

5/13/24

**Week 20: Spring Mission Feeding**

**Randy Robison**

**Jason Lozano**

**In the studio**

**RANDY:** Welcome to *LIFE Today*. I'm Randy Robison. I'm so glad you're here.

Look, I don't know where you're at today. Maybe you need some sort of spiritual breakthrough in your life; something is holding on to you. This may be your day. Maybe you have a loved one that is far from God and you're praying for them. Well, you're going to be encouraged today because you're going to hear a story of God's faithfulness even in the darkest circumstances. So I'm glad you're here.

My guest today is Jason Lozano. He has a book out where he tells his story and it is called *Let My People Go*. Jason, man, so good to have you here in person on the set here at *Life Today*.

**JASON:** You look better than when I saw you a couple of weeks ago.

**RANDY:** Well, you know, the lighting is better. I've got makeup on. No! It's great to have you. We did talk a few months ago now. Your story, man, it's just one of those that you kind of go, wow, God! But it is encouraging for people.

So take us back—and I know we've got just a brief amount of time but take us back to where it all started, where the darkness crept in.

**JASON:** When I was a little boy my mom and dad divorced. So I still had a great relationship with my dad, I'd go on with my dad on the weekends, and then with my mom during the week for school. And then one weekend my dad drops me off around Christmas time with a bunch of presents and says, "I'll see you next week, son."

And then the next week came, I was out there waiting for him, he didn't show up. So I waited another week, but he didn't show up. By the third week, my mom finally built up the courage to tell me, "I don't think he's going to come get you."

**RANDY:** You were how old?

**JASON:** Seven. Something in me broke. It talks about God healing the brokenhearted, I don't know if you've ever had any injuries Randy, but when you have an injury, it is like you can hear it pop in you. But it was like a shattering. I remember it like it was yesterday because it breaks your heart. And then, at that point, a kid doesn't know how to process.

So I turned to my stepfather to be a dad in my life, and then he just abused me every day. Verbal abuse was really what it was. He would just put me down every single day. I think that broke me because you become what your father calls you. Everybody needs validation, even Jesus needed it. God said, "This is my son." But he would just curse me, curse me.

So I grew up in this kind of violent environment. He was a violently arrogant man. So he would like to shoot his guns off in the middle of the night. He put a 357 magnum in my mom's mouth. It was just craziness. So I grew up with this violent lifestyle.

I always went to church, and I gave my life to the Lord in children's church. So I knew the Lord but then at 12 years old I walked away and it was the worst seven years of my life. I walked away from the Lord and made a decision, I'm not going to serve the Lord. And everything from that point on was just a downward spiral. By the time I was 14, I

was being shipped off to a youth camp, a youth prison. It's not a camp.

**RANDY:** It was juvenile detention?

**JASON:** Yes.

**RANDY:** What was the charge?

**JASON:** Burglary. And so I did a year there. But that kind of like framed my mindset, like a gladiator school. They teach you a lot about the dark side of gangs and violence. By the time I got out, everything started getting worse. And then I started selling drugs, and then it got out of control. Then I started manufacturing drugs.

**RANDY:** Meth?

**JASON:** Meth. And that's when everything went—I ended up getting demon-possessed.

**RANDY:** What do you mean by that?

**JASON:** Yeah. I think all the drugs, making them, and being in that world something entered me and it made me evil. I'd have like strength; like I'd fight ten guys. It was just weird. I don't think I can fight anymore like that. It was just weird. I could get hit with a bat or something and it wouldn't even hurt. It was like the demoniac when he got set free, and they couldn't hold him with chains. He was out of control, and I was out of control. I should have died so many times. I was in a car accident—one time I got in a car accident. I was going 100 miles an hour on the freeway, hit the center divider, and busted my head open. Things like that would happen all the time. Not afraid of death—just madness, insanity.

**RANDY:** We're not talking drugs, we're talking about a brokenhearted boy, basically acting out. But drugs, gang violence, crime; where did that land you?

**JASON:** Well, now we're going into this part of the story. I ended up running with a tougher crowd and then a tougher crowd. Then I ended up running with the gangs that ran the gangs. In the end, putting out like what, we'll call it a hit on my life—a death sentence. So here I am running for my life. My friends, a lot of them died. A lot of them are in prison for life. So that's what was happening at the time. And it was in the '90s, where they were calling green lights on everybody and all this stuff is happening. So a lot of people died in the '90s. We were part of all that in L.A.

So I ended selling—it was about six in the morning, and a detective showed up. The police showed up with a warrant and arrested me. I was in jail with an embezzlement charge, looking at about 15 years on an embezzlement charge. They had it, they had the evidence, everything was there. So I was gone. In that process, while I was in jail, two weeks later another raid took place. The other one wasn't a raid, it was more like they came and arrested me. But a raid, 18 cop cars showed up, a helicopter and it was a raid.

