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GOOD MORNING – Bobby Schuller (BS) and Hannah Schuller (HS)

BS: This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Good morning.

HS: And welcome visitors, welcome church family. We are just so happy that you're here. I want to remind you today that faith is never a feeling. Faith is only concerned with what God said. You are loved.

BS: Today we're gathering here to worship and honor the name of Jesus. We have an audience of one, and that's why we're here, so let's begin with a word of prayer. Father, we thank you so much that we are at peace with you because of what Christ accomplished on the cross and in His resurrection. I pray your Holy Spirit would move in people's hearts and minds today, and help us to be more like Jesus in everything we do. We love you and we're so thankful for your life in us today. It's in Jesus name we pray, all God people said, amen.

HAVEN: Turn to the person next to you and say God loves you and so do I.

SCRIPTURE – Jeremiah 18,1-6 – Hannah Schuller

In preparation for the message, Jeremiah 18:1-6. This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you a message." So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. Then the word of the Lord came to me. He said, "Can I not do with you, O Israel, as this potter does?" declares the Lord. "Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel." Amen.

INTERVIEW – Erin Davis (DS) mit Bobby Schuller (BS)

Erin Davis is an author and speaker who has written a number of books and Bible Studies. She also hosts the podcast, The Deep Well with Erin Davis. Her new book, Fasting and Feasting: 40 Devotions to Satisfy the Hungry Heart, explores the relationship between faith and food, while teaching Spiritual principles. BS: Danielle, hi. Thank you so much for joining us today.

BS: Erin, hi. Welcome.

ED: Good morning. Thanks for having me.

BS: So great to have you, and I love, love this topic. So first before we get into your book about fasting and feasting, tell us a little bit about your faith journey.

ED: Happy too. I think I'm the one leper that returned to say thank you; maybe we all are, but as a teenager, I was a broken-hearted girl from a broken home, and the Lord just invaded my life. I found wholeness in Him, I found healing in Him, and I've had the pleasure and joy of serving Him ever since.

BS: Well we do appreciate your ministry, your podcast. I know a lot of people love it, and people love your writing. And you have a new book out called Fasting and Feasting: Forty devotions to satisfy the hungry heart. So what inspired you to write this book?

ED: Well there's a little verse, actually just a couple words in Mark chapter 9. If you look up this story, the disciples had tried to heal a demon possessed boy. They did everything they knew to do, and it didn't work. And then Jesus came down from the mountain after a transfiguration, and He was able to do it quite easily. And afterwards, they said Jesus, what's the deal? We tried; we couldn't drive it out. And He said this kind can only be driven out by prayer and fasting. And that thought just grabbed my heart because I have plenty of "this kinds.." things that I would love to see the Lord remove from my life, and I know there are many "this kinds" represented in the body of Christ, and in those who don't know Christ.

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And this idea that there's some things that can only be changed through prayer and fasting really grabbed ahold of me. I started to study fasting in scripture. I started to practice fasting in my own life, and it turned into fasting and feasting.

BS: So what do you think that is? Why is it that in that context the feasting part of praying had an impact on the demon possessed boy, or whatever.

ED: Well fasting is an act of self-denial. It's an act of emptying ourselves. We all have to eat every day, and I think God did that on purpose because if we pay attention, it's like a little alarm bell going off inside of us, like you need Jesus, you need help, you need something you don't have within yourself. And those disciples had rubbed elbow grease into it, they'd said the right words, but I'm not sure they had emptied themselves and they needed to do that step. They needed to say okay God, I give up myself here. I need you to take the reins. And that's what we do when we fast. We deny ourselves, and we feast on everything God has to give us.

BS: I love the way you describe fasting as feasting. I've heard that before from Bill and from other people, this idea that fasting is eating of the bread of life, drinking from the well of life. I remember an old mentor of mine, Juan Carlos Ortiz used to say that when you fast, it's not a hunger strike. You're not saying to God I'm not going to eat until I get my way, but rather I experience it as sort of gently lifting the veil between the natural and the spiritual where you begin to participate in the kingdom of God in a more real way, and I think a lot of our fears are based on not having enough, right? Where's my next meal going to come from, how am I going to pay my bills, and by sort of giving that up, you realize that. There's something weird about how it does change, especially during that time, it makes your perception of God somehow richer, deeper. Isn't that what you experience?

