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Week 43: Rescue LIFE

Randy Robison and Tammy Trent

Barry Meguiar

**In the studio**

**TAMMY:** Hello, everybody. I'm Tammy Trent and this is Randy Robison. It's great to be back with you. Today is a good day. It's going to be a great day.

**RANDY:** Every day is a great day.

**TAMMY:** Yes! I hope it's a great day for you too. We have an awesome guest with us today, Barry Meguiar. And I have never met Barry before so I always—

**RANDY:** I have. Oh my goodness.

**TAMMY:** Oh, boy, you said. So I always prep and study for the shows, right? And I was doing that and watching him speak. He's so contagious, his joy and everything. I was just leaning into the interview. And then I learned that he was like the number one car wax guy. Right? So I'm like oh, my gosh! So I went downstairs, Randy. I ran downstairs in the garage. I went through all my car products and do I have any—

**RANDY:** You wax your own car?

**TAMMY:** I do. I love it. I'm weird like this. I love washing my own cars. I love it, waxing. So I looked at all my products and I had two things of Barry Meguiar's. It said "Meguiar." And I actually went like no way! So I took a picture of it and I was like, I get to talk to this guy.

So, Barry, I'm so glad that you're here. You have a new book out.

**BARRY:** I do!

**TAMMY:** You do, *Ignite Your Life*. I have no idea that today you're going to help us do that. There is so much about your life. And for those that only know you as a car wax guy, like tell us a little bit of your backstory for me, I'm still learning who this guy is and I love him.

**BARRY:** Well, in '66, I don't want to talk about car wax, but my grandfather, a godly man, loved the Lord, started making furniture polish in 1901. And his obsession was creating a perfect finish on black lacquer furniture. Now hold that thought. It was the age of horseless carriages. What he created started to be used by all the people who had horseless carriages; they were all painted black. He was in Evansville, Indiana, and moved to California where the car hobby started at the end of World War II.

Long story short, I got out of college, I've been working in the family business since I was in junior high. I got out of college. We were doing \$600,000 a year, been doing that every year for a lot of years, selling to body shops. When I got out of school, that's what we did. We went into body shops and buffed cars. That's what I did to make a living.

And God inspired me to go into retail. I don't want to take the time but the miracle story, it's in the book, the miracle story of how he got me tuned and going into this monster market that I know nothing about. I just know how to buff a car. I just said, God, I trust you with my whole heart. For me, it is easy. I can't lean into my understanding, I don't have any understanding. So for me, it is easy.

**RANDY:** What did it grow into? How big is the business?

**BARRY:** We're the number one selling car wax now in America. They don't keep the records around the world but we're pretty strong all over the world now.

**RANDY:** But that's your tent-making gig.

**BARRY:** But at the very same time, that was 1973, I launched in November of '73, but in the Spring of '73 God spoke to me about sharing faith, and I was wanting joy. Happiness comes and goes. We'll all be happy and unhappy today depending on the meal that we had or the signal that we missed or whatever. But joy is there no matter what.

And Karen and I were doing everything in the church. I was raised in the church. Many generations on both sides of my family praying for me. I have no excuse. So we're giving sacrificially but we had no joy; and we're praying for joy. We went to a luncheon for our church one day, it was the 50th anniversary of that particular church, and the speaker was Herb Ellingwood. He was a legal affairs secretary for Governor Reagan. I'm going back to 1973. And I sat next to him for an hour. He told me one story after the other about sharing his faith. He was laughing and he was crying. He was laughing, and I saw a joy I'd never seen before. And I walked away and I told Karen, "That's..." I told God, that's what I want. Through tears, I said, "That's what I want, God." I talked to Karen, we said we're going to start doing it.

About a month later, we were laughing one day and I said, "Karen, we have joy." And then we discovered this verse in John 15:11, he says, "When you bear fruit, my joy will remain with you, and your joy will be full." And we've never had a day without joy from that time on. Whoever would have known that joy has to do with sharing your faith? I never heard a sermon on this but it is real. And the scriptures say it is real.