**RANDY:** On your house?

**JASON:** On my house—it was my mother's home. Because they said I had sold drugs to an undercover cop. Again, they came, they raided the house, and they found nothing. Now, there's a miracle that happened there. This is the grace of God. This is the grace of God because while I was in jail, I cried out to God. I said, God, help me. Because I have all these charges on me.

The Lord spoke to me. I wasn't even serving him. He spoke to my heart and said, "The cops are on the way to your house. Get the drugs out."

People are like, why would God do that?

Because he is a merciful God. Because if they had found those drugs I would have never got out. I would have been in jail for the rest of my life and everything would have

changed.

So I called my friend. I said, "Get the drugs out." He gets the drugs out. Twenty minutes later they show up. Nothing's there. This is where my mom stood for me. Because I started going to church at that time; started serving God and the pastor started teaching on passing down the promises of God. He's like if you have a problem, find a promise. And the problem was me and my sister and my brother were on drugs. So they started confessing that word every day, praying that word every day.

When they raided the home, they were on the ground with guns. They were going to Bible college. So my mom and dad grabbed hands. So my mom remarried. I call him my dad because I believe either you're my dad or you're not. So she grabs him by the hand and says to him, "All my children shall be taught by the Lord, and great will be the peace of my children. And in righteousness, they shall be established. And they shall come home from distant lands."

Something broke that day, brother. Something broke. Twenty-four hours later, they opened the door of the prison and they let me out. They dropped the embezzlement charges. Nothing came out of the raid. Nothing! Nothing!

They say, how did that happen? I don't know. I never talked to anybody. Sometimes they let people out because they turned state's evidence or they snitch. Nothing! Nothing! They opened their door at two in the morning and they let me out. So I go home. I got a taxi home and I had no money. So I ran out, once the taxi was near my house I ran out of the car. Sorry, taxi driver, if he's here. I get to the house and I'm feeling bad. They had the doors ripped out. They raided the house.

And my mom, such a wise—I always tell parents this, like look for the moment. Don't force it on the kid. Don't force it on your loved one. Look for the moment. That was the moment. That was the moment where it was like a running back hitting the hole. That was the moment. And she said, "Hey! Do you want to go to a concert?"

**RANDY:** Now that's a setup because that's the turning point. Now I want you to hear that turning point, but I want to show you something really quick. We'll be right back with Jason. But there is an opportunity right now where there are people who are crying out to God for help and they're looking for an answer. You can be that answer. We've got people on the ground right now. I want you to hear a quick report from one of our missionaries in the field in Africa where there is a great need. There is great darkness but we have the opportunity to be that light. Watch this and we'll be right back with Jason's amazing story.

### **On the mission field**

**ISAK:** I've just been spending some time with Comida. He's a father. He's been explaining to us, he struggled—his life. He's disabled as well and so he is not able to work as most men would be. His father was a real help to him but then he explained that some months ago his father died because there wasn't any food, is the way that he explained it. So you could tell as he described his story, the fear, the pain, the struggle.

### **Open Captions**

>> We are just trying to live one day at a time. My biggest fear is hunger. I don't know what will happen tomorrow.

**ISAK:** Because of eight years of drought in this area there is no food. He said how in the past when there was, they would grow. And even if they were struggling, they could go to the neighbors and the neighbors would help them. But now, he can't even get that assistance because his neighbors are the same as him—they don't have any food.

Comida's story is one of thousands of families in this area in the same plight. Not because they didn't do enough—because it didn't rain enough. They're doing everything they can do. This man is doing what he really can do to provide for his children. Everything he can do is not enough. I need you to understand that this is a crisis—an absolute food crisis.

There's a way to fix this. There's a way to change this. We can't make it rain but we can provide the food that's needed. If you'll open your heart today and you'll do what you can do, because that gift enables us to respond to this family and many other families in this area that need our response right now.

### **In the studio**

**RANDY:** You know what we've seen there in Ethiopia is heartbreaking. We've been working in that region of South Sudan, Burundi, Rwanda, and now over into Ethiopia because there is a great need. It is interesting because, for many years now, we haven't heard a whole lot because they've been taking care of each other. They will go to their neighbors and if someone has food they share it freely. That's how they survive.

But then, in something that our secular world calls "an act of God," a famine, there is no food at the neighbors—and their neighbors have no food. So you're seeing malnutrition come in. We've seen the signs.

But let me tell you what an act of God is. This is an act of God. We have the ability to do good, you and I. We have the means. We have the people in place right now over there to deliver the food. We just need to put the food on the trucks, get it to them, and distribute the food to the people in dire need. The situation is urgent. We really can't wait.

