

## HOURLY OF POWER OF 11.11.2007

PROGRAM OPENING/TRUMPET FANFARE/V.O. From the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, California, join Robert Schuller in an Hour of Power now celebrating our 37th year as the face and voice of positive Christianity to the world.

HYMN - "Joyful, Joyful.." Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flowers before You, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day. Amen! Amen! Amen!

GOOD MORNING/OPENING SENTENCE/INVOCATION RAS: Good morning. And welcome to the Crystal Cathedral. We want you to feel welcomed here today, so would you please take a moment right now and greet those who are standing next to you and behind you and around you, and say God loves you and so do I. Well my father will be interviewing a wonderful mentor of mine and a gentleman who has had a huge impact in the kingdom of God. His name is Lee Strobel and he has written a book entitled, "The Case for Christ." It's impacted countless lives and so we're looking forward to hearing that interview and I'm glad my father is here with us today. So with that, let me just make a quick announcement and that is that this is the year of the 25th anniversary for our Hazel Wright organ and we have a guest organist with us. He has been playing the organs in the cathedral, at the Crystal Cathedral, I think longer than anyone else, with one exception, you started here in '69 is that right? RU: '63. RAS: '63! Oh my goodness! In '63 I was.. RU: ..in the fourth grade. RAS: ..I was nine years old. I was nine years old! So you started playing when you were what, 12 13? RU: Yes. RAS: Something like that? But he used to play before the Cathedral was built, of course. The only person who's been playing here longer than him is my mother. That's it. And so Richard Unfried, it's a pleasure to have you with us this morning. Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for what You're doing. We thank You for Your love. We thank You for Your joy that fills our hearts. We thank You for the opportunities that we have to be able to be used by You in a powerful and a wonderful way. And so as we continue to open our hearts and our minds to You, fill our souls with Your presence and Your reality we pray, Amen.

HYMN - "Rise Up, O Church of God" Rise up, O Church of God! Have done with lesser things; Give heart and soul and mind and strength to serve the King of Kings.

Rise up, O Church of God! The Savior's message strong brings the good news of love and peace that ends a life of wrong!

Lift high the cross of Christ above the crowded earth, that men and women everywhere may know their own self-worth.

Rise up, O Church of Christ! The world for you does wait to share your love and joy and faith. Rise up, rise up, be great! Rise, up!

SCRIPTURE – Romans 12:4-8, 10-11 - RHS RHS: You may be seated. Thank you all for coming. This is a very exciting Sunday because my son is beginning a series of sermons that I think are very, very informative and significant. I would hope that you tell your friends about it. You'll hear things you haven't heard before in the message that he brings this morning, brings tears to the eye and strength to the soul. And with that happening as a background we read the scripture today from Romans chapter 12. Just as each of us has one body with many members and these members do not all have the same function. So in Christ we who are many form one body and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts according to the grace given us. If ones gift is prophecy, use it in proportion to the faith. If it is serving, serve. If it is teaching, teach. If it is encouraging, encourage. If it is contributing to the needs of others, give generously. If it is leadership, govern diligently. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal but keep your spiritual fervor serving the Lord. This is the word of God.

DON NEUEN INTRODUCES ANTHEM DON: In 1868, the great German composer Johannes Brahms was terribly disturbed with the doctrine of the church that preached fear of death. And that the moment of death would be a day of wrath and a day of anguish and that judgment would be like the jaw of a lion. Brahms felt that his God was a God of love and that the church doctrine was simply wrong. So he searched his bible which he knew as well as the clergy for every positive reference relating to death. And he came up with enough material to write a work that lasts over an hour for orchestra, chorus and soloist. We'd like to do one movement from that this morning. How lovely are Thy dwellings, oh Lord God of hosts and the lovely dwellings of course are heaven. And then it says our soul not only desires but longs to return to the courts of the Lord, again referring to heaven and life after death and that we shall go singing and rejoicing. And that we will be blessed and that we will praise our Lord forever.

ANTHEM - "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings (Requiem)" How lovely are Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts, O Lord of Hosts. Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts! How lovely are Thy dwellings, O Lord. How lovely are Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts.

