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Week 28: SWFL

Tammy Trent and Blynda Lane

Kenza Haddock

"Wellness Wednesday"

Studio discussion:

TAMMY: Hello, everybody! Welcome to *Life Today*. I'm Tammy Trent, and today is "*Wellness Wednesdays*." I love *Wellness Wednesdays* because I get more well every Wednesday. So it's a perfect time that you're tuning in. I think it's going to be a really great day. I want to introduce you to somebody special. She is my guest co-host, Blynda Lane. I love having you here.

BLYNDA: Oh, Tammy, it's been so fun. I mean, you are such a gift. I hope that every single *Life Today* viewer understands what a gift you have in Tammy. And in James and Betty! It is such an honor and privilege to get to be here, knowing the impact they've made in the Kingdom of God for so many decades. I love that I'm getting to guest host with you today. This is really exciting.

TAMMY: I love it so much! We've got a great guest with us today on *Wellness Wednesday*. She's going to have a lot of great stuff to say that is really going to help us in our health, mentally, spiritually, physically -- all the things! Kenza Haddock is an author and a licensed trauma pastoral counselor. Kenza, welcome to *Life Today*. It's good to have you back.

KENZA: Thank you so much for having me. I'm excited.

TAMMY: Yeah, I'm excited too. The time is going to go fast. I'm going to jump right in at the top. I know this is going to eventually be a book, maybe even a movie of her life. There are so many twists and turns, girl. I even had to write it down because there are so many. But from being brought up Muslim. To even an arranged marriage as a teenager, miscarriage, abuse, a critical home, abortion, to finally landing in prison for six months. I mean, you have an

incredible story of redemption of what God's done in your life. Just touch on your story just a tad for us.

KENZA: Yeah! You know, secure attachment is something I've had to just fight my way through, it feels like. I just didn't land there. And so, yes, I grew up in an Islamic household. My understanding of God as a Muslim was that he was mean. He was distant. He was like a spiritual pharaoh. He just demanded. And I felt throughout my life, I mean, teenage years, early 20s, I would take four steps forward just to get knocked ten steps back. I just could not please him in anything I did. I fell into depression and anxiety because of that. It didn't matter if I prayed enough, if I fasted enough, none of that, because it was just work-based. And even deeper than that, I grew up in a household where my mom was very critical and my dad was just emotionally distant.

So, fast forward years, I gave my life to Jesus, and I know in the last episode when I was here, I shared a little bit about that. Jesus came to me in a dream, and it led me to give my life to him. So, I go to church and I'm sitting there. I'm reading scripture. I'm reading Zephaniah 3:17, and it says that God rejoices in me with singing; and he delights in me. I'm reading Isaiah 43:1, and it says that he has redeemed me. That he calls me by name, that I am his. But it's going in one ear, out the other. It's in my head. I'm memorizing these scriptures, but they're not translated into my heart.

And so, I get to a point where I'm frustrated because I'm like, okay, if God's Word is supposed to work, then why is it not working for me? Like, what is so wrong with me that it's not working for me? It was a frustrating period of my life.

TAMMY: Did that happen early in your relationship or as you were growing in your relationship with Jesus? Was that right where you're like, I'm not connecting.

KENZA: It happened for several years. Yeah, for several years. So fast-forward another couple of years, now I'm a counselor and I'm sitting across from patients and they're talking to me about low self-esteem, anxiety, depression, trauma, and they're telling me, "Hey, listen. You

prescribed me these anecdotes, these Bible verses, but they're not working. They're not getting through my head." And I get so excited! I'm like, I know this one! And they're like, they're looking at me like I've lost my mind. They're like, I just told you, I think I'm too far gone. And you're looking at me like you just won the lottery. But I know this one! I know how to get you out because God got me out of this one.

TAMMY: That's so good! I know how to get you out. How do you do it, then?

KENZA: Okay, so first things first. We have to be real about where we are, and so clarity is key. We have to understand where we are. And so, this is the human brain.

