

11/20/25

Week 47: FMF

James & Betty Robison

Randy Robison

Studio discussion:

JAMES: Well, we're excited to have our son Randy on here with us. We're going to tell you a little bit of the story of how Randy came into our lives. It was a little bit of a unique approach. I'm James Robinson; Betty and I are thrilled that, we will, introduce you to Randy. I might as well go ahead. Randy, we're glad to have you here.

RANDY: Yeah, some people have seen me a few times. It's been an honor being with you guys.

JAMES: He's hosted a lot. He's been with us; he's been all over the world with the missions. He's got plenty to share. But anyway, Betty and I were wanting to have another child after we'd had Rhonda. It was quite a few years. You had a condition that they said –

BETTY: I was told I couldn't have any more children.

JAMES: So we began to pray. We prayed about adoption. We would like to have had a son.

BETTY: I told God I wanted a son.

JAMES: Well, he heard you. We had a couple of attorneys say we, oftentimes, have a person that has a desire to place a child up for adoption, and they will be wanting to place whatever the child is, and we will obviously have some in that place that will have a son, and we'll let you know. Sure enough, they did, and said, We've got a lady that wants to place her son up for adoption. You got that baby.

BETTY: I did! You were out of town.

JAMES: I was preaching a crusade in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and setting the coliseum record. That was when Oral Roberts couldn't even get a seat and had to sit on the steps because he wouldn't take somebody's chair. But I came home from that, and you drove to the airport with what?

BETTY: With Randy!

JAMES: And you were praying, you said.

BETTY: I did! I said, I hope he loves him because I'm not giving him back.

JAMES: Well, I think he was -- was he four days old when they brought him to the house?

BETTY: Yeah. Four days old.

JAMES: And there he was, and I fell in love with you real fast, Randy. You grew real fast. You got big in a hurry as a little baby, and you became a man, and sure enough, you've blessed us all the way through your childhood and your life. You had a wonderful mind, and you got scholarship offers everywhere. You chose to go where?

RANDY: I went to Oral Roberts University. But you are being a little bit generous because I know I challenged you at times, no doubt, especially in the teen years, and even into the college years, and into the adult years. So we'll be honest about that.

But no, I mean, the principle, what's interesting is explaining that to me because people have said, When did you find out you're adopted? I always knew. I never had the insecurity that a lot of adoptees had because you used the scriptural principle of all of us being adopted by the sons and daughters of God, and that's the spiritual principle. And for us, it was a physical principle as well. And so, from the get-go there's been this foundation of Scripture in our family life, and in the work that we do through the ministry. If you don't start with a solid foundation, you really

can't build. I appreciate not only the personal foundation that you provided, but also the foundation upon scripture that *Life Outreach International* has been built on. That's why when you look at where we're at, and the times, and the culture, and the country, in our own lives, you know, I'm a grandfather now. You guys are great- How many great grandkids do you have?

BETTY: We have 22, with 23 soon.

RANDY: I can't even keep up. I know that we've been contributing to that. But, you look at that kind of foundational element and you go, What do you do with that? Well, you got to have the strong foundation. But the other biblical principle at play, again, in the parable Jesus talks about giving the talents, which is the monetary unit, but I love the double play of the word in our language, what do you do with it? Well, you just kind of stash it over here, guard it, keep it, and then give it back, what are you called? You're not called blessed. You're called wicked and lazy. In Scripture, it's the one that was invested. It grew, it multiplied. It was never about how much you were given, it was always about the multiplication of that. I think that's where we're at right now with *Life Outreach International* and with our lives. I know a lot of the viewers in your life, the older you get the more you go, okay, what do I have? Well, the foundation is solid. I think we're at a point of multiplication in the ministry and in the mission outreaches. I just think that's our calling. But we have to have, obviously, the support of the people that have watched, that have been a part, that this is a team effort, right? But I think we're at a real key point.

JAMES: Well, Betty and I, along with all the missionaries, all we would do would be people with a compassion and a love and a concern for people. We would find people who needed love and compassion and somebody to care, and we found plenty of them. Boy, did we care. But Betty, we found the missionaries that seemed to even care to the extent that they would move their families all the way across the ocean and start putting them in a homeschool and keeping them there to move their life in the midst of this suffering, to try to put the arms of God around the least of these and the most overlooked people on the planet. They said, Our problem is we're going to be empty-handed if we don't have somebody helping us. They looked at me and you, and they knew we had a television audience. They said, Why don't you go back and ask them to

help? Scared me to come back thinking the one thing I knew churches didn't do much of was attend mission conferences and prayer meetings. So here I'm coming back to ask people to pray for tremendous needs, but also to do mission outreach.

