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Week 43: Rescue LIFE

Tammy Trent

Real Talk Kim

In the studio

TAMMY: Hello everybody. I'm Tammy Trent and welcome to *Life Today*. We are about to have some fun up in this house today. Real Talk Kim is with us and she has a new book out, *You Got to Get Up*, "Grab hold of your life after being knocked down, held down, and left out." And I know that many of us can totally identify with words like that: Knocked down, held down, left out, overlooked, wrecked, worthless, destroyed, or mishandled. But as much as we can feel those words deeply, and as real as our heartache and pain can feel, God loves us too much to leave us in a place of hurt and pain where we feel like we can't get back up again. We have to remember it is not the knockdowns in life that defeat us but it is when we choose to stay down.

So let's get up today! I want to welcome my friend Real Talk Kim—Real Talk Kim. Can I call you by your middle name, Talk?

[Laughter]

KIM: Yes!

[Laughter]

Man, I'm so excited to be with you. I feel like I know you because of social media.

TAMMY: I feel the same. And there is so much that I want to talk to you about today. I

feel so nervous sometimes when I come into a place like this because I want to get it right. I want to get it right so bad. And there is so much that you have to say that I know is going to probably—it might even set some people free.

So I want to start by asking you to take us back a little bit to the early days of your life.

KIM: I'm so thankful. I was raised in a really strict religion where women couldn't wear pants. And I was that kid, the blue-jean girl. My parents made me—I'll never forget going to the ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, and I was six years old and had to go swimming in a blue jean skirt. I was like there is nobody even here. Why are you making me sink to the bottom?

So I was raised in this really strict religion. My daddy was a pastor in Atlanta, Georgia. We were evangelists my first six years traveling all over the world. I'm just so thankful. Like I'm so thankful. As hard as it was being raised in that religion, I'm so thankful for that foundation because I was raised you can shout, you can praise your way through, you can talk to God about it.

He is a genie in a bottle. I was raised—I just was raised. You put a little bit of faith on it and you can move mountains. And I realized at about 18 years old, whenever I ran away from home and got married—I never do anything small, Tammy.

TAMMY: It doesn't sound like it to me. 18 years old you got married?

KIM: I ain't scared of nothing. Like if I'm going to do something, we're going to at least have fun doing it. So I wanted to get away from my parents and so—

TAMMY: Okay, like spiritually too, were you in a good place spiritually at 18?

KIM: No!

TAMMY: So it didn't matter being raised in the home of pastors and stuff, you were not in a good place spiritually.

KIM: No. I was a preacher's kid. And usually what they say about preachers' kids is true. We are in a glass house. We're raised on the church pew. I couldn't even tell you probably at 18 if there were three animals or two animals going on Noah's ark because I was too busy—

TAMMY: There were two.

KIM: I figured that out. But I was so busy just living. I was so busy just being rebellious and mad that I was in a box. And the saints would always go home and tell on me.

So I left home and got married and moved to Tepic, Mexico. I was going to be a missionary. I was so excited about being a missionary. And I get to Tepic, Mexico and I'm like what have I done? There was no civilization. So that one lasted, if I passed him on the street, I wouldn't even know what he looked like.

TAMMY: What was that like, that 18-year-old girl who got married so young, maybe running away from God, what were those early years like then walking into the marriage? What was that marriage like? How did it make you who you are today? Did it contribute to that?

KIM: Oh, yeah. I always tell people because, in church, divorce is so frowned on, especially then. My mama always said my wedding was longer than my marriage.

TAMMY: So that relationship ended in divorce.

KIM: Oh, yes. Like it ended within a few months. I put everything in this book, *You Got to Get Up*. Y'all want to read it because it's going to make you feel so much better about your life.

[Laughter]

TAMMY: It's honestly, unbelievable. So much to unpack.

