

4/22/25

Week 17: SMF

**James & Betty Robison**

**Lorenzo & Molly Sewell**

**Studio discussion:**

**JAMES:** Welcome to *Life Today*. Just thrilled that you're joining us, Betty and I. We count it a privilege to be able to knock on the door of your home or wherever you're watching and share life, the life of God, and the love of God. We introduced you to Lorenzo Sewell from Detroit, Michigan, 180 Church. He's got a double-portion anointing. Now, we have his wife. You know how you all have watched me preach and listened, and then you met Betty. And then you just began to say, well, I just wish James would be quiet and let her talk. She said, "Don't answer that! No, don't!" But we're a team and we love you. If you were sitting here and you said, you don't know the mess we're in. Well, we would love you in the mess and out of the mess. We would want to get the loving arms of God around you every way we could. You could not disappoint us. I felt like God said this to me. I said, "Do I disappoint you?" He said, "No. But oftentimes, I'm disappointed for you. You don't disappoint me, I get disappointed for you. Because when you're not in the center of my will, you're missing so much of life and all the blessings it has to offer you and offer through you, which is exciting."

When I met him on television, listening to him pray during the inauguration, the heavens down, I wanted to meet him, and I brought him here. Lorenzo, did you enjoy coming here to *Life Today*?

**LORENZO:** Oh! It was awesome. I mean, it was such a prophetic time. A time I felt was God-ordained. We had a schedule, we had a plan, something that we wanted to do. But as I was able to sit here with you and Betty, the Lord just shifted it. I call it a divine curveball. It was amazing! It meant so much to me. When I was in the airport, I was talking to my wife, and you feel as if you've come off the mountaintop, so to speak, that Mount Sinai experience. I wanted

to do everything we could to make sure we could receive your invitation for her to be able to come today.

**JAMES:** Are you glad to be here?

**MOLLY:** Absolutely! Holy ghost happy, as my husband would say.

**JAMES:** Did he come home really happy? He had had an encounter with God in some special way.

**MOLLY:** Very encouraged by the time that he was here with you all. Yeah.

**JAMES:** Well, we've all had a troubled childhood. Betty had a near-to-normal childhood and went to church every week. Having a mother and a father, and not a divided family, and so forth. But you, you know, you're married to Sewell. I want you to tell our viewers a little bit about your journey because you are a beautiful, amazing person. The fact that the two of you are together in supernatural unity, I believe in supernatural gifting, and I think you're going to help get God's arms around the world. I make it clear the only way we get God's arms around the world is for the church to put God's arms around the world. I think you're going to be a big part of that. So would you tell our viewers a little bit about your background?

**MOLLY:** Sure. Sure! Well, thank you for having us. We appreciate it. So, I was born in South Korea, in Incheon, which is a little suburb outside of Seoul. My mother was unable to take care of us so the entire life that I had known it was our grandmother that took care of me and my brother. And then when she was unable to physically do so, she gave us up for adoption. So that was the story I was told my entire life, all the way up until just recently.

So I was adopted when I was four and my brother was five. We're blood siblings adopted into Grosse Pointe, Michigan. So I was one of four different Asians, two of them, which were myself and my brother, and everybody else was adopted. And so, what I normally tell people when they ask me my nationality is I'm 100% Korean, I'm 50% Irish, and I'm 50% Jewish. So

always sparks the conversation of, well, how did that become? Well, my mom was Jewish when she ended up having us dedicated because we grew up in a Lutheran church, she basically became a Messianic Jew. My dad is also adopted and of Irish descent, and his mom is also adopted. So, we have a very colorful family tree.

So, growing up in Grosse Pointe, very secluded. I was told not to go past Mack Avenue. I mean, it was a bubble. So very rarely would I ever go into Detroit. Well, fast forward years and years later, I ended up working at a place in Greektown called Fish Bones. There was a gentleman who was sitting in this quiet little booth with another person. It was Lorenzo and his father. I thought that they were a couple because in Detroit there are a lot of interesting couples. So, I go over to the table and his dad says, "Well, you're cute. I think you'd be good for my son. He is so shy. He never does this kind of thing." Now, at this point, I was far away from the Lord. We end up hanging out and a few hours go by. So we're at a bar down the street putting shots back. Well, after that night, we have been inseparable. A week after meeting, he was down on one knee asking for me to marry him. I'm like, I don't know your last name or even how to pronounce it so let's keep it moving. All right? Like we're going to do this thing.