Betty, we decided we were going to do it as a ministry. We started it and we were serious about it. We went to find the needs everywhere so we could show people with their own eyes the need and the opportunity. Randy, you know how clear that was because you not only saw it on television, but ultimately, you went and saw it in person. We never had to exaggerate because it was exactly what we pointed at. The reality was where you could see it. The need was great, and the need could be met.

RANDY: It was life-changing for me to see those things firsthand. I even left the ministry for six years and went and worked in a secular company, a Fortune 500 company, a dot com startup, kind of living the dream. There came a period where I literally was having difficulty sleeping because it was like God was going, Wake up! I've got something for you to do. Because what I saw in the mission field, the need that I saw, and the impact that we could have if we would just do something, that never left. That's part of why I'm here today, because we are in a position, we have been given the great privilege and honor of being able to save people's lives in the name of Jesus. You just don't walk away from that now.

But let me tell you. I asked Peter Pretorius a question back in the early '90s when we were in Mozambique. A very American question, a very, very Western question. I said, How long do you think we're going to have to do this until they don't need us anymore? Right? In other words, the feeding. Because I thought, okay, well, they had a famine or a flood. They need food. It is temporary. There is some truth in that. There have been areas where we've gone in with emergency food; it stabilized and you move out. But there's also a mindset that we've had to face in a lot of these third world countries. It's a poverty mindset. You see it here in the United States as well but he said, No, this is generational. Peter said, This is generational. I kind of, really?

But let me tell you the other side of that, because we were seeing the generations. I was in South Sudan earlier in 2025, and you can go into a school there where there's mission feeding, and now these kids have an education because they haven't had to scramble for food every day. They're talking about becoming teachers or lawyers or doctors and coming back to their village and make them self-sustaining. Right?

JAMES: Oftentimes, they come back as teachers. Sometimes, they actually come back becoming mayors of villages. It's amazing.

RANDY: Oh, it's wild to see this generational thing.

JAMES: These are the kids that were dying that you saw.

RANDY: Right. Right. And then I turn around and I meet one of the guys on our very team that is helping with the mission outreach that goes, you know, I grew up in a village and my life was saved by mission feeding. I was like, no way! So you're seeing it come back around. That's the generational challenge. You give them the stability of the food, you do it in a school in most cases so they're getting an education. Now they're not thinking about today, they're thinking about the future. You give them the assurance that, yes, you can become something in life and they want to. They desperately want to. And then again, the foundation. Right? What's the foundation of all of it? It's Jesus Christ. This is the gospel in word and deed, and it brings life to villages, to individuals first, and to villages, and to countries. We're seeing it pay off. I can't -- it's hard to put into words, but I think you see it sometimes in some of the faces of the people there. They laugh, they smile, they love. I just can't tell you how thrilled I am that you adopted me and you allowed me to be a part of this beautiful outreach globally. It's just going to continue because it's effective. We've gotten more effective over the years. And so we've moved into new areas of need, and it's the gospel in action.

BETTY: It's just like we desire, our families here, Dad and I have always, to have a good foundation for all three of you children and your families. We still desire that. We think more and more as we've gotten older about that foundation and the legacy that we can leave. I think

that's what you're talking about. Give them a foundation to work on, to grow on, to become strong in the Lord on, and to help others to build foundations. It rolls -- what comes around -- What's that phrase? Comes around, comes back around. Anyway, you know what I mean. In other words, you help someone else and then God will allow them to help someone else. So it rolls.

JAMES: So you talk about legacy, people as we get older, we ought to want to leave a legacy of life, not only with our own family, a meaningful legacy, but with God's will through his family. Randy, we would get the kids stabilized, and then we came up with the idea of feeding in schools because girls didn't tend to go to school. But if you fed them, they would go. So you had boys and girls going, so you got all of them going. So that began school feeding all over Mozambique, is one example, and it became a life-changing thing too. So we advanced it.

The thing about it is you're talking about now the very people that went through are coming back. Some of them working in some way connected with us. But some of them coming back as in let's say civic leaders, as national leaders. Some of them are mayors of some of the smaller communities. Some of them are professors in the schools, in the universities already. I met them! Some of them are police officers. Some of them are in the military. Those were the children that our viewers saved. Right now, because there's been a diminishing of support for, let's say, the people who've been supporting outreaches of missions, they're not there right now. So it's increased our burden and our need to where we need a miracle of support right now.