ED: Yes, absolutely. I love that thought, that it's not a hunger strike. I would say it's not twisting God's arm. He doesn't owe you something because you decided to skip your breakfast or skip however long you decided to fast. It's really a gift. In the Old Testament, there are times when God mandated fasting for His people. A lot of times that was collective. The nation of Israel needed to fast and pray, usually in response to their sin. In the New Testament, of course, we still need to come to God and repent for our sin, but fasting is not mandated for us. That means it's a gift. It's a delight, not a duty, and I think a lot of us, God's given us the gift of fasting, like so many other spiritual disciplines: sabbath rest comes to mind, or prayer, or corporate worship. And we just leave that gift wrapped up and on the shelf. And really, it has been my experience.. fasting is now just an essential part of my walk with the Lord. I wouldn't want to do it without it. And it's just such a tremendous gift. There's some clarity that comes with it, some peace, and I feel like as we turn down the volume on our physical hunger, the voice of the Lord, the volume of His voice just gets turned up.

BS: Erin Davis, what would you say to someone who is listening to you right now, and they think I want to try that. I want to try fasting, but I don't even know like how to start, how long do I go, do I just drink only water, do I drink juice, like what do I do?

ED: Yes, I think there are a lot of practical implications for fasting. And that's by design. It's a very practical need we all have to eat and drink. And one thing I would say to that person who's never fasted before, or maybe they tried it, it didn't go well, or they quit partway in, or whatever happened, is that it's not formulaic. If you were to look at scripture for the topic of fasting, what you're going to find is there's different lengths of fast, there's different kinds of fasts, that's not by accident. That's because it takes walking in step with the spirit. It takes that abiding that Jesus called us to in John 15. So your first step is your first step for everything, which is just to ask the Lord, okay Lord, I'm interested. I see this fasting thing. Jesus fasted, that's a good enough reason for me. I see that you did it Jesus. I want to model that in my life. What do I do? And it's been my experience that by the power of His Holy Spirit through His word and His church, He's going to make it really clear. It's not going to be confusing.

BS: I think fasting has also become, even in the secular world, fashionable because it's so good for you. There was a doctor who won the Nobel prize in I think 2016 because he came up with this description called autophagy where your body eats the bad cells to keep glucose going to your brain, or something like that. That's definitely wrong, but it's like it eats the bad cells, something like that.

ED: Yes, I like it.

BS: And I tried it one time, I did a water only fast for five days, not for spiritual reasons, but for health reasons, and also I tried to incorporate some spiritual, but at the end of that, I just felt euphoric for like two weeks. I felt like ten years younger, and you can see why it helps a lot of people. It's a really an awesome benefit for people.

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ED: I always think that's funny when the world says we discovered this thing that's good for you! And scripture's been saying it for thousands of years. I'm like of course. God knows what's best.

BS: I know. Of course, that's right. Well if you're interested in learning more about fasting, especially to draw closer from the Lord. Maybe you're at a critical time in your life, you really need the Lord, it might be that what you really need is less of something, and I want to encourage you to read Fasting and Feasting by Erin Davis. Erin, thank you so much for joining us. We appreciate it.

ED: Oh, thank you for having me.

DECLARATION – Bobby Schuller

Whoever you are, would you stand with me? We're going to say this creed together. Hold your hands out like this as a way of receiving from the Holy Spirit. I'm not what I do. I'm not what I have. I'm not what people say about me. I am the beloved of God. Its who I am. No one can take it from me. I don't have to worry, I don't have to hurry, I can trust my friend Jesus and share His love with my neighbor. Thanks you can be seated. Actually I hope you all don't mind, its 104 degrees outside, we have a lot of glass here and our air conditioning is struggling to keep it cool. I'm going to preach without my jacket on, if you don't mind. Oh, okay! Okay. Maybe I'll get rid of the jacket all together. Choir, can you guys take your folders and just all at the same time? Little more. Oh I can actually feel it, that's good. Cool, thanks guys. I feel better now. I appreciate it. My B.O. went from like an eight to a six, so that's good. Yep. I said B.O. All right.