TAMMY: Are you saying my brain's that big or that little?

KENZA: No!

BLYNDA: I love the brain model! I love it.

KENZA: I have to explain it so that people understand what's going on with them. So this part of your brain -- think of this part of your brain as a vault; the cerebellum as a vault. That's where long-term memories are stored. So, this is where a lot of your experiences from infancy to right now are stored. So, if your experiences are marked by rejection, betrayal, abandonment, pain, criticism, and you've been called names, they're stored right here. Now, you're reading scripture. It's coming in through your eyes. And, you know, faith comes in through hearing also. Right? So it comes in through your eyes and through your hearing. What happens, though, is you hear God loves you, and it gets into your emotional processing. But if what you are hearing and reading does not agree with what's already in the vault, your brain literally rejects it. It's like "Access denied." That's literally what happens. It's not that God's word is not powerful; it's that your brain has not gotten accustomed.

BLYNDA: It's more the control center than your heart at this point.

KENZA: Absolutely! So that's what was happening to me, and that's what was happening to my patients. Now, thankfully, thankfully, the Lord has made our brain with the capacity to renew. It's like the renewal of our mind. It's called neuroplasticity. So, it has the capacity to be renewed, but we have to use the word of God. So the Word of God is the only weapon that we have that has the capacity to pierce through the division of soul and spirit.

BLYNDA: This is awesome! Yes. Amen.

KENZA: This is how to get through it. It's a three-step process. Number one, we have to watch the way we talk to ourselves. Here's a practical way to do it. What I say is, if you look in a mirror and whatever you're telling yourself, add "in Christ" to it. If that does not make sense, the Bible says to cast it down because it's coming against Scripture. And that's how we start the renewal of our mind.

So, for example, if I'm looking in the mirror and I'm saying I'm a loser in Christ, that makes no sense. It doesn't line up. So, I have to cast it down. So, that's when my reasoning now starts working for me. What happens when I start that process, I'm a loser "in Christ." That makes no sense. I'm weakening the vault that's preexisting. That's number one.

BLYNDA: It's literally like Second Corinthians 10:5. It's like we demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God. We take captive every thought, make it obedient to Christ. Yeah, that's exactly what that is.

KENZA: Absolutely. A lot of times, we're like, you know what? No, the Bible is here, and science is here. No, God gave us his word. He knows how it works. He knows. And absolutely, yes. You're weakening the vault. And so, I'm a loser in Christ? No, that doesn't make sense. Cast it down. I'm not good enough -- maybe by myself, yes, "in Christ"? No. Cast it down. So, start -- because we talk to ourselves more than we talk to anybody. That's step one.

Step two: Only choose two beliefs that you struggle with right now. Two strong beliefs. So if it's that I'm not good enough, if it's that I'm ugly, whatever it is, choose two beliefs.

BLYNDA: And you're saying just two because, you know, they have more than that, but they

just need to focus on like the top two?

KENZA: Because we overwhelm ourselves a lot. It goes back to the vault. We're trying to

weaken each belief system. We're trying to weaken it. If we focus on seven and eight, we're

going to get overwhelmed and give up. So choose two until they get grounded and rooted.

You're uprooting the old system, and you're rooting the new ones.

For example, I'm not good enough. You can replace it with he who began a good work in me is

faithful to complete it. Usually, that one works for I'm so behind in life, where I need to be. So,

God will give you the right verse for you that's going to speak to you. He will give it to you, but

you have to put in the time and repeat it to yourself over and over and over. Because we have to

realize this is war.

TAMMY: Yes, it is, Kenza!

KENZA: This is war, and we are renewing our minds. We are renewing that vault. And so, it's

war. Whenever the enemy shouts, you are so far behind in life! No! He who began a good work

in me is faithful to complete it. He can't fight against the word of God. That's the sword of the

Spirit. So now, I'm grounded and I'm strengthened in it.