RANDY: I can tell you the last conversation I had with Isak and with some of the other people, and with the changes in some of the AID structure, because the support that Life Outreach provides isn't just like going to the market and buying food and then taking it out to new places. There's a lot of logistics, there's a lot of delivery. There's sometimes, the processing of raw foods. We have a track record where we can actually multiply the dollars that are given. In other words, if we give a dollar towards the outreach in Africa, it actually has about a \$3 to \$4 power in some of the goods and services that we can get to make the mission feeding possible. It's a little complex but let me just put it this way. With the withdrawing of a lot of aid and restructuring of USAID, and believe me, we've got to get rid of the corruption in that system

because then we'll be able to do more, but with that shifting, it has put a little bit of an urgency on our part because we're not getting as much support.

JAMES: On those we work with, they've got pressure.

RANDY: They absolutely do, and there is a level of concern. I'm hoping and praying that it will be put in place and be even better than before. But when you've got a delay, or a restructure, and so it might change the way things happen. These children can't afford a delay. Too many of them are on death's door. So our concern, and we're watching, is that a disruption in the way things have worked would end up in a lot of death. That is a very real possibility. It's not a criticism, it's just a concern. The solution is to beef up the support that we give them right now, immediately, and just pray that God would work through the other things to make it better than it was before. Because believe me, there are some improvements in a lot of the systems where we get the food.

JAMES: Randy, when these missionaries come to me with that reality, they say, James, we come to you because of people who watch you care. They said, That's why we pray you know, and your viewers know because they seem to care.

RANDY: Yeah. Yeah. I mean, that's why we do what we do.

JAMES: Well we need their help right now more than ever. When we say the “we” that's the people we help that we work with, they need it. It works -- it does not fail.

RANDY: It also works on a different level too, and we need to realize that our battle is not with flesh and blood. One of the most beautiful things, and I know you've done this. We've done this for many years now, but I got to do it again just within the last year. We go into a village and the children are singing and they're dancing and they're celebrating because they're healthy enough to do that. But they're also thankful. They're grateful. They're not just singing a local song, which would be beautiful. They're singing a spiritual song. Yeah, they're singing about Jesus. The impact that we're having -- we don't even know fully, I think. We probably never

will, but that's okay, because we're having an eternal impact. So as we fight some of the logistical battles of making sure that mission feeding continues, and we get to the areas with the greatest need, we also fight the spiritual battle because we know our God is greater than any problem we can bring up in this world. There are lot of places where there are safety concerns. But you know what? When God goes before you and goes behind you, you go in obedience, and he blesses it. He breaks down the walls. I'm just excited. We're going to see greater and greater things.

JAMES: The miracles God has worked to keep our missionaries alive. We had three missionaries riding in the front of a truck that had eight bullet holes through the front of the truck. Not one of them hit any one of the three. That's a miracle. We've seen a lot of miracles like that. I think that's your prayers.

But Randy, right now, you know, and the missionaries have told us what we're facing is the most serious we've ever seen. Which means those of you who care about what the Father cares about, what Jesus died to give, his life and his love, and he came that we might have life, have it more abundantly, have it eternally. That's what we're sharing. It would be wonderful if we could double right now the support, because the needs that great. They're telling me the needs in Africa are going to increase beyond imagination.

Father, I don't have to imagine, I've seen it. I know what can happen. But I also know what can happen when your love flows through your people like it has flowed through our viewers. In Jesus' name.

We need many of you who are watching today to help us save the lives of millions of children, and we can do it. The missionaries are there. They know what they're doing. We need your help that they not be empty-handed. Would you get your bank card and use it like a check? Would you plan to help us every month if possible? Could you make an estate gift? Could you increase your giving if you've been helping? Would you begin to help if you haven't? As you watch Randy talking to Peter Pretorius's son, I want you to just ask God, What do you want me to do?

What is your heart's desire? What is your dream to be fulfilled, Father, through me? Ask him and watch prayerfully.

Transition roll-in: [Through Generations]

PETER: You see the thinness of his hair? The Bible says it's with a measure that you give.

JAMES: To me, the reward is seeing the lives saved, seeing people learn about the love of God.

ANNOUNCER: In the late 1980s, Peter and Ann Pretorius met James and Betty Robison of Life Outreach International, sparking a lifelong partnership that started with feeding 5,000 starving children in war-torn Mozambique, to what is now 350,000 children a day in several countries on the continent of Africa.