For my soul desireth and longeth, desireth and longeth, desireth and longeth, desireth and longeth, for the courts of the Lord. My soul and body sing with joy unto the living God. My soul and body sing with joy unto the living, unto the living God.

How lovely are Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts, O Lord of Hosts, Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts! Blest are they! O blessed they who in Thy house are dwelling; They praise Thy Name evermore, they praise Thy Name evermore, they praise Thee, they praise Thee, they praise Thy Name, they praise Thy Name evermore. They praise Thy Name evermore, evermore they praise Thy Name evermore; They praise Thy Name evermore; They praise Thee, they praise Thee, they praise Thee, they praise Thee, they praise Thee forevermore!

How lovely, how lovely, how lovely, how lovely, how lovely, how lovely are Thy dwellings.

RHS THANK YOU TO CHOIR AND RICHARD RHS: Thank you Don and thank you choir. You are the greatest and how good to see you back with your smile, Richard Unfried. How many years we spent together and they were wonderful. It's just amazing that you haven't picked up grey hairs as I have, so. Thank you, thank you Richard.

INTERVIEW – LEE STROBEL

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RHS: ROBERT H. SCHULLER LS: LEE STROBEL

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RHS: My guest this morning is a wonderful person whose work I admire most deeply and thoroughly. Lee Strobel was an atheist and I'll let him tell his story, but he's a graduate with honors with his undergraduate degrees and then his degree in law. And he became a very, very top of the line journalist and writer for the Chicago Tribune and he was going a journalistic legal interview on Jesus whom he didn't believe in at all. Out of that came a conversion and he wrote a book called, "The Case For Christ" coming out of atheism into a belief system. The book has sold four million copies and keeps selling and I'm so, so glad that he could be with us this morning. So I'm going to show you first a little clip of when Evel Knievel was here not long ago, because Evel Knievel got a copy of that book and it played a very important role in his coming to the kind of faith that he has today. So before right now, here's Evel: (VIDEO ROLL IN) EVEL: I just, all of a sudden was just overcome by the spirit of God Almighty and my wife Crystal, she had been trying to help me with things I wanted even though she didn't believe at the time, she doesn't believe like I do. She went out and got me a Bible I could read that had passages underneath the verses so you could better understand them. She went and got me a videotape called Jesus of Nazareth, which is a wonderful videotape. She got me a book called "The Case for Christ," which is a wonderful book to read, and I've had so much help from my whole family. (END OF VIDEO ROLL IN) RHS: Welcome Lee Strobel! LS: Good to see you again, God bless you. RHS: Good to see you. Were you surprised that the book played a part in his life? LS: Well, the thing that surprised me about Evel Knievel was that I got a phone call out of the blue and the phone rings and a voice says, 'Strobel! This is Evel.' And I'm thinking Satan is calling me or something, I don't know; I'm wondering how did my number got listed in hell, which is what I was concerned about. RHS: How did he get it? LS: I don't know. But he called and he said 'no, no it's Evel Knievel.' RHS: I gave it to him. LS: You gave it to him? RHS: Yes. LS: Okay, well.. RHS: I told him to call you, right? LS: Well we did, we connected and I'll tell you what we have seen such a change in Evel Knievel. I mean I am so thrilled to be his friend now and to watch how; it's similar to my story of coming from a profane and immoral and drunken kind of a life and finding faith and watching a life change thanks to the work of God and to see that in Evel Knievel it's just been thrilling. RHS: But I'm sure you must get hundreds if not thousands of letters from people who were moved intelligently and spiritually from atheism and skepticism or cynicism into the faith. LS: It's amazing, yeah, I mean God has used that book in ways that totally out strip what I ever anticipated and I had one great story where a guy who was an atheist in Chicago went to a book store to buy a magazine and he picked up the magazine and he sat down on a bench to read it and he sat down a copy of "The Case for Christ." And he took it and he looked at it and he thumbed through it and he said well I don't believe this stuff, and he threw it aside and he said it was like a voice inside of me said to me that was not there by accident. And he went and he picked