We were trying to move to Vegas; this was in December of that year. I ended up getting pregnant with Isabella. Okay. Now, our lives are not perfect by any means. We get pregnant with Isabella, and he says, "I want us to get married before we have this baby. This would mean a tremendous deal to me to do that." I said, "Marriage is really -- I mean, this is something that I really hold dear to my heart. Once I'm married, I'm married. Like we're not getting a divorce, we're not separating; like we're locked in. So chose still not to get married. Had Isabella. Six months later, I got pregnant with Elijah. I was like, "Obviously, I'm not going anywhere, neither are you." So we ended up doing it. Had the smallest little wedding. But it was the most impactful for us because it wasn't about money. It wasn't about this big, huge wedding that we needed to do. It was just a firm commitment that we were saying, you know what? We're bringing God into it. This is what it is, right?

So I was telling the people in the back about the story. So that's why I was tearing up. But to see the way that God moves, he took me from halfway around the world, you know? He took him

from just impoverished areas in Detroit, and to see the way that God put us together. So, when you hear of stories and people doing things for the Lord, I am just a living testament to it. I would never have thought that this would have happened in the way that it has. It's just been truly, truly amazing! So, I'm just I'm just really, really thankful that my mom brought us to the church when she did. The fact that we both had had previous relationships and just knowing, like, Lord, we're putting it in your hands at this point. Use us however you will, even if that means living out of the trunk of our car. God literally did that. He took us from being homeless to now being very philanthropic in the work that we do for him. It's a great honor. It's an absolutely great honor!

**JAMES:** I think you're absolutely beautiful. And I think that everybody can see not just a tender heart but they see a lot of love that's bigger than you. It is God's love. Amen. The two of you have been brought together, supernaturally, from a background that didn't seem conducive to where you are. Now you're able to reach out and put God's arms around people that most people wouldn't even reach out to, notice, or talk to you. You're touching the least of these. That's huge! I know Matthew 25 has captured your heart as it has mine and it has our viewers, and that's to not overlook the overlooked, the forgotten, the downtrodden, the least of these. Because that somehow blesses Jesus more than anything that's done by any part of his family. Do you feel like you all are going to be putting his arms around those who feel like they're the least of these?

**MOLLY:** Absolutely! He did it for me first. Why would I not be able to share that?

**JAMES:** Do you feel like God's going to carry you all together in a supernatural way?

**LORENZO:** Well, when I think about our story and I think about how it gives God glory, you never want to forget where you came from. Regardless if you're praying for a president or you're feeding the most impoverished people around the world or right in your community, you always remember your testimony. Revelation reminds us that we overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony.

What anchors me is her always reminding me that it was because of a prayer. I prayed the night before I met her. I said, "God, I don't want to live this way anymore." The Bible says he's married to the backslider. I said, "God, I don't want to live a backslidden life anymore. The next woman I meet, I want to marry." And lo and behold, the next day!

**JAMES:** How many years ago was that?

**LORENZO:** We've been together 19 years.

**JAMES:** Wow! How about 62 right here? God's a big God. He can do miracles. He does them all over the world and that's what he's going to do with you. I'm confident, and this is what I hope you'll begin to pray for this beautiful couple. I also believe that it would be very important for you to pray about supporting him. We're giving you information, you'll see it there on the screen. You can ask for it in the prayer center. But send them a gift to help them put God's arms around the overlooked. They're doing that right now. And without even knowing what they were doing, God told me to send them a nice gift. Somehow, was that a sense of great encouragement from God what I was led to do?

**LORENZO:** It was amazing. It helped us fulfill our mission. Molly and I have learned by serving the least of these, we've learned that transportation, housing, education, and healing medical, mental, and dental illnesses, t-h-e-m, Jesus said, "Whatever you do for the least of these, my brothers, you do for me." So we learned this and the gift that *Life Today* sent to us, to our ministry, allows us to be able to do it in extraordinary ways. Because people need to see Jesus before they see Jesus. Oftentimes, people need to be able to see it. Molly and I remember when she lost one of our children. I remember. When that happened, she was on her deathbed. But the power of prayer -- it was the power of prayer. They had her sign the rights over to say, you've lost too much blood. But we continued to pray. She dedicated her life to the ministry. She had already dedicated -- she knew Christ before I did. It was through an evangelist on TV -- a preacher on TV, actually. Yes. It was a TV preacher who led her to the Lord at 16 years old. But it was when she lost one of our babies, she was on her deathbed and said, "God, I just want to give it all over to you." That's when our ministry took off. We came in total unity together to

serve the least of these. So thank you so much for the gift and the partnership that we see God doing in the future.

**JAMES:** Well, it will be unbreakable, inseparable. Our viewers are going to be praying for you, and we're going to be looking at all the ways we can put God's arms around a broken world together. Betty, what do you feel about this beautiful couple?