MESSAGE – Bobby Schuller – God Can Change You if You Let Him

Well welcome, everyone. Today I want to talk about your future. What's your future like? Future is a precarious thing. Many of us worry about it, whether its tomorrow or a month from now, whether it's our inevitable death. Can I tell you I don't know what your future holds, but I can tell you that whatever current situation you're in today, the future will be a lot better if you move towards it with faith rather than fear. A life full of faith trusting in God and in His word, and even faith in other people, those that deserve it, is such a better way to live life than to always try to predict or control the bad that may come in the future. Today I want to encourage you let faith, not fear, shape your future. Let faith, not fear, shape your future. There is something about living a life of real faith. Many of us who are believers or have been for a long time, some of us have experienced this moment where maybe in the natural not everything is great, but something on the inside has changed. And you feel, in a real sense, that you don't know why but something good is about to happen. You don't know why, but you believe a door is about to open, or the thing you're struggling with is about to change, or something, but you just get this sense that something good is about to happen. And although faith is not a feeling, it's a trust in God's word, there's something wonderful when you decide that your behavior is going to respond to the promises and processes of the Lord rather than all the things in life that we cannot control. How can you love your neighbor without faith? If you think your neighbor is out to get you, if you think God doesn't really love you, if you think that for someone to be loved and treated with dignity they have to do a few things right, how can you truly love your neighbor, especially if they're your enemy. Loving your enemy is one of the surest ways that you can prove to God that you trust your life to Him. How can we forgive people who have offended us or hurt us or betrayed us, even, when we ourselves don't believe that forgiveness comes so easily. If we are riddled with shame and guilt, how can we forgive other people if they're not up to our standards. If we don't have faith in our life, how can we be generous to our neighbors and to those who need it, even to the point of stretching. Yes, many of us are generous, but it doesn't hurt. But God calls us to give in a way that stretches. How can we give in that way, give of not just our money, but our time? Time is a precious thing, especially when you're in a hurry, when you're a busy person. How can we give of our lives if we think I've only got a little time, I've only got a little money. Fear causes us to hoard whatever it is: our time, our money, and our life. But faith opens our whole life as a fist opens to embrace a friend. So does our heart open to the kingdom of God and to serve and to love our neighbors, but its faith that does it. Its faith, not fear. How can you build your dream, your future, your business, your ministry, your family. How can you have an idea that's bigger than is possible for you if you don't have some faith? We all need a reason to wake up in the morning. We need something to live for. We need something we can picture in our mind that if I had this or made this thing or did this thing, it would mean something to me. We all need that in our life, but how can we have that if we live life afraid and are always trying to control what we cannot control, and are crippled by worry about the future.

