

4/13/23

Week 16: Rescue LIFE: Last week

Tammy Trent

Carol Hart

In the studio

TAMMY: Hello, everybody, I'm Tammy Trent. Welcome to this very special program today with our amazing missionary partner, Carol Hart.

It's been said of Carol that she's had a burning passion in her heart ever since she was a little girl to jump right into the fire, to do whatever it takes to help save and rescue as many as she could who desperately needed a better life. That passion has not diminished in any way over the years but as you'll hear today, that has only intensified.

Welcome, Carol Hart! I'm so glad that you're here. I love you. I appreciate you. I've had so much fun talking to you ahead of time. So we're just going to jump right in. There is so much for us to unpack today. So let's start at the beginning. Can you take us back to that time that you and your husband Michael moved from Hollywood, of all places, Hollywood, to become missionaries in Southeast Asia.

CAROL: Absolutely. So that was 20 years ago. It was in 2002, a little missionary came to our church from Southeast Asia and she said that you can get a little boy and a little girl menu on the street corner; and you can rent them out for the night for sex, for whatever you want to do with them. You know, doesn't matter what it is.

I said, wait a minute! Wait a minute! What do you mean you can get a little girl and little boy menu? And so I remember we had sold our company and we were working full time for this church. I went back into my office and I got on my knees and I said, Father, there

is nothing I could have done about slavery back in America, I wasn't alive; that wasn't our generation. Or the holocaust; right? We would have done anything to help. But that's not our generation and we weren't alive. But Tammy, they're buying and selling children? Now? For sex labor?

In hearing that, what child trafficking looks like. Do you know that a child who is trafficked at age 12, before they're even old enough to get their driver's license, they've been raped at least 5,000 times? Not one time—thousands of times. And so this is happening while we're alive? I said, Father, you're a good God and I know you're doing something about it. So just tell me, what do you want—anything of ours! Whatever you need.

So we crawled up into his heart. The only way we could say, it was five days, it took five days for us to hear, and he said, "I hear their cries and I need your life."

We said, "Father, we're unqualified. For you to ask us, we're unqualified but what you have is our obedience."

I'm 60, I was 40 at the time when he called us. Michael is 42 and we knew his faithfulness. He is so real. He is so sweet and so loving. And he just—he said, "I hear their cries. I need your life."

We never asked again. We never asked, how are we going to do it? What are we going to do? We just said, just lead and guide us.

TAMMY: You gave up everything it sounds like. Like you gave it all up. You left it behind. You said, God, I'm all in. Lead us, take us. You had to trust God for everything—for him to provide everything.

How did that partnership begin with *LIFE Outreach International*? And I think that began in like 2007—when that began. How did that come together?

CAROL: We had nothing to do with finding or bringing this partnership together. It was somebody who knew who we were, and they knew that *LIFE Outreach* was looking. They heard from heaven, and they were looking for somebody who was doing this work. They believed that God wanted them to get involved so we found each other.

Here you have James and Betty after 50-plus years, they're still weeping over the needs and hurts of people. Let me tell you, to the *LIFE Outreach* family, they built this amazing home where we house our children and where they get the restoration that they need. From orphans who are in danger to trafficked children. If the trafficked children don't have family, traffic survivors, if they don't have family, safe family to go back to, then they're raised long-term in this facility, in this home—loving home! And amazing things have happened.

People ask us, what's the long-term solution? After 20 years of doing this, and let me tell you, we didn't run around trying to put band-aids on the problem. We were searching and listening and paying attention to what is the long-term solution? It's the gospel. It is Jesus. Because we believe in therapy, we believe anything that lines up with the Word of God, art therapy, animal—all those things are marvelous. And we've watched those things get a child only so far.

What's the difference maker? What have we seen proof of after 20 years? It's when they open their heart up to the one who made them.

TAMMY: And I know, Carol, you have so many stories that you could share with us today, but is there one that stands out to you that you could share with us just real quickly?

CAROL: There are so many stories that stand out, but this is one of my favorites. There's this little girl that we rescued and she was the only one we rescued that night because her traffickers heard that we were rescuing in a certain area. And so he said to her, "If you go

anywhere near that area to work for me, I'm going to kill you." They already turned her upside down and dropped her on her head on the cement. She was severely abused. So death was really the threat.

But here's what was happening. She said for months, little kids who are also trafficked were whispering in her ear, "There's a place for kids like us and if you could get there you'll be safe."