So from there, we went on. And then God inspired us to go into ministry at the same time. I was wondering if I should go into ministry and not do my business. Okay? It is now three years later. Sharing our faith like crazy, loving it, leading people to the Lord, and having so much fun that I thought I should go into full-time ministry. So I prayed the most fervent prayer of my life one day. I closed the door of my office and said, "God, if you want me to go into full-time ministry, I will leave my business—I love my business. You've given me this, I love this business but I'll go into full-time ministry if you want me to. But you almost have to speak to me in an audible voice." I didn't demand. I just said, "You almost."

Not 20 minutes later, a guy walked into my office by the name of David McNutt who I didn't know. I knew him at church, I knew he was a missionary kid, grew up in Africa, my age. I'd never spoken to him, never exchanged a glance, now he's in my office. And he just talked about—asked me how things were going and I started telling him about sharing my faith. He's like, "God's given you a wonderful ministry here, hasn't he?"

I said whoa! For him to say that at that point. "Why would you say that?"

He said, "Well, a pastor could never reach these people. But as a businessman, you can."

He gave me this line, this is 1976. He says, "It is obvious that your business is your pulpit."

Wow! I said, "I've got to tell you this. Not just 20 minutes ago, I prayed this prayer."

He's like, "Well, that explains it."

I said, "Explains what?"

He said, "I just dropped missionaries off at Orange County Airport in Irvine, California. I was driving up Red Hill," the closest main street to my office. He said, "God spoke to me and said, 'Go see Barry Meguiar.'"

I look back and laugh now because I would have been a horrible pastor. I'm not a pastor. I'm a businessman. I love my business. But he made me understand, we're all in the same place. Wherever you are, folks, that's your pulpit. He's planted you right where you are. It's not later, someday I'm going to get there. I've had friends that die and never get to that place right now. He has you there right now for this moment.

**TAMMY:** And right now wherever you're at you're in full-time ministry. Right now.

**RANDY:** How many people realize this? Do you think the average Christian gets this?

**BARRY:** The best we could tell, about ten percent of the population are really solid in their faith. But if you want to get to the hardest statistic of all, about 80 percent, over 80 percent of the world that is lost, that are making these bad decisions because they're blinded, they're not going to church, how will they ever know unless somebody tells them? Nobody is telling them because only one percent of us that love the Lord are sharing our faith.

We're upset, we're crying, we're [ unintelligible ] we're wanting, even some pastors, a few, very few, say go share your faith but we don't know how. And I found out, and Karen and I found out that it is so easy. The most prolific Christians are new Christians and they don't even know scripture. But they have zeal. And it is called first love when you're first in love. We look for first-love Christians. You could see that's what's driving their life.

If you love Jesus then you're going to talk about Jesus. We're excited about things and we talk about things we're excited about. You have to check your own spirituality. In Revelations 2 Jesus says: "You've left your first love." I love you," this is us, "you're going to church, you're giving sacrificially, you know good teaching from bad, you have all that, but I have this against you, you've left your first love and you're no longer doing the first work." And the first thing every Christian does is share their faith.

If Jesus is your first love, you will share your faith. So that's the whole thing. And at the most important time in human history, we've left that message. I don't understand it but we're trying to do something about it.

**RANDY:** Can I take the stand on behalf of a few people watching out there who are saying, well, wait a minute. I love Jesus. I've loved Jesus all my life. I don't want to offend people or I don't know how. I'm just not eloquent. What do they need to know to get beyond themselves or the other people?

**BARRY:** This is not a choice. It is the great commission. He's commanded us, he's commissioned us, tell people about Jesus. Roman 8:28 says, I promise you, everything in your

life will work together for good if you do two things. If you love me with all your heart, mind, and soul, I mean love him, if you do that, it is automatic, you live for his purpose.

So when we live to seek and save the lost, in our ministry say move everybody, not just one person a day—not just one person a day. If you move everybody every day so it is in line, I didn't see my maid this morning but I left her a nice tip and I left her a "Seeking God" card. So you think about 80 percent of the people around us are lost, and they're blinded. They're making bad decisions thinking they're good. All the legislature we're seeing, they're blinded. They're not evil, they're blinded. They don't know the truth. And we can't solve that in Washington. The only way we're going to solve it is through moving everybody every day closer to Jesus.