TAMMY: Healing takes a lot of work, but it takes a lot more work to stay unhealed. So why

not put the work in? Why not just do it? if you've told yourself that lie over and over and over

and over again, it's in the vault. It's not going to be fixed overnight, right?

BLYNDA: It didn't get there overnight.

TAMMY: So all the time you put into getting there, it's going to take you some time to get out

but you've got to reprogram, like we've said before, take in a lie, replacing it with God's truth in

your life. And then, you've got to put the work in. Even healing in my own life. I've always said

it hasn't come overnight. I've had to put the work in. I've had to surrender things. I've had to die to self and all the things I think God owes me, and he needs to do. And whatever's in that vault, I've worked hard to try to replace that stuff and to speak differently to myself. I think it's a simple, practical thing, but it's a healthy thing. It's a tool.

So, you gave us one and two. Did you say there are three?

KENZA: Yes. Number three is that we have to make sure God is part of our everyday life because we have to rely on his presence. And so, as we include God in our everyday life, we get used to his voice versus the enemy's voice. A lot of times, we're so accustomed to the enemy's voice, but we're not accustomed to God's voice, so we're not answering to it. So, as we walk in faith and get used to God's voice, we're also going to be able to distinguish between conviction and condemnation. Condemnation says, shame on you. Conviction says, hey, you messed up. This is how we fix it. Because we are. We're going to mess up, and God is going to convict us because he loves us. But he's going to be with us as we fix it.

TAMMY: You work with a lot of people who have walked through trauma. You have it in your own life. How do you help them, especially with the way that they view God? You know, that's changed a lot of things. And so, sometimes because of our relationships, because of our trauma, because of critical parents, non-emotional parents, it has also given us an unhealthy view of God. And so, therefore, I think even our security in God is broken a little bit. So, how do we help somebody get to that place of building a healthy, secure attachment in our relationship with Jesus and believing it?

KENZA: So we have to let God -- What I say is we have to let God re-parent us. What that means is sometimes it can take a period of time. I'll tell you a quick story. Sometimes it can happen like this. So, for me personally, when I read *God Delights in Me*, I literally, because our brain works out of a frame of reference, I had no frame of reference of a parent delighting in me. I have a frame of reference of a parent betraying me, but not delighting in me. And so, I can read it until I'm blue in the face, and I can believe it in my head, but that was something I could not overcome.

Until one day my little girl was like, "Can you give me a pedicure?" And I was like, "Okay." I'm sitting there painting her toes and just watching her little toes. And I'm like, wow, Lord, you made those little toes, and they're so cute! Right then and there, the Lord spoke to my heart, "You're delighting in her, that's how I delight in you." It was so -- it was like just that. Just those moments like that. It was an instant healing. Now, I know what it means for God to delight in me, and I believe it with all my heart.

And so, it's just seeking God. And yes, there will be times when you may hit a wall and you're like, I don't -- God help me understand what it means for you to love me. I have no frame of reference for that. Or help me not to feel anxious around you. He will. He will because he loves us so much. And he is so, so powerful, but He's also so personal.

BLYNDA: It's like an invitation to lean into the friction, to lean into the uncomfortable. Because when you lean in and say, okay, but what I think I know of a father isn't what I -- I want to believe that this is who you are, but it's not what I've known. And when you lean in, I believe God will be faithful to show who he is. That's what his word is for. That's why it's so valuable. I love that that's part of the steps you take because you're not going to find it anywhere besides his word.

KENZA: No, we won't. We won't. And learning about God's names, too, because those are entry ways into understanding his character. Understand that he truly will never leave us, no matter what we're going through. It doesn't mean he has abandoned us. He is right there with us through thick and thin. So that's important.

TAMMY: Girl, there are so many questions I have on here. I know we're going to run out of time and not get to them. I love this guide. I look at it as a guide. It's also like a case study. That's what I found, that you shared so many stories in this great, great book, *Secure*, that helped me identify. Like when I heard somebody else's story, I could see myself in the pages of that. But you didn't just leave us hanging there. You give tools to come out on the other side to find your healing.