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My friend, let faith, not fear, shape your future. Let faith shape your future. You'll be glad you did. It'll make all the difference in the world. There are many children here in the United States that need help from the government, but many adults, too. Here's a picture of a child using an EBT coin – they are coins now – and she's using this to pay for groceries for her parents. When I was a young man, and I still do, but when I was a young man I felt so bad for a child like this. I thought if only they could have the childhood like so many of us did. But now being a dad myself, it's been said don't prepare the road for the child, prepare the child for the road. That's a hard thing to do as a parent. And now growing up in the wealthiest county in the wealthiest state in the wealthiest country in the world, I have seen the harm that has been done to children whose roads have been prepared for them. Who have never gone a day hungry, who have never been worried about the rain, children who have a whole plan set out for them by their parents, and have the whole thing paved and paid for. Many of those children, even if they walked that path, resent it, and yet are crippled by fear because they're worried about what their life would be like if they didn't get into that school, or didn't get that job, or couldn't own that car, or couldn't, whatever. There is a gift in having nothing and being a believer. It's the same gift that you got from fasting. It's learning that God will always provide for you your daily bread, and all that you need when you need it. You don't really believe that until you experience it, but when you do, you switch from an abundant life in the natural, but is crippled because it feels like a life of lack. You abandon that life of lack and receive a life of abundance when you start getting your daily bread. Hannah, by the way, grew up like one of those children with EBT coins. Hannah and her family, they grew up in a little town called.. you have to say it this way: Tahlequah Oklahoma. Tahlequah. It's actually a really.. I love Oklahoma, and Tahlequah is a one-horse town, college town, and they grew up in section eight housing on food stamps, and didn't have a lot. One day Hannah was doing the laundry with her mom, and there was a \$20 food stamp, which back.. which today is a lot, but back then was a whole lot. And it had gone through the laundry, and then when they were folding, they found just the rolled up little paper balls and shreds of this thing, and her mom, of course was going to throw it away, and I don't know how old were you, seven/eight? Something like that. She said don't throw it away, I think I can save it. So she took those little pieces home with her mom's permission. Her mom said if you can save it, you can have it. She carefully pulled out every little bit and taped it all together with scotch tape where it looked pretty decent. Then she went down to an AM/PM and went and got \$20 worth of kid candy, which back then a whole dollar got you a whole lot, so she had like whole bunch of stuff, and just went with slushies and just went boom! And can you imagine this little girl, cute as a button with this food stamp, handing a food stamp to the guy at the cashier. And he took it! Is this not the picture of faith? Ego gets in the way so often, but faith says it's not how good the stamp looks, it's what it says on the bill. This is a contract! This says this little girl gets \$20 worth of whatever she wants, and the government's going to pay for it. And I believe that this cashier will honor it. And he did. So much of life, a life of faith, is not about how things look, or how you feel, it's whether or not you believe that the words on the contract are valid. You take an old \$100 bill and you throw it on the ground, and you stomp on it and cover it in mud, and it's worth just as much as another \$100 bill that just came off the mint. And in one year, they'll all be worth ten percent less. Well, I think that those experiences build a person. In fact Hannah's dad, who was the man providing for that house that was heavily dependent on charity and on goodwill from the government, now is a wealthy, very successful business person. I just went to a 23-acre campus he's building where he's constructed two lakes and blueberry farms. He's just finishing a ten thousand square foot bed and breakfast style house where he can have ministry meetings and the blueberry fields are there, so missionary teenagers can come and pluck berries and sell them and use the money to go on their humanitarian or missionary trips. And he's got this grand vision that was all designed by one of the world's greatest architects. There's something about having been somewhere with nothing and built it yourself, built it by faith, that does something good for a person. That many of us who have grown up in the life of abundance lack a bit. That's why Jesus tells His disciples in Luke chapter 9 and 11, just go and don't take anything with you. And at the end, He says, were you ever in need? And they said never Lord, never. Let faith shape your future. Let faith shape your future. Live by faith. Do bold things for God. I remember there was a guy back in the day named Keith Wheeler. He came out of the Jesus movement. He was like this hippy and he just decided that God had called him to take nothing except a literal cross and walk around the world with a cross. And he did it. And he just has these amazing stories of provision. Do you all remember what a Cactus Cooler is? I love that drink. I haven't seen one in ages, but he was out in the middle of nowhere, walking down a road carrying his cross, and he literally goes man.