**RANDY:** There is something you say in your book that I think is interesting. You say it is not just for the other people that we tell, sharing our faith is for us.

**BARRY:** Boy, that is the thing we learn the most because our lives, my wonderful Karen, we've been married 60 years, what a gift. And we've been doing this side by side for 60 years. And what he has done for us, his promise in Romans 8:28 works, folks, and that ends fear.

You know, 80 percent of all Christians are living in fear. If you're living in fear, you're not living in faith where you can't share your faith. And also without faith, you can't please God. So that's where Christians—they're on their way to heaven. Almost everybody watching us right now is on their way to heaven. You love God. Absolutely, you love God. You're faithful but you're not enjoying the ride. [Laughing] You're not having fun. All the bad news, there's lots of stuff, it doesn't matter.

The worse things get, the closer we are to Jesus. The closer we are to the rapture. We're running out of time to get 80 percent around us who are lost into heaven. And instead of a scripture, you just love on them. And when you love in the name of Jesus, not being a good person. He didn't say go into the world and be a good person. Do you know most evangelicals think being a good person is sharing their faith today? It's amazing because that's how our sermons are. So we are a better person and we do love on people but always connecting it with Jesus.

I had a friend walk out on me from a restroom and he said, "See the guy working the restroom?"

I said, "Yeah."

He said, "I gave him \$20 and told him he's doing a good job."

I said, "Well, that's wonderful. But did you ever think maybe you could say, God just nudged me to give you \$20 and to let you know he loves you?" I think of the difference.

We have people trying to move people closer to Jesus all the time. When you do that, everywhere you go, life becomes an adventure, and some things open up and blossom where you can't even imagine. I have a truck driver that's driving somewhere in the country right now because of one of those experiences. Every once in a while, "Hey, Barry! It is your buddy, Dan!"

I say, "Where are you now?" And he shares his faith out of it because of an encounter we had way back about a year and a half ago.

**TAMMY:** Can I ask you a personal question?

**BARRY:** Sure!

**TAMMY:** Okay. I'm sitting across from you, Barry. Your joy is contagious, your love for Jesus, your passion for people, and I wonder if some people would look, as they're getting to know you for the first time and say, well, he's probably never known heartache, he's probably known pain because there is so much joy. He's successful. He's got this, this, and this so I can't relate to Barry. Do you know heartache? Have you gone through pain to be able to speak to—I know joy because I've been in a season where I didn't have it. I cried out for it because of what I've walked through. Have you been there and can you tell me about that? We talked a little bit about that.

**BARRY:** When I first met you this morning, and you were bouncing with joy, I said to myself,

she's been through some pain. It seems like the most joyful people I know are people who have been through pain. I mean real pain. And one of the biggest problems—thank you for that! One of the biggest problems I have is Barry, he has a beautiful wife, he has a business, he has cars, if I was him, I'd be happy too. But they don't know what a struggle I've been through.

My wife used to give me \$5 a week for lunch. Not for lunch, but for the week. We were a struggling little business. We had nothing. There was no way we could imagine where we are today. But in the midst of that, I was dying in a hospital, doctors gave up on me. I was in there for two and a half weeks. Doctors gave up on me. And we had people coming from all over the country, David Wilkerson flew in from New York to be with me. It was hopeless.

Karen and I had—all we had was joy. I said, God, if I do die, I want to die trying to lead as many people to you as I can. I started looking forward to the next nurse or doctor coming through that door. I counted 23 different doctors and nurses. If you're in a hospital right now, folks, you've got game. When something goes wrong, think about who you are going to be with today that you wouldn't be with unless that flat tire happened or whatever it is. So I had that.

My daughter, my 49-year-old daughter, I love to death. I have two daughters I love to death. This was a bit of my clone, and she led people to the Lord. She died unexpectedly at 49. What does that do to your mind? My daughter, Nicole died.

**RANDY:** That shakes a lot of people's faith.

**BARRY:** But a thousand people came to that funeral and I did it, I didn't have a minister do it because I wanted people to know I'm not happy but my joy is intact. My joy, there is a difference.

**TAMMY:** What is the difference then? Because some people think it is the same thing. But I know it is different. I know it is different.