And she said, "I thought it was a fairy tale."

TAMMY: For looking for kids like us. Somebody is looking for you. Somebody is trying to help you.

CAROL: And she thought it was a fairy tale. Okay, it comforted her, she told us. She said, "But I didn't think you were real."

And so when her trafficker said, "Don't work in this part of the city or this is what's going to happen to you," she said, "I'm going to run for it."

She said she tried to escape many times, but she said, "I'm going to run for it. I don't care if they kill me. I don't care. I can't do this one more day. I cannot do this one more day." So she ran for it and she ran into the arms of one of our child rescue staff.

We work with law enforcement. We don't work outside of law enforcement or outside of government. When we brought her into our safe house she looked around and she says, "So you are real? And God, what is this place?"

And she was just so skittish because they said, "If the police catch you they're going to kill you. The only safe place is with us." So she was still so scared.

Kids that have complex trauma, and that means severe trauma that happened over and

over and over again in their life, they're so angry and sometimes violent and frustrated. Until we can get them to the place of wanting to heal, and without manipulation because that doesn't last—

TAMMY: It has to be something they want to do, or you said it exactly right, Carol, it's not going to last. For any of us in our lives that want and need healing, you have to want it yourself.

CAROL: But you have to be pretty extraordinary and love like no—love abnormally, really, love special to love these kids back to life where you can get them to the place of finding out who they really are. And that's our childcare staff; they're so extraordinary with these kids. And really, just the heart of a Christian. I've got to tell you, Christians are amazing. Christians who behave like our heavenly Father just do miracles with the hearts of these kids. It's been incredible.

TAMMY: So Carol, how do you use these facilities that *LIFE Outreach* has built?

CAROL: So the safe house, the child rescue center that *LIFE Outreach* built for us, all the kids start there first. Right after the rescue, they go to the LIFE Center there. And then they stay there through their perpetrators' trial. Or until they can safely go back home. If they don't have a safe place to go home, then the child will move to the long-term housing that *LIFE Outreach* built us, and they'll grow there. They don't age out. When they're ready for independent living, and they're safe, they can go on their own. And then we will help them transition.

TAMMY: I'm sure every situation is different. So you have to assess it very carefully and intentionally with every child to see where they're at, where the healing process is, how they're being restored to know if they're ready to move to the next facility.

CAROL: Their freedom starts at rescue, but it doesn't end until they are healed. That's true freedom. So that's the goal to where they are truly free from the trauma, from the

brokenness.

TAMMY: And you find that this is effective?

CAROL: Oh! Imagine being raped and tortured and hurt thousands of times. You're so broken, you're so broken into a million pieces. You're angry, you're frustrated and you're a child. You don't even have words for why you're so angry. The only one who can make that whole, truly, is the one who made that child. And so we watched God who is the Father to the fatherless—and we were in love with Jesus, crazy in love with him, before we left for the mission field.

TAMMY: And that hasn't changed!

CAROL: No! But after seeing him be the Father to the fatherless, bringing provision, healing, safety—I mean just miracles all the time, we fall in love with him all over again.

TAMMY: Incredible! Well, I've seen some incredible footage as well. I think, what a beautiful, beautiful home. What a safe place that they are offered. Every beautiful corner of this home represented life to me and a new beginning to me.

CAROL: So let me first tell you, Tammy, that our facilities are tools that our staff uses to be able to help the kids. So you built us a tool to be able to bring these children in and every corner, like you say, is purposeful. From trauma-informed colors to making sure that the hallways aren't tight. You name it. But you built us a place where we could do good work, heart work, extraordinary work. I'm telling you, you've kept us working for decades.

TAMMY: Oh, we love you! Our partnership is genuine. We want to continue to do everything we can to build awareness of the importance of reaching these children before they're even trafficked; to go in and teach them with some educational programs, to stop them at the border, and then to rescue them, and begin the restoration.

CAROL: Can I tell you this one story about one child? So when we rescued her, we were rescuing a virgin who was on the market to be sold. She was on the auction block to be sold. But we found another child in the brothel. This other child had been trafficked for some time.

We needed to house them in the same place. We knew they would tell each other their stories because their case was so dangerous. The girl who was not the virgin, we said, the time is going to come, we have to brace ourselves. She's going to say what took so long for someone to find me and rescue me? Why did I have to go through all this hell? Right?