**BETTY:** Well, their testimonies are beautiful! I just get so amazed at the different things that God delivers people from in their lives. You may think that you have something unique in your life and that God can't help you. He can help you. He wants to help you. I look at our lives, like James said, I came from a pretty basic, stable family -- you know a good family. I was a good person; that's all I cared about was being good. And yet, I was afraid of God. I thought if I did something wrong, God was going to get me. Until God sent this young man into my life, a boy who had no training growing up as a Christian at all, so opposite of what I was, and yet, he took this young man and so transformed him that it affected me. When he talked about Jesus being real to him, I turned to him and said, "He's never been real to me like that. I want that!" And so that night, I accepted Jesus for the first time. When I went to church I told my pastor. He said, "You're already -- you're the best girl in our church." I said, "I don't know why you think I'm the best girl but I don't know Jesus. Right here on my knees, I accept him." You can have that good quality in your life but you've got to have Jesus in it too. He has to be first. And then it gets better and better. He walks us through all our challenges and brings us up every day, day after day after day. We're imperfect but he created us and he has the best in mind for you. So if you feel like you don't have anything to live for, to care about, just look at the four of us. God brought us up, he raised us up, and he wants to do that for you, too.

**JAMES:** He wants to use us as a team. But he wants to use all of us, you watching, as a team. Any team that wins, anything that wins from marriage, business, sports, you have to have a commitment to one another and respect. You have to have that to win. And you have to become like a family. Well, here's a family. Here's the kind of family the Father heard prayed for by many, and by his son Jesus, that the family would look like the Father, and the church should look like Jesus. That's what we're trying to inspire. The four of us are going to spend the rest of

our lives seeking to inspire the church to look like Jesus, the family to look like the Father, and get the Father's loving arms around the world.

Thank you so much for giving us an opportunity to bless couples like this so that they can bless couples literally by the millions. And they will -- you will! We're going to stay real close to him and real close to one another. Again, his address is there where you can see it. If you want to send a gift to help them with the outreach they've started in the Detroit area that can spread all over America, I mean, it really can, like one of the greatest outpourings of his blessings we've ever witnessed. Boy, we need it! The stage is set for it right now.

I want both of you to know it's a joy to be family with you. We have enjoyed the great peace of God putting his arms around people who were dying and starving. People had contaminated water, dying, and we have been giving them the answer. Not only the water or the food, but the water of life, and the truth of life, and the joy of life. Right now, we're in our mission feeding and we've got 350,000 hungry, starving children and families located. We need miracle support of \$30, \$50, \$100 to feed three, five, or ten children. Please listen as you hear the Father's heart through our mission director right where there's so much starvation and pain. We have the answer. Listen closely.

**Transition roll-in:**

**JOHN:** So I'm here with Luciana in a village in Angola. She's a grandmother who has three children. She had four of her grandchildren living with her. Just this last year, within weeks of each other, three of them passed away. Three of them passed away because there was not enough food. It's unimaginable!

**Open captions:** When I think about my grandchildren, I get very sad about our future. We used to have a little sorghum but now we have none to harvest.

**JOHN:** You can see behind me there are no crops. They've all failed. Angola is in one of the worst droughts it's ever been in. Mission feeding coming to this village will change the lives of

children. It'll give them the opportunity to get an education, to be well enough to even understand and remember the things they're learning.

There are grandmothers all over Africa crying out to God that he would save their grandbabies. *LIFE Outreach* is here. We're going to stay here as long as our friends help us. We're asking you to be generous, to be caring, to be loving, and to be godly. This is what it means to be a Christian, is to care. Jesus said, "Love your neighbor as yourself." It's so simple.

**Studio appeal:**

**JAMES:** Wow! Betty, you remember us watching little graves like this being dug on the early trips into Angola. And, I went back the next time we were there to that cemetery, and then there were hundreds. It began to look like -- I would see a little toy, maybe a piece of clothing that belonged to a child. I remember seeing a jar with a little baby's picture in it. That was their marker. It just nearly killed me. I said, "Betty, we have to stop this!" And boy, did we ever. I say "we," I'm talking about you. Because when I showed you those little graves, those little markers, you cared and you reached out and put God's arms around a big world, hundreds of thousands. We have fed as many as a million a day in some of the most crisis times. Right now, we've had 350,000 located that are starving. We have 30 grandchildren. They all, most of them young. The great-grandchildren, they're ten and under. Many of them are under four. But they're just precious. Children are starving to death like that. Precious to the grandparents, to the parents, to the family, and they die, and they're in a grave like that.