up the book and he read the book and he came to faith in Jesus Christ! RHS: Wow. LS: So you never know how God might use a book. Even somebody sitting on it! RHS: Well, what's been the biggest change outside of becoming a believer in God? How has your acquired faith affected your life, your marriage, your children? LS: Oh everything, everything, I mean it changed my world view, my attitudes, my philosophy, my character, my morality, my values, my parenting, my priorities, I mean you just go down the line there is no part of my life that has not been changed by my relationship with God. I mean I lived a very ugly life before I came to faith. RHS: Why? How could you with your academic background and your scholastic achievements and your ranking in the universities, and in the law profession? How could you, with that kind of a cultural educational background, live such an ugly life? LS: Well, when you're.. RHS: Where did you learn that? LS: ..well when there is no God in your opinion, then there is no universal right or wrong; there is only opinion. There's only what I want to experience to bring me joy and pleasure. And so my whole value system was built around a self-centered pursuit of pleasure and if anybody got in my way then I ran them over. And so I lived a life that was just pursuing that kind of pleasure. Now you know I had other motives, I mean living this life I didn't want there to be a God because I didn't want to be held accountable for my life and you know there's psychological issues that go into the equation of why a person rejects the idea of God. Paul Vitz of New York University did a study of all the famous atheists through history and he found that they all had something in common: they all had a father who either abandoned them when they were young, or divorced their wife when they were young, or they had a terrible relationship with. And the idea is why would you want to pursue a heavenly father if your earthly father has so disappointed you? Well I had a terrible relationship with my dad. He once looked at me and said 'I don't have enough love for you to fill my little finger.' RHS: How could he do that? LS: Well you know it was in the heat of an argument, but never the less it's a devastating thing. And so I felt like I had a lot of incentive not to find God. Because I didn't want to be disappointed by a heavenly father as I was disappointed by my earthly father. RHS: What was the most compelling evidence that you ran into that really comforted you? LS: Well, the resurrection. Anybody can claim to be the son of God, but if Jesus not only claimed it, but proved it by returning from the dead, then He's probably telling the truth. So the resurrection, which I can summarize very quickly the evidence: We have an execution that Jesus died by crucifixion. That is one of the most well established facts of ancient history. We have not only four sources in the New Testament; we've got five secular sources that confirm that. So we know He was dead. Secondly, we've got early accounts. In other words the idea that Jesus rose from the dead is not a legend that developed in the many, many decades later but we have accounts that go back so early that they can not be the product of legendary development. Third, we've got an empty tomb, that everybody in the first century admitted the tomb was empty. The question is how did it get empty? And I think.. RHS: And where.. LS: ..all the explanations fall short. RHS: And where did the body go? LS: And where did the body go? And then fourth we have eyewitnesses, five hundred and fifteen eye witnesses to the resurrected Jesus, including skeptics, even opponents of Jesus like Saul of Tarsus who encountered the resurrected Jesus and became the great apostle Paul and the half brother of Jesus, James who was a skeptic of Jesus during his lifetime who later, because of the resurrection, became a leader in the Jerusalem church and died proclaiming that Jesus is the Son of God who proved it by returning from the dead. RHS: Wow! Well what new ways do you have to reach the next generation or the