You say that when we deny what happened, we deny the effects of what it did to us from the trauma. Sometimes, we talk about, I've been affected by trauma. But we also deny the effects that it had on our lives. So is that a place to start, too? I know we're moving fast here, but just, for people to think, in order for you to begin healing, also, it's okay to say the effects of this. This is what it did to my life. I'm not going to deny that anymore. Some people are like, I'm fine, I'm okay. No, I'm not.

KENZA: No! No! That's how you open that vault. At that point, you're opening yourself up. You're opening yourself up and giving God access to the depths of your heart and saying, Lord, I'm broken. I need you to heal me. Yes, absolutely.

TAMMY: I love that starts there at opening up the vault. I love the visual. I've got this in the back of my head. Tammy, don't be afraid. Don't be afraid to open up the vault today. It's taken you years to peck on, the critical spirit, the emotional abuse, the physical abuse, the disappointment, the rejection -- it's all there. All the things you told yourself every single morning, it's there and it plays out like a movie every single day in your life. That you're not worthy, that you're not valuable. But I'm here to tell you with the girls today that you are. You are more than what's in that vault right now, that's negative, that's trying to steal life from you every single day. Jesus came to give you life and life more abundantly. And that can start today. Your healing can start today. So open up that vault. Don't be afraid. God will meet you there every time.

Kenza, you're so good. You're the author of many good books. This is just another one. Thank you. Where can people find this?

KENZA: Amazon, Barnes and Noble, anywhere books are sold.

TAMMY: Okay. Get a copy of it. I'm telling you, if you are struggling with a distorted view of God, just wondering who he really is, and attachments in your life, get it. I believe it's a tool to help begin healing in your life.

I'm telling you, there are some people, precious people around the world right now that I'm grateful that many of them that I've met feel a security in their relationship with Jesus because they're so grateful for God. I see it everywhere I go. But the one thing that feels insecure to them is the awful water they're drinking which is literally producing death in their life. I want you to take a minute. I want you to watch this, and then I've got a gift for you, a special gift called *Prayers for My Physical Health*. So when you're able to come alongside us to help these people that need it desperately, I want to help you too, and sow this into your life. So, take a look at this. We'll come out on the other side, and we'll talk about what that looks like.

Transition roll-in: (Water Kills)

RANDY: So many people don't have a choice when it comes to water. The only water source that they have is the one nearest them. In this case, a river. When you look at it, it doesn't look too bad. It's a little dirty, but you can see some of the areas where there's moss and animals, and people bathing and swimming. They tell us there's all sorts of contamination in here. It's not so much what you can see in here that's dangerous, it's what you can't see. It's what goes into the stomachs and the systems of even the youngest of children. It hits them the hardest.

OPEN CAPTIONS:

Unsafe drinking water contributes to diarrheal diseases, a leading killer of children under the age of five. But we have a cure.

RANDY: Fresh, clean drinking water. You can give that to them. We know because we've given it to others in villages all across the world. But we need to come into this village, and that village a few miles up the river, and that village over there, across the river. We need to come in with many water wells. I'm asking you to make that possible. The more of you that join with us in Mission: Water for life, the more water wells we'll be able to drill. It's my heart's desire that no child would ever drink contaminated water. I promise you, you will be helping to save a life.

Studio appeal:

TAMMY: Randy, I can promise them, too. Yes! You will be a part of saving a life, Blynda. I'm telling you. You had just asked me when you saw that water spring forth. You could see me sitting here watching that, and you said, "Have you been there for that moment?" I was like, "Yes!"

BLYNDA: Because I'm watching the moment, and I'm like, that is incredible to see them just absolutely -- a miracle has happened. It's a miracle they're watching happen. It's not any longer just a hope or a prayer, it's tangible. It's actually happening. Their life is changed forever. It literally means they are going to live.

So, I just hope that everyone watching really understands that they are the difference maker! . That moment that you got to be a part of, they're a part of that moment. They get to be a part of it when they donate, when they give.