So this is how it works. Because we've been working in those areas for so many years, we have the things in place where it is very economically feasible. Not just feasible, your money goes a long way—our efforts go a long way. \$30 will help feed three children for the next three months. A gift of \$50 today will help feed five children for the next three months. Imagine the relief that a parent feels when they know, my children are going to have food at least for the next three months. A gift of \$100 will do that for ten people. And a gift of \$1,000, many of you can give \$1,000 easily, and that will feed about 100

people for the next three months.

The situation is critical. But the solution is in our hands. And when I say "our hands," I mean you and I coming together with Isak and the others on the ground, to say you know what? We want to show you the ultimate act of God; it is his love in word and deed.

Listen, there are a lot of good organizations that do relief work around the world and I applaud them. But we do it in the name of Jesus. We want the people to know, that not only is salvation here in the form of food for your stomachs, but salvation is here in the form of Jesus Christ for your souls.

Will you do something today to share that love with people in desperate need? I pray you will. Go to the phone, go online, and make the best gift you can. We can be God's people in the lives of those who need to hear from him right now.

### **Begin video clip**

**ANNOUNCER:** Right now across the continent of Africa, children are suffering facing severe malnutrition and even death. Severe drought and famine, including in crisis areas like Ethiopia, means we must replenish food supplies immediately to keep feeding 350,000 children and help reach more people in desperate need.

Through *LIFE's* Mission Feeding outreach your gift of love can be an answer to 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 of any amount, we'll send *The Blessing of Taking Communion*. In this book, discover how the sacred ordinance of communion helps to feed your soul and reminds you of the transformative power of receiving the Lord's Supper.

With your gift of \$100 or more, you may request the LIFE Legacy Journal. This beautiful journal and pen will help you write your personal story and share the experiences that



made you who you are. One day, the generations that follow will be able to look back and learn from the legacy you've left behind.

Finally, with your gift of \$1,000 or more to help feed and care for 100 children, be sure to request our inspiring bronze sculpture, "A Cup of Water." Please call, write, or make your gift online today.

### **End of video**

### **In the studio**

**RANDY:** You can be that breakthrough that someone desperately needs today! So I pray you will go online or go to the phone and make the best gift you can.

Now look, we're talking to someone who experienced a radical breakthrough. So, Jason, you're out of prison, your parents are praying for you, and she says, "Let's go to a concert."

**JASON:** But she invited me, and so I asked a question. I said, "Mom, will there be a lot of lights?"

And she's like—I think she's like reading my mind. So she's like, "Yes! A lot of lights. A lot of lights!"

So I feel bad; I've never gone nowhere with my mom, I'm going to go. Because I had her house I'd live at, and then I had a drug house we lived out. So I'd go there more for like rest and sell a little bit of drugs out of there, but mainly it was where we were cooking everything.

So I go to this concert and I got this girl. We're just wild. We're going to this concert, I've got drugs, I've got weapons. I go and in the very, very top balcony, like a center row. My

mom is there. I don't even want to sit next to her, I'm above her. Whooh!

**RANDY:** Who is it?

**JASON:** Brother Carman, and he starts preaching. Well, he's doing all this dance stuff. I get emotional; I never cried before. This is the first time, I'm about to tell you how God just broke me. I'm there, and he has dancers, and it's pretty cool. And then what I did was I took some acid because I knew there would be a lot of lights. So I'm flying on L.S.D. And I'm there at the concert and there's all these lights, and I'm high. I'm having a great time; like I'm high! And then he gets up there and he starts bringing demons on stage. It is like a joke. He's like beating them up. But for me, it is not a joke because I'm thinking, those are in me. What the heck? What's happening? This is not like a concert. This is a Christian thing. This guy is preaching. What's happening? And then what happened next changed my life forever.

**RANDY:** Tell us.

**JASON:** I sobered up in a blink of an eye. I know what the rapture is going to be like, a blink of an eye. I sobered—you can't sober up on acid in a—[ snaps fingers ]—it takes 24 hours to get all the strychnine out of your body. I sobered up like that. And then I felt liquid love from the top of my head to the soles of my feet.

**RANDY:** Here's the thing, I've heard you say this before. You live in California. Have you ever been in the ocean?

**JASON:** Yeah.

**RANDY:** When you go swimming in the ocean there is no part of you that is not covered. So when you say liquid love, I think that's so accurate because God got all of you.

**JASON:** It hit me like—it felt like oil just went through me. And then, glory to God, I felt the love of God. Everything I was looking for in my life. At that moment I knew it. They said I just took off running to the front and I gave my heart to the Lord, and I was never the same.

Now, this is why I tell people to be patient with people after they get saved. Well, what happened right after was kind of crazy because they took me—excuse me, I'm sorry. I never cried before, by the way.