And so we—they journeyed with ZOE for a little while and they said, "Can we have Jesus in our heart?"

We said, "Absolutely!"

Normally—I mean they were so hungry for the Lord. And we don't manipulate, we don't force any of the kids to love Jesus. That's not real.

So we said, "Yes!"

And they said, "Can we have a Bible?"

We said sure! Normally, we give Bibles, but they don't ask for Bibles, but these girls asked.

So the girl who was the virgin who was never trafficked, we rescued her before, she read her Bible normally. But the girl who had been abused and trafficked for a while was looking for something. She would read it ravenously and just dig into it and ask questions.

And so the day came, and she was pacing back and forth, tears in her eyes. She was shaking and she was so furious, mad. And we said here it comes. So our staff went up there and said, "What's happening? What's going on?"

She said, "What took so long for someone to find me and tell me about Jesus?"

We said, "What's that? Why are you mad?"

She goes, "I didn't know where I was going to go when I died. I didn't know who made me. I didn't know if I even have a hope or a future. Does anybody see me?" She said, "He sees me. I read in the Bible that he sees me. He knows me. He knew me—he named me." She said, "You're Christians, right?" She goes, "What takes you so long for you to tell? Nobody ever told me about Jesus! But the minute I heard, I knew!" She goes, "This weight on my shoulders, it's off my shoulders. I don't know what that weight was, but it is off my shoulders!" She's describing this.

And we said, "So you're not angry about how long your earthly rescue took?"

She said, "I don't even care about that. I don't even care about my earthly rescue compared to knowing Jesus."

TAMMY: Incredible to be seen, to be loved can change everything in your life. Genuine love from Jesus. It is so real. I think that's why we're so passionate about bringing special programs like this to our viewers because there is still such a need. There is still such a need, and we want to partner with amazing missionaries.

So many people I hear say, "I don't have a calling on my life. I don't have a purpose on my life. God, what am I supposed to do for the kingdom of God?" I think sometimes we think it's got to be this or on a platform behind a microphone at a big facility in another country.

And sometimes God just says, "What I need right now is just this. I've blessed you. I've given you some extra resources right now. So if you can step out in faith to partner with somebody else, that's how you can play your part for the kingdom of God." In a sense, they're a part of this House of Destiny.

Carol, we see you, we love you, we honor you and Michael for the ministry that you're doing, for the mission work that you're doing. It is life-giving and changing. We're honored as a ministry to partner with you. Our donors have come alongside and sown into this. It is something we believe in very much. There is so much work that we have done together. What an honor.

But there is still so much more work to be done. We can't quit now, and we can't grow numb to the reality of human trafficking, and the ugly evil effects it has on millions of innocent children all around the world. Would you take a second and watch this? And I'll be back to tell you how you can help.

On the mission field

ANNOUNCER: These are the faces of those who once were. Once were happy. Once were safe... loved... cared for. Now they are vanishing at the hands of predators... abducted... misled. To distant cities they are taken. In foreign lands they are held captive. Their childlike innocence is erased, freedom forgotten; their spirit and will broken under abuse -- under torture.

Open captions

>> If the girls won't sleep with our clients, we beat them with a bat or electrocute them until they obey.

ANNOUNCER: Not only do these girls vanish, all that they were disappears too. Nowhere is there a darker evil than that perpetrated so viciously on the victims of sex

trafficking. It may be the greatest evidence of Satan at work on this earth and it isn't going away without a fight.

Our Rescue Life partners are in place and ready to reach those who are most vulnerable, rescue those who have already been taken and restore the precious lives of those who have survived the wickedness of human trafficking.

End of video

In the studio

TAMMY: Honestly, Carol, the feeling that I have when I watch a video like that is just like how—how can we stop this? Is there a way that we can stop this and give them a second chance at life? They deserve that. No child deserves to live in fear, to be lied to, to be beaten, to be abused, and everything stripped from them and taken from them. There is so much work to be done. We've talked about so much of it today. We've shared some stories. And just asking you today, you were boots on the ground there. What is your vision for moving forward? What do you need? If I looked at you and said, what do you need from me? What do you need from us today?

CAROL: Tammy, traffickers are bullies; bullies that are greedy and use human beings to make money. It's as simple as that. If you saw somebody bullying a child, an adult bullying a child there is no way you'd walk away. There is no way, especially with our Heavenly Father living on the inside of us, and Jesus living in our hearts. There is no way! We can't stop.