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I could go for a Cactus Cooler, and about five minutes later, a truck pulls up and they go hey, it looks hot out here. You want some Cactus Cooler? That's a real story. You might think well what's a Cactus Cooler? Well it's a lot to someone on a hot day. I remember when Hannah and I, we saved up \$50,000 dollars. It took us ten years to save up \$50,000, and that was for our retirement. It was a nest egg, and it was more money than we ever thought we could get together. And then God called us to plant a church, and we did. And when we planted that church, the Lord told us to give away every bit of money that came into the church to the poor, and we did. We gave away every bit to someone who was in need of rent, or needed groceries. Meanwhile, we were the poor ones. And we watched that \$50,000 in about a year and half dwindle down to zero. But guess what - when we got to zero, we were never without. We still had our house, we still had a roof over our heads, we still had things when we needed it. And can I tell you, the things I learned getting whittled down to zero was worth a lot more than \$50,000. It was worth a million dollars. It was worth ten million dollars to know that all that I need is here. Here! It's the word of the Lord! You trust in it and it will deliver. You trust in the word, it will deliver. The Holy Spirit is an ally. And what an ally He is. You trust your life to the Holy Spirit. You trust your life to Jesus. Things will go well for you. Let faith, not fear, shape your future and life will go really well when your best friend owns a cattle on a thousand hills. He'll take care of you. Providence.. we talk a lot in the Reformed tradition, this tradition, is God's perfect will. But we forget is God's perfect will for you is always good. God's will for you is always good. Respond to that in faith. In Jeremiah chapter 18, the prophet writes: "this is the word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord. Go down to the potter's house and there I will give you my message, so I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred." That means it was kind of messed up. It didn't look good. It was marred in his hands, "so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best for him. And the word of the Lord came to me and he said, can I not do with you Israel as this potter does, declares the Lord? Let clay in the hand of the potter, like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel." Let us leave our hearts in the hands of the Lord and let us be malleable, pliable, soft and tender hearted in the hands of the Lord. That's what faith really is. Faith is tender hearted. Have you ever done anything with clay before? Have you ever seen someone shaping clay? You know what it's like to put your hands on the clay and maybe take a little more, a little less, and you shape it and it goes wide or it goes high, or maybe it gets lumpy or gets a weird stripe in it. It's so easy to fix it, to change it, to mold it. If God were a potter, I would imagine He would be the best potter there ever was. And that whatever pot He would make would be the most fantastic, beautiful, amazing pot anyone could ever imagine. Let our hearts be this clay in His hands. That's what it means to live by faith is to trust that He has my life and the whole world in His hands. If you knock over a lump of wet clay, you know what it says? No problem. Whatever. No problem. Wet clay is pliable, malleable and changeable. We often think of soft things as fragile, and hard things as robust, but boy, is that the opposite. If you take a lump of clay that's dried out and been left alone, and you push it off the edge, it's going to shatter into a million pieces. That doesn't sound robust to me. That sounds pretty fragile. Very often, we think faith makes us hard, it makes us power up. It doesn't make us hard it makes us soft! Soft to the word and the will of God, and boy is that a great place to be. Its wet clay that's robust. If you have a piece of wet clay and you punch it, you know what that wet clay says? No problem. Take that wet clay and you push it off the table and it hits the ground; you know what that's going to say? No problem. Let our hearts be like wet clay in the hands of the Lord. Let us be tender hearted people. Can we just say that tough minded faith always comes from tender hearted people? And that we will ask of the Lord to shape us in whatever way He wills because we trust that the future that He can shape is better than the future that I can. And that that's just a better way to live! At peace with God and with my neighbor, and with my future. You can be at peace with your future. It's very bright if you do it with Jesus. Let faith, not fear, shape your future. Fear, Dallas Willard said was the anticipation of evil. Fear is the anticipation of evil. It's a thing that says don't trust anybody. It's the thing that says are they gossiping about me? It's the thing that says I got to tell it like it is. I can't let them treat somebody else that way. Faith is the type of thing that labels people by their politics or by their religion or by their skin color or by their zip code or by the car they drive, and labels them outside. Fear is a life that obsesses about what's on the news channel. On what's going on in politics. I don't know about you, my friend, I only have one vote. I've only got one vote and there are hundreds of millions of other people who've got one vote. The best I can do is vote my best and forget the rest. I just give it to the Lord. Long after America is gone, the church will remain. It always has been, and it always will be.