current young generation? LS: Well a couple of things, I have a new book called “The Case for the Real Jesus.” And the idea there is to deal with the challenges and attacks on the divinity of Jesus that we’re seeing in militant book by atheists and television documentaries and on the Internet these days. So that new book deals with the current issues that are challenging the faith. And then we produced a new DVD, a documentary based on “The Case for Christ” to bring it alive, where my wife and I are in it, we tell our story going from atheism to faith, but we interview scholars around the world to present in a very accessible way the evidence for Jesus being who He claimed to be. RHS: Can we see a clip? I think.. LS: Yeah! I think there’s a short little clip. Yeah. (VIDEO CLIP – MUSIC ONLY) LS: So we went to scholars who not only have all the great credentials and so forth but we compel them to present the evidence, not just an opinion but the evidence. Why we believe as Christians as we believe and to do it in a way that puts the cookies on the bottom shelf. In other words makes it accessible that everybody can understand. RHS: Fantastic! You know I don’t think anything is needed in the world today more than great material for aesthetics, I mean for.. LS: Apologetics? RHS: Apologetics, yes. LS: Yes, I think the defense of the faith these days is so important because we’re seeing an onslaught really of attacks in best selling books by militant atheists who are denying the essentials of the Christian faith. RHS: Have you read any of them? LS: Absolutely! I read them all and you know what? When I have a question I go and I investigate it. And you know there’s a Proverbs, 18:17 that says when you first hear somebody make a case it sounds pretty good, but then the cross examination begins and sometimes you read one of these books by an atheist and you go okay, that’s part of the story. I need to cross examine it. I need to investigate it and when you get both sides of the story, the case just evaporates and you see that “The Case for Christ” shines through. RHS: Well maybe you can publish something about it. You know? You’re the lawyer and you’re going to do the cross examination LS: Well I think this is the time, I think, when people are looking for answers. RHS: Absolutely LS: And you know they want to know that our faith is rational, it makes sense, it’s underpinned by solid bedrock of historical truth. And the good news is we have truth on our side. RHS: That’s right LS: That our faith is based on reality. It’s not wishful thinking, it’s not legend, it’s not mythology, it’s not you know, it is based on a solid bedrock of historical truth. RHS: Yes. And Lee you are going to be with us here at this property in January. LS: That’s right, yeah-great conference called Rethink. And a great group of people coming together from culture and Christianity and the business world to talk about what keeps us up at night. What aha moments are happening. And people like George H. W. Bush, and Rupert Murdoch and Larry King and Kay Warren and Henry Cloud, all sorts of.. RHS: And you. LS: ..I’m going to be there as well. You’ll be there as well. So I think it’s a great opportunity to talk about the cutting edge things in both faith and culture that are important for us to examine these days. RHS: Yes because we think, people think in their own categories, live in their own worlds.. LS: Yes. RHS: ..and they don’t have any information about some areas that would challenge their whole philosophy. LS: Yes, absolutely. RHS: And you’re going to be there and I thank you for that. We’ll be doing more things together. LS: God bless. RHS: God is blessing. God has blessed. God will bless. LS: Amen. RHS: Thank you. LS: God bless, thank you.

SOLO – SARAH BRENDEL – “King I Love” He was born the Son of God still He came in flesh and blood. He enflamed the distant sun to shine upon us. And when He first called out my name I could feel the mountains tremble.

Here comes the King, here comes the King I love. Here comes the King, here comes the King I love. I love, I love, I love, I love, I love, I love, I love, I love, I love.

He has died the world to save but He overcame the grave. He ascended through the sky to leave His Spirit. And when He raised me from the dead I was wrapped in dead man's clothing.

Here comes the King, here comes the King I love. Here comes the King, here comes the King I love. I love, I love, I love, I love, I love, I love, I love, I love, I love.

And one day soon He will return, He will part the skies like lightening. Here comes the King, here comes the King I love, love, love, love. Here comes the King, here comes the King I love, love, love, love. I love, I love, I love, I love. I love, I love, I love, I love. I love, I love, I love, I love.

RAS THANK YOU TO SARAH BRENDEL RAS: Sarah Brendel! Thank you for coming today. We appreciate it very, very much. You come from Mainz Germany, is that right? SB: That is right. RAS: Where is Mainz? SB: Have you heard of Frankfurt? RAS: Oh. SB: Frankfurt, its close.. RAS: Yes. SB: ..to Frankfurt. It's in the midst of Germany. RAS: Right in the middle. SB: Right in the middle. RAS: Well we're glad you're here. SB: Thank you. RAS: So you have a church in Germany, I take it. SB: Yes. A little village church, with only a hundred people, because you know Germany's a very small country, so we have many really small churches. RAS: Well thank you so much for coming and sharing your spirit.. SB: Thank you. RAS: ..and your music, and your love for Jesus Christ. SB: Thank you. RAS: God loves you and so do we, Sarah.