**BARRY:** I had Texas barbecue last night. I was happy. And it was good! I've had some that



wasn't so good. I wasn't happy. Last night—today, we'll experience things that will make us happy and unhappy, even if it might be on the news or whatever. Joy is knowing God is making everything in your life work for good, that you're in full-time ministry, that every moment of every day could be your last and are you using it for God. And how he's rushed to you and promised to direct your steps, answer your prayers.

It is called "wholehearted faith." Okay? And quite frankly, if you're not living in wholehearted faith, he's not obligated to direct your steps. James 1 says, "Ask what you want and I'll give it to you. But oh, don't waver. Don't expect to receive anything from me.

So we have a lot of folks here today watching us right now, I guarantee you, that are praying and seeking God. I've been there, I've done it and not gotten any answer. I went on for two and a half years. My business was falling apart. I cried out to God. I went everywhere. I went to Saint Pat's in New York and sat there and cried out to God. Nothing happened. I'm driving down the street and a preacher from the south is yelling, "Who is your god? I'll tell you who your God is, whatever is filling your prayers is your god." And I'd been praying for my business for two and a half years. God, help me have this appointment. Help me get through to this person. I need financing. I need this. And I know better! I was not just broke, how could I do that? It is not my God. Take it away from me.

And we tried to do it on our own. Every time we tried to do it on our own, we're saying, God, I can't trust you. I've got to do it. Well, we can't do it. There is no way we can trust that much. It's automatic, the tagline of that book right there is: "Defeat fear with effortless faith." And when you live in the sweet spot with God, when you live according to Romans 8:28, if you live to love God and to seek and save the lost, to move everybody every day closer to Jesus, you'd live in the fog. I'll say this really quick. Follow the nudge and live in the fog.

**RANDY:** Follow the nudge, live in the fog?

**BARRY:** We all know the nudges. The nudges you should go speak to that person. And they are pouring out their heart, they're in such distress. I should ask him if I could pray for him but then

he'll think I'm a fool. We have a million excuses. When you follow the nudge, you live in the fog. The fog—the favor of God. You live in the favor of God. When you live in the favor of God you've got joy! Whoo whoo whoo!

**RANDY:** Let me ask you about that because that phrase, "Living in the fog" usually means you can't see everything around you.

**BARRY:** Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah! [Laughing]

**RANDY:** Is it okay to just step out there in childlike faith and follow that nudge?

**BARRY:** That's the best part! That's the best part. That's the best part. Why? When I talk to people, I see God just blessing and blessing others. You're living in the fine favor of God. I can't quite put my finger on it except that you're all in. You're just there. You can tell it.

So we call it the first-love Christians and we gravitate to first-love Christians. Now with all the apostasy and so much false doctrine, we have a lot of people that are I don't know where but I want to know who my close friends are when things get more difficult in the times ahead. I want to know who my friends are.

**RANDY:** You are revved up. I love it. I love it.

**BARRY:** People say, how could he have joy all the time? Because I'm always coming off of one of these experiences. We can bring him joy when he says, I set that up for you, it was a divine appointment. I set you up and pulled it off. Good going, Barry! I just gave God joy. And the joy of the Lord is my strength, it is not my joy, it is his joy.

**RANDY:** And when one person comes to Christ, all heaven rejoices. And that's what you're talking about.

**BARRY:** Oh, yes. But it is a team sport! I used to think I had to get them saved on the spot. That

has to go away. Sometimes, I have some people I call it chumming, you just keep chumming. Some I've been chumming with for 20 years. I have had one for 30 years I've been chumming. But then I have them come back.

A guy called me and I led him to the Lord on a hospice bed. It took me about ten minutes. It took me about ten minutes. No, it took 50 years. I'd been sharing with him for 50 years. As he's dying, he says, "I need to talk to Barry." And I led him to the Lord, after 50 years of sharing, without seeing anything coming back.

**TAMMY:** You're passionate, Barry. The favor of God is on your life and there is genuine joy. And I love that about you. And just sitting in your presence ignites my fire for the things of God too. There are also people in the world right now that have lost their joy. That are without—that are fighting for life, they're fighting for freedom. And I love this part of our ministry where we want to go in and we want to help them find joy again. We want to bring freedom to them. I want you to take a moment and I want you to watch this and see why it is so important that we get to them today.