KIM: It made me. Now that I look back, because I ended up, after that my parents were like, girl, we're going to get you saved. I was in Israel singing, "I know the peace speaker. I know him by name." On the Sea of Galilee! I didn't anymore know the peace speaker than the man on the moon. I'm shocked the Sea of Galilee didn't turn into a whole of concrete. Do you hear me? It was just like—I always tell people this, especially with their kids, when God has his hand on your life, the enemy can't take you out so he tries to wear you out. And he'll do it through, literally, I mean decisions at a young age.

But I'm just here proof, proof that God never walks out on you. He is not like people. He loves to use people with the worst past to create the best futures. And this book is all—*You Got to Get Up* is telling you about stories in the Bible that can relate to every single one of us that have done everything they said we did. We were nay-naying and not pray-praying. We were jumping ahead.

TAMMY: So does God use our mess—can God use someone that's also gone through divorce? So many times I think that people of divorce are also told, now you're damaged goods. Now you've failed and now—and there is sin in your life and it's going to be probably impossible for you to be used of God. So you should probably step aside and let somebody else do that.

Did you ever struggle with that where people counted you out? And basically said you're damaged goods.

KIM: Well, Tammy, we live in a social media world. We live in a world where they can Google you. We live in a world where people will make you pay for what they heard. We live in a world where you can get better and you can do better and you can change

completely because that's how God is. When you surrender and hit rock bottom and find out who the rock is at the bottom, which is Jesus, your whole life changes. But we live in a world that does not forget what you've done. And so that is why it is so important when people are counting you out that you've got to know God is counting you in. You realize there are eight billion people in this world. There are eight billion people and God did not let you go through what you—he knew before I was ever even a thought in my mother's womb. He knew I was going to be rebellious. He knew I was going to be a late bloomer. He knew I wasn't going to be scared to try everything. He knew that life was going to become the greatest Bible School I ever had, and I wouldn't have one tuition to pay that because I had some oil on my life. Because whenever I hit rock bottom, I did allow God to heal me.

So you've got to hold on to that. You've got to hold on to sometimes, those people that won't let you forget, they won't let you forget what you've done, you've got to love them, move them from your VIP section. And you move them up to that balcony, and you say, I love you but I love you from up there. Because where I'm going is personal and I can't keep being reminded, hello, woman at the well. Hello Jonah! That was told to go to Nineveh. He was like kill them! Kill them with a train. I ain't going to Nineveh. And all of a sudden, God sent a fish. Fish, go follow Jonah. He's going to need transportation back to where I told him to be in the first place.

God is like that. And so we cannot get stuck in what we've done. We can't get stuck in what social media is saying about us. We somehow have got to stay on our face and we've got to keep getting up one more time. One more time!

TAMMY: What do you think causes people to get stuck, and choose to stay there rather than living a life that's free and in your purpose, your God-given purpose? What causes them to get stuck and how—and I'm assuming that in your book you've got some stuff to help people get out. What is it that causes them to get stuck in the first place?

KIM: People. We care what people think about us. We care what people in a free app

think about us. They don't even know your middle name. We've got our loud-mouthed auntie over there. She is still talking about our abortion we had at 16 years old. You're 50 now!

The enemy comes to steal, kill, and destroy. And if you don't take care of the areas on the inside of you that need validation, we want to be loved, we want to be accepted, we want to be valued. Right? And if we don't get the areas in us where we celebrate ourselves and love ourselves and pick ourselves up, the enemy will always send those little foxes that spoil the vine in our lives. That's how we keep repeating the same cycles with the same kind of people. Same kind of relationships, different faces. The same kind of toxicity, we said law withdrawal. What we feel about ourselves. This is why when you see God closing a chapter, that rejection is God's protection; that's how you got to look at it. Your mouth might have run them off but they still left. So that rejection was God's protection. *You Got to Get Up* one more time. You've got to say you know what? Greater is he that is in me than he who is in the world. God is turning my scars into stars. God's turning my wounds into wisdom. My pain into a pulpit and I will rise. I'm rising! Do you hear me? That is what you've got to do.