MESSAGE/PRAYER - ROBERT A. SCHULLER "Serve the World" RAS: We have been talking for the last couple weeks about really the direction of where this church is going and where we've come from, and what we are all about as a community and as a church. We came to the conclusion after about a year and a half of study and countless hours by our staff and key volunteers and people in this church as to exactly what this ministry is all about, and we came down to three words. Can you believe it? You can summarize this entire ministry into three words: Know, Love and Serve. That's what it's about. Sometimes the simple and the obvious takes a little longer to find and we've discovered that God wants us to know Him. And so it begins by knowing God. And then loving people. And it is completed by serving the world. So this morning, I'm going to be sharing with you a little bit about what we mean by serving the world and what it is that we are called as Christians and as individuals in this church to do, when it comes to serving the world. You know this past summer we.. I had a very interesting summer. Not only did we discover that, but I also finished my book and put the final touches on it. It's going to be out November 1st, it's entitled "Walking in Your Own Shoes: Discover God's direction for your life." So that's going to be available November 1st. And the other thing I did is I went and I spent the summer highlighting the Bible. I went through, I started with Genesis 1 and I highlighted what I consider the most positive, uplifting passages in the Bible and went through the whole thing. And you can almost read the highlighted sections almost like reading cliff notes, if you want to read through the Bible in a hurry. And I did that this summer and we're going to have that Bible available next

summer in the summer of '08; it's the Power for Life Bible. So pay attention and listen and watch as that comes about. Today I really want to talk about service because it's close to my heart. It's something that we are challenged to do by Christ Himself. It transcends who we are as individuals and people. There is nothing more important to God than to serving His people and His children. If you go and you read the Bible you will read from beginning to end the need for us to serve God, serve people and serve the world. In Matthew we read these words from Jesus: "Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord when did we see You hungry and feed You? Or thirsty and give You something to drink? When did we see You a stranger and invite You in? Or needing clothes and clothe You? When did we see You sick or in prison and go and visit You? The King will reply I tell you the truth whatever you did to one of the least of these brothers of Mine you did to Me.'" Service and that's what this church is all about, it's about service. We begin our main ministry is to serve people emotionally and spiritually. That's where we begin. That is the foundation upon which we have taken this ministry globally and it is the visible aspect of our service to the world. We are intent on building people emotionally, so when people need hope we give them hope and when people are in despair we lift them out of despair. We give people the understanding and the realization that through Christ they can do all things. It's positive thinking. It's the bedrock of this ministry. But we go beyond that. We go beyond the intangible because the spiritual world is an intangible world. But there is a place at where the intangible becomes tangible and this ministry is just as interested in the tangible as it is the intangible and that means we literally go and we feed the hungry. And we clothe those who need clothing. We do whatever we can to help the homeless. We've been doing it for years, and years and years. But it's almost one of those secret things that we do. I don't know how many people realize that every single Wednesday we have a semi truck on this property and we're distributing thousands of pounds of food. Every single Wednesday we do that right here from this campus! I don't know how many people realize how many hundreds, maybe even thousands of wheel chairs that we have given away. My wife and I personally have gone around the world to Africa, to Russia, to Egypt and we've given wheelchairs away. We've picked up the crippled and placed them in a wheelchair. You know one of the things we did this past year is my wife went to Louisiana, Shreveport Louisiana. She took a group of people with her and she wasn't the only one. We sent out three or four groups of people to Louisiana and we built this house. Today a family lives in it; we did it in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity. And you need to know that one of the best-kept secrets in the world is what this ministry does in its tangible manner. We feed the hungry. We're partners in a homeless center not far from here called Isaiah's House. And we send teams of people from this congregation to go there and to cook meals for them and to pass out things and to help them in any way we can. We've done it for years. We do these things around the world and it's one of the best kept secrets that I know about in this church is all of our missions programs. We have hundreds of missions programs disseminating from this congregation. Why? Because God has called us to serve. And Jesus Christ was the perfect example of what service is all about. In Luke the apostles are arguing about who's the greatest. They say you know who's the greatest among us? Whose going to sit at the right hand of God and whose going to do this and whose going to do that? And Jesus shows them what greatness is all about. And Jesus in His meticulous way got up from the table, put a towel around His waist and He went and He washed their feet. Washed their feet. That's the greatest. The one's who get up and wash the feet. What we fail to realize is how symbolic that was