Today, the sons of Peter Pretorius and James Robison continue this legacy, saving lives through mission feeding and the gospel of Jesus Christ.

>> Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Amen.

RANDY: This, to me, is the model I wish everyone would adopt. Of course, the gospel being an essential part of it. But this is salvation at every level. All of this started decades ago with your father, my father seeing a need and out of it countless lives have been saved. Through the generations, Isak, I want us to expand, continue, save even more lives, reaching more people with the gospel. Will you stand with me if I stand with you?

ISAK: If you'll stand with us, we're here. We're going to do this. Our commitment is there to not just continue the work, but to do the work on a broader scale, on a deeper scale.

RANDY: Where it's needed, they need it, they're dying!

ISAK: Let's dream together of a day where we're not just saving lives, where we actually don't even have to do that anymore, because we've had the level of impact that we need to have in our generation.

RANDY: We're standing with each other. Will you stand with us as we stand for these children?

Studio appeal:

JAMES: Well, I know so many of you have. Thank you! Randy, you've watched the miracle of God's love through our viewers. You know we would be like the missionaries told us, we'll just be here with a broken heart and empty-handed. So please ask the people that watch you if they would help us. Betty, our viewers have been miracle workers.

BETTY: They really have. You've done so much to help us go forward with God's plan for what this ministry was to do. And you continue to. We need to ask you again, and we'll do it again and again. We need your continued help. Let God show you the best that he wants you to do through this ministry. You've seen the difference. We've shown you the difference. Kids hardly can breathe. Kids can't -- they don't have anything to eat. But you have come through for them every time. We thank you so much for that. Your heartfelt care of this ministry and what we are able to do, and to change the lives of children, let them grow up to be fine adults. Thank you so much.

JAMES: Would you just please go right now and get your bank card and use it like a check? Would you do that? If you write a check, make it to LIFE but call us and tell us what you're mailing. We really need to hear from every one of you. We're going to sit here right now and just pray, God, would you move on everyone that's watching, to put your arms around the people that are overlooked, in Jesus name.

BETTY: Amen.

RANDY: Can I point out that when you saw that it said, 5,000 children was your initial goal in Mozambique, and now it's over 350,000 children every single day, that is the godly principle of stewardship and multiplication. That is what the people that have supported mission feeding in the past have done. You have exhibited this godly principle, and God's honoring it. That's what he does. That's why we're asking people right now. You don't have to feed 350,000 children today. Three children can benefit with a \$30 gift. \$50 will help feed five children. \$100 will help feed ten children. There are many of you that could feed 100 children. You could help feed them today with a gift of \$1,000. Your gift today will be multiplied. Why? Because of the foundation we've built here and because of the amazing multiplication effort of what God does through mission feeding. But it starts with you. That's my prayer.

JAMES: I'm believing you're going to do it. We have gifts for you because we love you just like we love those children that we're helping. We want to bless you. Thank you for blessing others.

FMF Cause spot 2025:

ANNOUNCER: *Right now, across the continent of Africa, children are suffering, facing severe malnutrition and even death. With food reserves critically depleted and many areas experiencing devastating famine, we urgently need to replenish supplies to keep feeding the 350,000 children who are counting on us every single day.*

Through Life's mission feeding outreach, your gift of love can be an answer to a prayer for a hurting and hungry child in their time of need. Call now with your lifesaving gift of \$30, \$50, or \$100 to help feed and care for three, five or ten children for three full months. With your gift, we'll send you "Happy, Healthy and Free." A powerful 31-day journey to help you embrace God's promises for healing, wholeness, restoration, peace, and joy. Step into the abundant life God has prepared for you.

With your gift of \$100 or more, please request 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, this is the last opportunity to request our 2025 majestic bronze sculpture, “Lion of Judah” with your gift of \$1,000 or more, which will help feed 100 children in desperate need. So please call, write, or make your gift online today.

Studio goodbye:

JAMES: You know, we've got this. Randy said we can grow but not without you. You're the only way we ever reach beyond one place to another, another person, another village. You're it. Please know how important, not just that you are to LIFE Outreach, but how important you are to giving life to people who will not live without your help. So do all you can.

We have been praying. I came knowing this week we needed a miracle from God through you. Randy, the viewers are awesome, aren't they?

RANDY: Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah!

JAMES: They really are. So we need your help big time. From the bottom of our heart in behalf of so many precious ones, thank you for putting God's arms around them. We love you.