TAMMY: Hallelujah.

KIM: We need to be free.

TAMMY: Girl, I know! I know! Listen. When I hear you speak, you always—obviously, you speak with such passion. It is backed by the Word of God. You have a fire in you. There is a fight. To me, it comes from a place of experience, that you have had to fight through some things. And that you have now come on the other side of that.

Do you feel like you're on the other side of that? Do you feel like you're still fighting? Do you feel like you're forever fighting this side of heaven?

KIM: Man, I feel so free! Girl, I just turned 51. I don't know what happened. In my 50s, I

believe, Tammy, what it was is I allowed myself—I really, in the last four years of my life focused on my heart. Because I realized that when you get your heart right, like I'm talking every day I lay in my bed and be like God, if there are any thuggish ways, if there is any southside of heaven situations going on in me, any more hood than holy, I pray you eradicate it.

I would lay my hands on myself saying, God, if I don't like somebody show me so I can fix it. Lord, let me love like you. I would say this every day. God, let me love. Let me love. And one day, I woke up and I'm like, oh my gosh! I love everybody. Girl, when I tell you, I love, I love little thumbnails, millions of little thumbnails all over the world, I love you! I love people. I went from not liking people to loving people.

I feel like yeah, I'm living my best life. And I think that's what God intends for us. I think sometimes, in the church world we're like, I'm in spiritual warfare. Oh, the devil is after me. No, no! You need to get yourself right. You need to stop making the choices you make. Oh, the devil's after my car. No, you need an oil change. The devil's after my marriage. No, you need to take little Jesse out of the middle of you and your husband and turn on some Lionel Richie. Hello? Do you know what I'm saying?

I think when we stop graveling, and we stop looking for stress and we stop looking for warfare—

TAMMY: Stop blaming! Stop blaming everybody.

KIM: Yes! And just live.

TAMMY: And especially the enemy. There is a lot of garbage he does create in you but sometimes I think we give him too much credit. You're right, when we've created—sometimes, we've created our own storms and expect God to do a miracle when he says first let's take a look at yourself. We need to first fix this before I can begin the blessings. So there needs to be obedience in your life. You need to respond to the Word of God.

You need to surrender all of this stuff. And then we can do great work in your life, which then will overflow into the lives of everybody around you.

Oh, my gosh! So what you're saying is like sitting in bed going transform me, God. We spend so much time saying change them. Change this. Do this for me and it needs to line up this way. And when it doesn't, I'm out of here, God. You're not listening, you've abandoned. You're not the God I thought you were. Yeah, I'm done. And he says do not stop. Stay in it. I have so much more for you.

And that's the word I get from you time and time again. I think even, Kim, as I began to read through your book, there were so many things in here that I thought, this—I mean there is a lot to unpack but it is so, so good, especially to me, for the one that feels stuck and doesn't know how to keep moving.

One of my favorite chapters for me, "Stop giving C.P.R. to dead situations!" I love it. Can you kind of—I know it is hard to unpack a lot of these things. But let me give you a word and then just quickly unpack it for me. Decide.

KIM: Decide, make a choice. Life literally, you're not stuck because you're not a tree. As long as you have a pulse, God's got a plan. So you've got to decide. Deciding is the first factor in getting up.

TAMMY: Awesome. Define.

KIM: I know who I am. I'm not who you say I am. I'm not that last season Kim, I'm today's Kim. And I'm not stuck there because God never ends in a deficit. So I'm getting up.

TAMMY: Okay. Detox.

KIM: Detox. I'm getting to the bottom of me. The reason I'm here is because I keep

repeating the same cycles. I'm going to figure out why I keep coming back here. I'm going to decide right now that I can be a generational curse breaker. That I don't have to stay like my mama. I don't have to stay like my sister. I don't have to be who they say I am.

TAMMY: Delete.