because there was nothing that's more humbling in the time of Christ than to go and to wash somebody's feet because their streets weren't like our streets. The donkeys and the camels and the sheep and the goats would walk up and down the streets and do what those animals do. And people walked through it. And it's all over their feet. And Jesus comes and He washes the dung off their feet. Who's the greatest? The greatest among us are the ones who are willing to serve, who are willing to give, who are willing to do something more, who are willing to make this world a better place, and that's what it's all about serving the world and that's what this ministry is all about. And you know it's.. there's miraculous and wonderful ways in which we can serve and just recently in fact, last year I ended up serving people in a way I never dreamt I would. It was a hard day of work. We left at midnight and I don't think we rested until we had everything completed by noon the next day. No, five o'clock the next day so we're talking let me see twelve.. quite a few hours of non-stop labor. And we all did it, five of us went out and we all did it with joy in our faces and we paid to do it. Can you believe it? We went fishing. That's what we did and it was one of those things where we worked hard. We left the docks at midnight so that we could be on the fishing grounds at sun up. So we motored all night long in the dark, taking turns, shifts. One guy watches for a couple hours while somebody else gets a couple hours rest and then you do the tag team, you know, after a couple hours later you can't stay up you tag somebody else they go up and they watch the wheel for a couple hours until you get to the fishing grounds. We got to the fishing grounds and it was one of those perfect days. The sun comes up, you can watch the sunrise and we aren't fishing for more than a few minutes when all of a sudden everything goes wild! And we're into this school of fish that will not stop. Big fish! Wild fish, hungry fish and we caught what we call over here dorado. In Hawaii they call it Mahi-mahi. We got, I don't know how many. And then we caught yellow fin tuna, or what some people would know as Ahi. If you're a sushi lover that's the mainstay of sushi is Ahi. Well we caught them, I mean as fast as we could get the baits in the water, we're hooked up and they're in the fish bag. It wasn't long, well actually we didn't think it was long, but it was noon when we finished fishing. Our hands are exhausted from reeling in these fish. Our backs are tired and suddenly we have this fish bag that's six feet wide, four feet tall, two feet wide full of fish. That's a lot of fish. And we all looked at each other and we got this sinking feeling. We get to clean all these fish. And so at noon we started heading back to the harbor and by five in the afternoon we were just putting the final filets in the gallon bags and packing it in our cooler. Now you may see coolers and other coolers, but I'll tell you this cooler is a cooler to match all coolers. Casey would you bring that cooler out here. I want you to know this is a cooler. Now we had that sucker filled with filets. Not fish! We're talking filets. Filets of Mahi-mahi, Ahi and yellow fin. That's some good eating. That's a lot of good eating is what it is. Probably a hundred pounds or more of filets. We worked our.. we worked really hard to get all of those filets. We were tired and exhausted then we had the long drive home. By the time we pulled into the driveway and we divided up the fish we didn't really care if we had any fish at all. So I know one guy took five pounds another guy took about five pounds. You know two or three bags and I took two or three bags. And then we had another gentleman who said do any of you want any more fish? And the thing was practically full. We didn't even take a dent out of it. He says does anyone else want any more fish? No, no, no, no, no. He says we'll I'll take it then, I know what to do with it. And he took the rest of the fish. Later he told me he took it to Isaiah House, a homeless shelter. And later that same day another one of our fisherman friends calls me up and he says