I remember going back to that same area where we had stabilized it. There were now more than 10,000 graves that you could see that started with those few we watched. But now then, we're watching hundreds of children singing praises to Jesus. They were going to school because we asked you to help us feed them at the school to get them to go to school. They do and they're learning. They just look so beautiful!



Betty, have you ever seen anything more supernaturally amazing than what God's love does through people like that? And they give food to the starving and their whole life is turned around?

**BETTY:** What I love about it is to see their smiles. I mean, it doesn't take much. Just give them some food for their tummies. I heard that grandmother's heart. She said, "I prayed that my grandchildren who are still alive have something to eat the next day." I thought I have all these grandchildren and great-grandchildren and I never have to pray for them to have food. They have plenty. I pray for other things in their lives. But the simple fact is that the grandmother does not want her children to die. She wants to be able to bless them and to enjoy them and to watch them grow up, just as we do our grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

So please join with us. Let's put smiles on their faces. How about it?

**JAMES:** I want it for your grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and those you love. But yes, as Betty said, I want it for those children, for those grandparents, for the mother and dad, for everybody in their little village to have the opportunity for life; not only from the food and the nourishment but learning about God. When you see God's love in action, it's very simple to point to the God that gives that love and pours it out through people like you.

Would you right now go and get your checkbook? Would you go and get your bank card to help us save those children's lives? \$30, \$50, or \$100 will enable us to feed three, five, or ten children. Would you do that? Could you give \$1,000? Could you feed 100 children? Would you take that bank card and use it like a check and go online or call that number and make the largest gift you can make knowing this, I'm giving the greatest gift there is, I'm giving life! And the missionaries are going to point to the source of all life that flows love through us toward those precious people. Would you do it right now? Please reach out. Put God's arms around those who are starving. We do have the answer.

**SMF Cause 2025:**

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

*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 life-saving gift of \$30, \$50, or \$100 to help feed and care for three, five, or ten children for three full months. With your gift, we'll send you Natural Remedies. This beautifully illustrated book explores ancient nutrition and the health benefits found in God's creation to help you live your best life. With your gift of \$100 or more, please request your "Health and Wellness bundle." This three-book set includes Natural Remedies, as well as Essential Fasting, a simple eating strategy to accelerate weight loss, crush cravings, and reverse aging, and the probiotic diet that gives effective strategies to improve digestion, boost brain health, and supercharge your immune system. Finally, please consider a gift of \$1,000 or more, which will help feed 100 children, and you may request our inspiring bronze sculpture, "Lion of Judah."*

*Please call, write, or make your gift online today.*

**JORDAN:** Hi, I'm Jordan Rubin, and for over two decades, my wife Nicki and I have been supporting the ministries of *LIFE*. With any gift to mission feeding, you will transform the lives of 350,000 children in Africa by giving them nutritious food and a hope for the future. With your gift, you'll receive a powerful wellness bundle, which can bring the power of health and nutrition into your own home. Transform the lives of thousands and your own family. Do it today.

**Field appeal:**

**RANDY:** This is the Mission Feeding program in action. We are giving nourishment to children who have come to school. So we're giving them an education. We're getting them in the schools. When we come into an area like this, we take them from a state of

malnourishment, listlessness, hopelessness, and we give them a future and we give them life through a simple bowl of soup.

The only question is, is there enough soup in this pot for this line? We're confident that there is today. But beyond the end of this line, there are other villages, there are other children who need a bowl of soup just like this. Will you extend this line? Will you give food to a child today? I hope you'll join us. You really can make a difference. Go to the phone, go online, give the best gift you can because Mission Feeding saves lives.

**Studio good-bye:**

**JAMES:** You know, Betty, I feel like we're going to have a great response today. You know, you may only be able to give \$30. It sure will mean a lot to three. Whatever you can do.

By the way, here are some *Natural Remedies* to help you with your health, and, some incredible teachings on diet and health. Because we want to bless you, we want to bless your health. Thank you for sharing the life and love of God. Betty and I want to say thanks to our guests. We feel like it's a team member now, the Sewells from Detroit, Michigan down here with all these Texas folks. But we feel like we're family, don't we? Do you think we can together help get God's arms around the world that he gave his son to die for? Do you think we're going to see some great things happen?

**LORENZO:** For such a time as this, we believe that God is going to be moving on people's hearts all for his glory, honor, and praise.

**JAMES:** I love you guys.

**LORENZO:** I love you, too.

**JAMES:** We're going to get his arms around a lot of people.

**MOLLY:** Amen!

**JAMES:** I sure do wish our country would let him put his arms around us as a nation so we could put America's arms, representing God's love, around people all over this world. We can do it together. Thank you so much for watching *Life Today!* Thanks for sharing life.