**RANDY:** Because God gave you a new heart.

**JASON:** He broke my heart in a good way. I'm grateful. It is like a miracle. So I get to the front. God had the perfect guy there ministering to me; his name was Abraham. He was a Calvary Chapel guy. He was a boxer. He had this testimony. And God used him. And then they took me in the back. It's funny. All these white-haired ladies, like in the back, grandmas, and it was like they jumped me, and their Christian gang. You know the corridors of these big event centers, they get me in the corridor and they surround me and then they start delivering me of demons. They started casting demons off me. They didn't get them all but they got most of them, I guess in my soul area.

But that night I went home and I called all my friends and I said, "Let's get this party on. Let's get the keg, the beer, the girls, bring everybody!"

**RANDY:** You thought something good would happen and you needed to party. How was the party?

**JASON:** I don't remember. I don't remember. [Laughing] I only remember—that's why we can't judge people after they get saved because they have to get free. So at the party, after a few days of partying, I felt that it was leaving, like that feeling I had was leaving. Because you have to change. You can't stay the same. That's why my mom ministered to me. She said, "Mijo, son, you're struggling."

And then my mind said don't tell her nothing. But my spirit spoke. Out of my heart, I spoke and said, "Yeah, I'm struggling, Mom."

And then I'm thinking, what is happening? Is that voodoo? What are you doing?

She said, "You want to go to a Christian program at a rehab."

I'm like I don't go to rehab. What's this? I'm like, "Yes!"

And she's like, "You'll sleep on the floor if you have to."

I'm like the floor? And then I'm like, "Yes!"

And then that day I started packing my bags and got into rehab. God spoke to me in my room when I was packing my bags. That's when he told me, over and over, "Enough."

**RANDY:** I like that. That is God speaking to you. Enough is enough.

**JASON:** He kept saying it, he kept saying it, and he kept saying it. And every time he said it like 10,000 needles pierced my heart. That was the last time I ever did drugs.

**RANDY:** So now you're pastoring. Now you're setting other people free. There are some people watching right now, I want you to address them. But look, if you've got that loved one that you're praying for, or maybe you feel like man, I've got some stuff going on, I need someone to talk to. We have a prayer line for you. Just pick up a phone, call that number. There is someone who will pray with you, for you, for your loved one.

But Jason, I want you to address those people who are like your mother, felt like she was on the ground, you know, her hand out just praying for you. What do you say to that mother, the grandmother, the father who is praying for that loved one?

**JASON:** I've got a scripture that's in my heart. Don't get weary in well doing for in due season you shall reap if you faint not. Men are always to pray and not lose heart. And they prayed and they prayed and they kept praying and they kept praying. I would say don't get tired. Trust the Word of God. God's promises are yes and amen. Believe in the Lord Jesus and you and your house will be saved. You decree the Word of God. You declare the Word of God. You speak it and you pray it and God will honor his word. I like the old church that says, he may not come when you want him but he will be right on time. I got saved right away. My sister took years, 20 years, but we're all saved now. I feel the anointing. We're all saved, we're all serving God because God doesn't lie and he is not a man that he will lie. He'll do exactly what he said he will do.

**RANDY:** Man, somebody needed to hear that today. Look, there are other people out there too who are still suffering from what you went through, the rejection, the abusive father, the absent father. What do you know now of a good father?

**JASON:** Well, he is a Father to the fatherless, and he'll never leave you and he'll never abandon you and he'll never forsake you. We don't have to worry about tomorrow, what we're going to wear, eat, drink. He's going to take care of us. Even if our earthly fathers maybe were there but not there, he is a father that will never leave us. He's the best dad ever. I think I'm a good dad, but I don't compare to my heavenly Father. Even my kids, I say I'm your dad but if you ever have a problem with me, talk to him because he is the best dad anyone could ever have. He's not just God, he's papa. He's daddy!

**RANDY:** That's right, Abba Father. Jesus laid that out. Jason, I love your story. I love what God has done in you and continues to do in you and the encouragement that you're giving the others. Thank you for sharing that.

**JASON:** I have something in my heart. You know you talk about the cry of the people. That's why God told me to go back to our city. That cry changed my life. When I heard what you guys do in Africa and with the trafficked girls. They were telling me the story

in the green room, God bless you and God bless your ministry and those that support it. It is amazing. You guys are hearing the cry of the people and you go to their Pharaoh and say, you've got to let them go.

**RANDY:** That's right! *Let My People Go*, that's Jason's book. You can get it wherever you get books and read about his story, maybe put it in someone's hand that needs to hear that. But Jason, thank you for sharing just the encouragement. I appreciate you so much. You keep on setting people free.

**JASON:** Thank you for having us.

**RANDY:** Look, there are people right now that are crying out to God. We have that opportunity. We can go in and say, "In the name of Jesus, food is here. Water is here." Whatever the outreach is, right now it is Mission Feeding. So please be a part of that, pray about that. Again, if you need someone to talk to, we're here for you. Thank you for being with us. Don't miss the next episode of *Life Today*.