‘Robert, you know I’m a little miffed. You know that guy he took all the fish. I couldn’t believe he took all the fish. He took all the fish. I mean how greedy can you get? I mean we just took a couple bags and everyone took a couple bags and he took the whole cooler. I can’t believe he took the whole cooler. What could he do with that much fish?’ And I tried to interrupt him. He went on. The more he went on the more I’m on the phone chuckling. And he went on and on talking about what in the world. And finally he said it three times: what in the world do you do with that much fish? I said ‘do you want to know?’ ‘Yeah, what does he do with that much fish anyway?’ ‘He gave it to a homeless shelter.’ I think he felt about this big. Felt about that big. All of the sudden we realized that all of our labor and all of our good fortune meant that some people who normally don’t get the delectable best fillets of fish did. Cause God cares for His people. He wants to feed His people and even when we don’t know it we somehow have ways and means to serve God. And no matter what you do, you can use your joys, you can use your grief’s, you can use your struggles, you can use whatever you do to serve the world. And that’s what we’re all about is serving the world. Two weeks ago I’m sharing my book with my mother, “Walking in Your Own Shoes.” And she turns to me and she says ‘you know what Robert.’ I said ‘yeah mom?’ She goes ‘if you’re going to talk about walking in your own shoes you should do something about it.’ I go ‘what do you mean? I wrote a book on it.’ She goes ‘no I mean you should do something about it.’ ‘Well what do you mean?’ She said ‘well you should get some new shoes and give away new shoes to people so they can walk in their own shoes.’ You’re kidding me. I stopped and I thought about it and you know what she’s absolutely right. I wish she’d given me more time. But here’s what I’ve done in the last two weeks. I’ve been in contact with Samaritans Purse, which is the organization that Billy Graham’s son Franklin heads up. And they’ve agreed to distribute the shoes for us. And I’ve discovered that there are one point five million children in the United States of America alone that are homeless. And I want to give them a pair of shoes. New shoes. Because I believe that everybody needs to walk in their own shoes. What I’ve done is next Sunday we’ll have a semi here and I’m going to ask you next week to come back and bring a new pair of shoes so that children can have a new pair of shoes and we’re going to give away shoes and shoes and shoes. Will you do that? Will you do that? Instead of clapping I want a commitment. Because there’s no commitment in clapping. Yeah everyone else is going to do it but I’m not going to do it. Yeah way to go! You know? So if you’re willing to make a commitment and bring a pair of shoes next Sunday would you please stand, just stand where you are if you’re going to make a commitment to bring a new pair of shoes next Sunday to church. Now I want you to look around and hold each other accountable next Sunday. Look whose standing and you can hold each other accountable. And if you’re, now if you don’t come next Sunday you’re really going to be held accountable. Okay? And you can sit down. Here’s what we’re going to do. We’re going to have a semi here next Sunday and we’re going to collect shoes and we’re going to fill this semi with shoes. I don’t know if we’ll do it next week, but we’ll just keep doing it until that thing is full. And we’re going to give some shoes to children who need shoes. And if you’re watching on television and you want to participate in this and help give some shoes to children, then we’ll make sure that children get shoes, okay? We’ll make sure they get some shoes, because children have the right to walk in their own shoes. You know God has called us to serve. We’re going to start with the United States and we’re going to make sure that every child who needs a new pair of shoes gets a new pair of shoes. It’s service. It’s serving the world. It’s what we’ve been called to do. Jesus lived it. He was a perfect example for us. And then

He told us specifically to feed the hungry, to clothe those who need clothing. And so we will. We'll feed the hungry, we'll clothe the naked and we'll give hope to those who are hopeless. Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You that we have the opportunity today to make a difference, that there are people everywhere today who are hungry. And there are those who are hungry for the reality of a spiritual hunger, that as they have the spiritual need today that they will find their needs filled to overflowing and running over. And so we thank You God for what you're doing in the lives of people today, You're meeting needs. We love You Lord, Amen.

HYMN - "We Are God's People" We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord, for we have known it, the love of God outpoured; Now let us learn how to return the gift of love once given: O let us share each joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleases Heaven. Yes, we are God's people, Amen!

BENEDICTION - RAS RAS: And now may the blessings of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit touch your hearts and minds with His love and His grace. And may that flow through you in acts of goodness and kindness today, tomorrow and forever, Amen.

HYMN - "To God Be the Glory" To God be the glory, great things He has done, so loved He the world that He gave us His Son, Who yielded His life an atonement for sin, and opened the life gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory, great things He has done.

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; but purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our glory, when Jesus we see.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory, great things He has done.