KIM: Delete! Bye! Having a gift of goodbye! I love you but I love you on a balcony. I want you to eat but not at my table. I'm going to send you some Uber Eats.

TAMMY: That is awesome.

KIM: You know, if you don't make it better, then listen, I love you but I can't keep dragging old season people into my new season.

TAMMY: And the last one, discipline.

KIM: Discipline, listen, it means I don't like the way I feel. I don't like the way I look in my clothes. I don't like the way I feel in this relationship. I don't like the way you disrespect me so I'm going to discipline myself enough to get myself in the right place with God. I'm going to intentionally get up earlier. I'm intentionally spending time with God. I ain't going to lay in my bed like God, read my mind. I'm going to slide on out of that bed, get on my knees, and talk to God from the floor, and say I ain't getting up until you do something.

Discipline is the first move to your greatest season. Working out, eating right, loving better, looking in that mirror and being like, girl, what's your name?

TAMMY: Yes! I read in the book here, which I love, you've got so many radical restoration stories, testimonies from people that have just begun to live again, that laid it down, that surrender. Whether it was addiction, whether it was just awful relationships,

or whatever it is that they just said, I stopped living at some point in my life. I gave up, I lost hope, I didn't think that I could ever love again. I didn't think I could ever find life again. And the devil told me enough that God didn't like me anymore so I walked away.

KIM: We were there. We connect.

TAMMY: Yes! So many people have found great hope through the life that you've chosen to walk through. And the way that you've trusted God with the pieces of your life knowing that he was more than capable of putting your life back together again, you are a breath of fresh air to so many people. And I'm so grateful that you've walked through the fire. I'm so grateful that you're living, breathing, and smiling. The joy of the Lord is evident and real in your life. It is powerful. It is powerful!

Your life story is powerful and it changes lives. And there is another story I want to show you right now that is powerful in changing lives today. Take a look and watch this.

On the mission field

>> Hi! My name is Dary.

Open captions

>> I became a believer since 2009. During that time you know what? All the leaders at the church and my teacher, they are all returning around at the church. What's going on at the church? And they said, "One family is selling a girl who is nine years old. And right now she is at the guest house, and she almost died. Because a foreign guy tried to rape her."

She's nine years old and there is a lot of blood. When I see that, I run to one of the rooms at the church. One picture is coming back to my memory. I started to remember when I'm nine years old. I was raped by a man close to my house. Really painful. Immediately, Jesus speak to my right ear. And I hear his voice. I hear he say, "Dary, get up and go and help her!"

You know what? I said to him, "Yes, God. I'll go. No matter what, I'll go." Every day we're working with the children and the families. I want to see them smiling. I want to see them laugh, whatever they want to laugh at. I want to see them play wherever they can play. We want to make a home. We want them to feel loved, and care, value, and respect.

I believe 100 percent that Jesus will set the children free. I believe to go around the world and fight. Fight for freedom, fight against the darkness, fight against the evil, and fight against sex trafficking. To set all the people, all the children, all the women free and they can hope again. Thank you!

End of video

In the studio

TAMMY: Yes! Dary, you go girl! I'm standing right there with you. We are standing right there with you in this fight for those children. I love that God is using her pain and her experience to help bring hope to others, especially that little nine-year-old girl. She listened to the voice of God and she moved, she responded. Because of that, I believe that little girl's healing journey started that day.

And this is why I love our three-step Rescue LIFE strategy to reach, rescue, and restore. It changes lives when we can reach them, we can rescue them, and we can begin the restoration process. It sets these children up for a better life filled with the love of Jesus as we help them navigate through the trauma and the healing process.

There are so many beautiful stories that we continue to hear from our Rescue LIFE centers around the world, and that's why I'm so thankful for Dary in Southeast Asia. She is amazing and so full of joy, which is what those children need to be surrounded by; someone who understands their pain and hurt and is a living example of what it looks like when God heals a shattered broken heart and brings them back to life again through it all.