### **Begin video clip**

**Announcer:** The fact that children and young women are being kidnapped and held captive is intolerable. But what happens next to these innocent victims is unthinkable.

>> I would scream and cry and say I didn't want to do that work. But the lady would beat me with a big stick. I still have the scars on my arm from her beatings.

One girl that was in there with me had her throat slit; another had her breasts cut off. After seeing all that torture, I was terrified I would get murdered too. So I did the work they forced me to do.

**Announcer:** Anjolie's story ended well because she was rescued from her captors and she has started the healing process. But there are thousands of other victims and children at risk who are not so fortunate. They are still waiting to be rescued.

>> I prayed that before more girls die in there, we can get them out so they can have hope and a new life like me.

**End of clip**

**In the studio**

**TAMMY:** Whoo! New hope and life like me. Man, there is something that rises inside of me that just wants to shout, like do you see why this is so urgent that we get to them now? There was one that was reached, there was one that was rescued, and she was restored. One! But there is another one today right now someplace that we've got to reach, rescue, and restore. We've got to start that process today. It is urgent.

And I hope that you feel the same that I feel rises within me—every 30 seconds? Is there something that we can do, Randy, to stop this? I believe that there is. If we all do our part, we all come together. We can make an impact.

**RANDY:** We know we can because we are. You are. So many of you have reached out and said, we want to help, we want to reach, we want to rescue, we want to restore. I have to say this, Tammy, because right now we're seeing an awareness. We've been seeing this, it is not just around the world, it is in our own country, it is right here. But unless we give them the hope of the gospel of Jesus Christ, we're not doing them the service we think we are. And so I am all for reaching into wherever a young person, usually women, but sometimes boys are, she called it in the roll-in "work," it is hell—it is hell on earth. Wherever that is taking place, I want to rescue that person. And we've done it with your help but we need to do more.

I want to reach into places where the enemy is trying to steal lives and say no. And we've done that but we need to do more. Most of all, I want to restore as many lives as we can. We serve a God who redeems all things.

We're asking you to right now to reach out with some other partners who have said hey, we've got a matching gift. We'll match every gift made today. That means the average cost is normally around \$128 to reach, rescue, or restore one but with your gift today of \$64 we can do that. If you can make the gift of \$128 it will actually help two lives. Many of you can reach out and reach, rescue, and restore 20 with a gift of \$1280.

Listen, it is not about the money. It's about the redemption. It is about Christ entering into someone's hell and giving them heaven. And he's asked us to partner with him. We're asking you to partner with us today. Please, go to the phone, and go online. Make the best gift you can. The best gift you can is the one God puts on your heart. We obey, the results are up to him. Let's obey today. Let's be his hands and feet around the world. Do it now.

### **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**

### **In the studio**

**RANDY:** You really can make a difference in a child's life today. I hope you will go to the phone or go online today. Make the best gift you can, and know that when you do, you are reaching someone with the love of Christ. And that will ignite your faith. And if you need more help with that, ask for *Ignite Your Life* by Barry Meguiar today when you make that gift. Also, Barry, you've got some free things on your website, [IgniteAmerica.com](http://IgniteAmerica.com).

**BARRY:** Well, the best is, folks, when you're sharing your faith spontaneously, you just have a moment. You can't get them saved at that moment but you can lead them the rest of the way. When you talk to them, say, it sounds like you're interested in God. They'll always say yes. Just take this, it is a website. You can get these cards free of charge from my website [IgniteAmerica.com](http://IgniteAmerica.com) free of charge. No cost for our ministry here. That will take them, that QR code will take them to a robust website. It will tell them everything they know in a spiritual pathway and will take them from zero knowledge to the sinner's prayer.

**TAMMY:** Awesome, Barry. You are so fun! You are the best and you've helped me ignite my own life today.

**RANDY:** Get the book! The book is amazing.

**TAMMY:** Thank you! For being here. Thank you for watching. And we'll see you next time on *Life Today*.