the love of God flowing through people who watch us and decide to become the miracle that the mothers of those children are praying for, that the families are praying for, that those girls and boys are hoping for, and we see that miracle.

BETTY: Absolutely! Your help means so, so much. It means so much to these little girls that don't have a chance if we don't reach out and say, Hey! We want to take you to a safe place. Some of these children, James, they were taken from their parents being told they would have a job or a better life, or they would take care of them. And then when they get them away, separated from their family, they just mistreat them. They lock them up in a room and then use them and use them and use them. They don't realize what's going on. They drug them to keep them there.

And so, God, please help you to know how much you would be able to help us free these children and take them to that safe haven where they can have a first time good night sleep. Can you imagine what it would be like to just be trapped like that and think there was no hope? There's hope. Jesus is their hope, and we are part of serving him with our whole hearts. So let's reach out in Jesus' name and let's help these little children.

JAMES: We call this mission outreach: Rescue Life. That's precisely what we're doing. Can't do it without you. It takes an average of \$128 to reach, to rescue, and to restore those who are trapped -- \$128! Would you make that life-saving, life-giving gift? Think about this. Ten children could be helped for \$1,280. Pray about that. Would you do that? We have gifts we're going to send you. One of the things we're going to send you is the most beautiful throw I've ever seen. This is just fabulous. And coming up in the cooler seasons, you're going to appreciate this.

Would you please make a gift of \$128? Could you give 1280? Could you give even more? Right now, we have a facility that would immediately take 50 girls, and it's a beautiful place. Couldn't get it anywhere around here like that. It's inexpensive because it's in Asia and it's easy to get and easy to fix. But we do need over \$1 million, and we have a half-million-dollar need to complete that. So if you could make a large gift toward that, in addition to the \$128 or

whatever God leads you to do. Please call right now. Go online, take your bank card, use it like a check. If you write a check, make it to *LIFE* because that's exactly what you're giving. And we'll send these blessings to you, but you're giving the greatest blessing, you're giving life in Christ because of the love of God that you share freely with your gifts. Thank you so much.

RL Cause Spot – 2025 Fall

ANNOUNCER: *Innocent children, longing to be loved and cared for, are being abducted and sold into the evil industry of human trafficking. Through Mission: Rescue Life, your gift today of only \$128 will help reach, rescue, or restore a child and change their destiny forever. Gifts of \$64 or \$32 will be combined with support from others to help rescue one more child from the shame and pain of sexual slavery.*

Currently, our LIFE rescue centers in Southeast Asia are at maximum capacity. More space is urgently needed, and we must complete and renovate a new rescue home immediately. Please consider a very special extra gift as we urgently need \$1.25 million above our normal budget to complete and renovate this place of hope.

With a gift of any amount, we'll send you Power, Provision and Peace: Bringing together the life-changing truths of Acts, Romans, and First and Second Corinthians in the Passion Translation. These books come alive with fresh revelation and timeless power. With your gift of \$128 or more, you'll receive the beautiful and soft "Perfect Peace Blanket," bearing the words of Isaiah 26:3 as a meaningful reminder that those who trust in the Lord are never alone. Finally, please consider a gift of \$1,280, which will help save ten children, and you may request our inspiring bronze sculpture, "Lion of Judah."

Please call, write, or make your gift online.

Studio goodbye:

JAMES: Please don't let anything keep you from helping. If you get a busy when you call or somehow you can't get through, say, I'm going to get through, and my gifts are going to get through, and my gifts are going to give the gift of the Redeemer to those people who thought they would never be redeemed -- never be free. Please! Thank you for being those who help us extend the arms of God.

Nicole, did you enjoy being with us today?

NICOLE: Loved being with you today. Thank you.

JAMES: Boy, you have blessed us. We see the Redeemer so clearly in you, and we just love you. We're glad that our ministry and our viewers are your prayer supporters, too. Thank all of you. Thank you for helping us put his arms around the least of these and the overlooked. Thank you so much.