Human trafficking is a global crisis. Nobody has answers. Great—some of the greatest armies and warriors that we've talked to don't have answers, but we do. There's no question. There needs to be a transformation of the heart from the perpetrator, to why parents are selling their children, to why people are buying and selling children. It is the gospel. They need transformation. We need to keep going. We can never quit. It's not about—we're not cause-driven. It is not a cause. No! He is the Father to the fatherless.

These kids don't have fathers looking out for them, so these babies are his.

TAMMY: And the need is great. Like it's important right now, it is a big, massive problem that we still have that you see happening all over.

CAROL: If we don't do something, who will? Who is going to do something? We have what it takes to help! We have—and it is not just one organization. It is the body of Christ. That's what LOI is. You're the body—you represent the body of Christ. The LOI family is the body of Christ. We have what it takes. We have everything needed to be able to fight this crisis and win. And we're already winning.

TAMMY: We're gonna win. We are gonna win and I'm going to fight with you and we're all gonna fight with you. And I'm telling you, there are so many lives right now—right now shattered, broken little lives torn apart. But I believe that together, we can make an eternal impact in the lives of many who feel trapped and are praying right now for a way out of this at this moment.

Psalms 82:4 says: Rescue the weak and the needy. Deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

So what can we do to help? Normally, it will take \$128 to begin the process for one child to reach, to basically go into those villages with educational programs, or to stop trafficking right there at the border. Rescue, to literally rescue them from the gates of hell, and restore their lives by taking them to a safe place.

Right now, we have some generous friends of our ministry who care very much about this just as we do, Carol. So they put up a matching \$320,000 gift. So if you're able to commit \$64, it will be matched with another \$64. And you will be a part of reaching, rescuing, and restoring a child back into a place of freedom and wholeness. If you can give \$128, well, then you'll be able to rescue two.

This is the last week of this Rescue LIFE campaign so will you please join us today to help expand even more the vision that God has given Carol and *LIFE Outreach International* in making a massive impact in the kingdom of God? The problem is so, so big.

So please go online or call that number on your screen and make the very best gift possible. I know that when we come together as his army, ready to fight, nothing will stop us. We will make a difference and we will help to save lives. Thank you so much!

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 "Believe This, Not That!" featuring the promise from heaven for every need on earth. This book is a resource every believer should have when facing discouragement, pain, fear, or the vast array of negative thoughts that attack all believers.

With your gift of \$128 or more, you'll receive "Experiencing Israel," by Tony Evans. Discover the holy land like never before and view stunning scenes in spectacular full color photography. Also, find practical applications that bring the world of the Bible into your life today!

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

This is the last week! Please call, write, or make your gift online.

End of video

On the mission field

RANDY: What you're seeing behind me right now are some villagers who are learning how to not be lured into sex trafficking. We know for a fact that some girls have disappeared from this area and have not been heard of again. It is critical that we reach into areas like this and educate them so that they will know what to look for. So when the sex traffickers come back to this area, no more will be taken.

We're doing all that we can to reach into places like this, to rescue the girls that have been taken and to restore their lives, and to restore their families, and restore their villages. I hope you'll go to the phone right now, go online, do what you can. The Rescue Life program is making a huge impact in areas that really need the love of God. Do what you can. Thank you so much!

End of video

In the studio

TAMMY: Carol, thank you! I loved this time with you. I feel like I learned so much more. My heart explodes with opportunities to also partner with you and make a difference, and to change the life of just one girl at a time when I wish it was many. But let's just start with—even the one they keep going and keep going and keep going.

CAROL: It is overwhelming, so people don't—they feel frozen, they don't know what to do. Look at just the one. Move forward and towards the one. Do whatever you can. For

us, we're unqualified but what's in my hand? That's all he asks. He doesn't ask for what you don't have. Just what do you have? What can you share? What can you do? That's all—and it is enough. He takes that widow's mite, Tammy, and it translates into a saved life. It translates into what matters to God. Thank you so much for everything!

TAMMY: You are so welcome. We love you. What a beautiful soul you are. Thank you for listening to the voice of God and following his vision for your life, and for heaven on earth here to come to pass. I mean, saving these girls, I don't know of a better place you could give your time, and you do it so well. Carol, we love you so much.

Thank you so much for watching, giving, and praying for all who are on the front lines of this fight. Remember, this is your last week to help us. So call or go online to make the best gift possible and we'll see you next time.