She has dedicated her life to fight for freedom, to fight against the darkness, to fight against evil, and to fight against sex trafficking.

I want to help her and all of our mission partners around the world in this fight for freedom. Dary listened to the voice of God and she responded. Yes, God, I'll go no matter what. I'll go! So I'm asking you today to listen to the voice of God and also respond if he is speaking to you. Would you pray about getting involved? Would you pray about coming alongside us and Dary in this fight? We have a plan and we have a vision. We just need your faithful partnership to give.

And right now, if God lays it on your heart to give, your gift will be matched by amazing friends of our ministry with a \$320,000 match. So that means your gift, whatever you can give, will be doubled. \$64 now begins the process of reaching, rescuing, and restoring one child. \$128 now begins the process of reaching, rescuing, and restoring two children. \$1280 now begins the process of reaching, rescuing, and restoring 20 children!

We can all do something right now, today. So let's stand together against such evil. We can't just hope that someone else is going to take care of it. We have to extend hope as well. Whatever that looks like right now just be faithful and respond and trust in God and us knowing that we together will make a difference.

So please go online, give us a call today, and make the best gift you possibly can right now to help us stop human trafficking around the world.

Begin video clip

***ANNOUNCER:** Innocent children and young people longing to be loved and cared for are being abducted and sold at the hands of violent predators, forced into the evil industry of human trafficking.*

Through Mission: Rescue Life you can reach out to warn children who are at risk for sex

trafficking, rescue those already enslaved, and restore young lives and give them a future. With a generous \$320,000 matching gift, now your gift of \$128 to help reach, rescue, or restore one child can be doubled to help two children. Your \$64 gift will be matched to help save one child from the horrors of human trafficking. And a \$32 mission rescue gift will be doubled to \$64.

With your gift today, we'll send you "Declare." This beautifully designed 31-day devotional reveals 31 names of God from scripture and gives insight into the character, grace, and the depth of God's love for you.

With your gift of \$128 or more, you'll receive The Gospels book set. This special edition collection of the four gospels in the classic King James version includes journaling space opposite each page of scripture so you can reflect as you read. The perfect companion for your daily time with God.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1280 which will now help save 20 children. And you may request our inspiring bronze sculpture, "Consider the Birds."

Please call, write, or make your gift online.

End of video

On the mission field

>> As we partner with *LIFE Outreach International*, we are making a difference in the lives of children. It's people like you who with unwavering support, dedication, and generosity have been the driving force behind every rescue, every smile restored, and every life transformed. We know there is still so much work to be done but your contribution has made it possible for us to stand up against child trafficking and for these children to be pulled from the darkness into the light.

Every smile, every step forward, every dream reignited. These are all a testament to the

incredible impact that your support has on these young lives. I personally want to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who has made a difference in a child's life already.

With your continued support, we will help to create a world where no one is subjected to the horrors of child trafficking. A world where love, compassion, and justice prevail. By working together, we can reach every person and rescue every child. Thank you so much!

End of video

In the studio

TAMMY: Goodness, thank you so much for all that you've given through the years. Please continue to give if you can. Go online and make that call today and make the best gift you possibly can. And when you do, request Real Talk Kim's brand-new book, *You Got to Get Up*. We want to send this to you with any gift that you're able to give today. So just make sure to request that.

Kim, honestly, you mean so much to me. You mean so much to so many people. Your life, the journey, and the steps you've taken, are life-changing for so many people that are leaning in and watching you. Thank you so much. We truly love you. I truly love you.

KIM: So honored! So honored.

TAMMY: And as Kim says, at some point you have to quit asking all the questions and just start moving. Put feet to your faith and get up. Do it afraid if you have to but keep moving. Oh, yes, fear will try to paralyze you and shame will try to cripple you but you have been given the power to overcome. So choose to get up today and start living—truly living in your God-given purpose. Seal that with a yes and amen.

God bless you, we care about you, and we'll see you next time on *Life Today*.