TAMMY: It's incredibly exciting. I think that's one of the greatest parts for me doing mission work for Life Outreach is to see the resolution, to see the redemption story, to see the victory, to see all the things that they prayed for. The answered prayer come to fruition right in front of my eyes. I'm like, it feels like family when I'm in these places. Like, these are my family. I've been fighting for this for you. I've been trying sometimes for months or years to get water in these certain villages, in these places that are so remote and so far out that it's hard to get to where we've got to raise more funds for this well, or that well. Sometimes, it takes time. When I'm finally there and I'm seeing it happen before my eyes, it is a celebration of life.

So, let me tell you what that would look like today for you. If you've never had a chance to give to this incredible outreach, today's the day to do it. We are trying to build, drill I should say, 350 water wells in 20 nations.

Let me tell you what that would look like, because we can all get involved. Blynda, every single person can do something today. \$48 will provide water for ten people for the rest of their lives. \$144 will provide 30 people with water for the rest of their lives. And for \$4,800, we

could go in and drill a complete well for an entire village of about 1000 people for the rest of their lives. I can't think of a better place than this to put \$4,800. It is life-giving, life-changing, and these are the things I want to be a part of. That's why I love being a part of this ministry.

Go online, give the best gift you can. Do whatever you can give today. It matters today because they might not have tomorrow, but they have today. So, let's act today. Right now.

SWFL Cause 2025:

A: Every day, thousands of lives are lost to waterborne disease, and nearly half of those are children under the age of five. Through Mission: Water for Life you can give mothers hope and children a future as we provide clean, life-giving water for thousands of children and their families before it's too late.

With your gift today, you can help drill and establish 350 water wells this year. Your gift of \$24 will help provide clean water for five children. A gift of \$48 will help provide for ten. And \$144 will help provide life-giving water for 30 people for a lifetime!

With a gift of any amount, we'll send you Prayers for My Physical Health, a Bible-based collection of 52 prayers designed to bring strength, healing, and renewal to every area of your body. Covering a wide range of physical needs, this beautifully crafted book encourages intimate conversations with God.

With a gift of \$100 or more, you may request the "Armor of God" tumbler set. These two 20-ounce stainless steel tumblers, each inscribed with Ephesians 6:11, are a practical and meaningful way to carry a reminder of God's strength and protection throughout your day.

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1,200 to help provide water for 250 people, or a gift of \$4800 to help sponsor a complete well and request our inspiring bronze sculpture, "Lion of Judah."

Please call, write, or make your gift online today!

Studio good-bye:

TAMMY: Please go online and give the best gift you can give today. No pressure, but if you feel led, then definitely pick up the phone and give us a call. For whatever amount that you're able to give today, I'm going to send you *Prayers for My Physical Health*. It's so good! I was just peeking through this. I'm like, oh! It's like a devotional the way this is laid out. It's awesome! So I want to get this to you today.

Thank you so much for being here. Kenza, you are precious. I absolutely love you. You're an incredible gift to us. I also just want to say this, as we kind of dug a little deeper. If you need prayer, there is a phone number on your television screen right now. Please don't hesitate to pick up the phone. There are people right now standing by who have already begun their day in prayer, thinking about you. So, if you need someone to come alongside you right now, please call us. We would be honored to pray with you.

BLYNDA: Kenza, thank you so much. One thing I did love about your book is that you have a salvation prayer on page 53. I want to encourage anybody who is right now calling the prayer line, and they've never made a profession of faith. I just want to encourage you, when you call, say, I heard about Kenza's book, and it talked about a prayer of salvation. Will you lead me through this prayer of salvation? I want to accept Jesus Christ as my Savior right now. I know there are people watching who are desperately wanting help and hope in their lives, and Jesus is the answer.

TAMMY: Praise God! He is definitely the answer. This is such a great day. I'm so glad you could watch us. Let us help lead you into that relationship with Jesus. If you need help, we're here. God bless you. Thanks for watching, and we'll see you next time on *Life Today*.