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Long after Europe or any other nation that exists today is long gone, long after the whole world is swallowed up by the sun, the church will remain. The church is the body of Christ. It was built forever ago, and will continue on forever. Let us be a part of that future, because that's a bright future. It's a future that doesn't end. Let's not worry, but rather seek first His kingdom and His righteousness. This is what faith is: fear obsesses about what you cannot control. Think about all the things you may be worried about. My guess, my friend, is 90% of them you can't control. I can't control that. Here's a better question: can I give it to the Lord? Can I trust Him with it? What do you think. You think you can trust that to the Lord? I know it's scary, but I promise you, you can. Faith is the anticipation of victory. Faith is the anticipation of good based on God's character. God is only good. He only does what is good all the time, no matter what, and that is a good thing. So, here's one of the best things about faith is faith allows us to open our lives up to people. It's not just to God, but it's to people. And this is one of the things I realized recently is the promise of people. Wow. The promise of people. I remember.. you know the world's fair is an interesting thing. There have been world's fairs going on for a long time. They call it the expo now, and in the year 2000, I was only 19 years old, and I was invited by David Maines, actually, to go and work at the world's fair with his company and ministry. And it's an awesome thing. They always do these great things where you have big countries with lots of money build their own pavilion, usually the host country, in this case it was Germany, built this gigantic, I want to say, four hundred million euro building to showcase their nation. And each country had its own thing. And then the smaller countries shared a giant building and they would have like little booths, and they always have an amazing building. So like the Eiffel Tower was built from the world's fair, the Seattle space needle is built from the world's fair. Anyway. And I remember, I wanted to go, but I was only 19 years old. I was a barista at Barnes and Noble, and I couldn't afford the thousands of dollars that it cost me to get there. And my grandpa Schuller told me, I'll pay your way if you fill your Rolodex with the people you meet there. If you fill your Rolodex with the people you meet there. Is there anybody here who's under 25, by the way, can you raise your hand real quick? I saw a couple hands go up. Where? Do you know what a Rolodex is? From last service he says, but he didn't before? That's good. That's good. He said fill your Rolodex, and for those of you who are younger than I am, you don't know what a Rolodex is, but before cell phones, it was this flippy ball thing.. not ball.. cylinder. You flip it and it holds business cards and names and stuff. He said fill your Rolodex with people's names, and boy did I. What an awesome experience that was. When I got there, I was in people mode, and what a gift that was. I just went around glad handing, meeting people from all over the world, and it was just so interesting, and to this day, I still have names and phone numbers of people I met on that trip 23 years ago who I could go and visit today in Germany or in the Middle East and knock on their door, they're going to answer the door, welcome me, give me a big hug. It's amazing, isn't it? All over in Africa and Asia. I remember the funny thing about the world's fair is United States was the only big country that didn't have a pavilion there, and it was because the spot they had was right in the front, and last minute, according to the U.S., they gave the spot to Iran, which is like.. Iran and U.S. are not on good terms now or even back then. And so the U.S. withdraw. But they had McDonald's everywhere, and people loved it, and so they always called McDonald's the American pavilion. 'Hey, I'm going to go down to the American pavilion and get a hamburger. You want one?' And I remember I was walking around one of these big buildings with the like little booths, and walking by there was a big booth that said "Georgia." And I went and I said, Georgia! Well bless your heart! I said I didn't know Georgia was going to have a booth here. And this big burly man looks at me and he goes, 'Georgia is not state in America. Georgia is country.' I'm like.. there's a country called Georgia? He says yes 'Georgia is great nation.' And I did not get his name in my Rolodex but he was an odd cat. But anyway. I think one of the things I really learned from that trip, and I've carried with me my whole life, is the value of people. Wow, what a value there is in people, in having a lot of friends, especially friends that come from different perspectives than you do. You want a real education, surround yourself with people who have different philosophies and conclusions. Especially surround yourself with people that have the kind of life that you want to have, that have the kind of character you want to have. It'll rub off on you. You know what Dr. Schuller taught me back then? He said your network is your net worth. Boy is that true. You might lose all your money, but if you still have your friends, you're in a good spot, my friend. You know how much money.. my grandpa built the Crystal Cathedral, and it was tens of millions of dollars, I believe it was like maybe ten/twelve million dollars, and that was back in the 70's. You know how much of his own money he used to build that? I don't know. But I'm going to go with zero.

God Can Change You if You Let Him

Between zero and a few hundred. That's my guess. I don't know. It was other people who believed in the vision. It was the network that paid for the dream. It was people who believed in him and supported the dream. And so in this way, it wasn't just faith in God, but faith in people, in believing in people that allowed his future to be shaped in the right way. The word "confidence" means with faith. Con-fi-day. That means you go into life trusting in life, and trusting in the God of life who rules our hearts and minds. So let us become and let us say soft hearted, tender hearted. Let us have the tough-minded faith that comes from tender hearted people. So last story, I remember not long ago, I was driving in the right lane at a good speed, and I saw a guy in a pickup truck barreling down, weaving in and out, and he went all the way around to the left and then came in front of my car jutting over to get on the other freeway. And because I'm a Christian and a pastor, I usually don't give the American bird. I never give the American bird. I never flip people off. But there is something you can do, you can do a thumbs down and boo, which I do always, so I go BOO! BOO! And he looked at me and he's flipping me off, and I was like BOO! And it works. It works. It's not quite as striking, but it's enough to get it off your chest. And I just was driving down the road, and just feeling angry and frustrated. And then I sort of like thought to myself, I'm like why am I still this way? I thought I don't want to live like this. And then I was trying to listen to my book on tape, but I didn't hear anything because I was still feeling angry. And I prayed, I said Lord, I don't want to feel this way. I don't know who that guy is. Why am I letting this ruin my morning. And it was just a couple weeks later, I was in my car, I was driving along, and some lady pulls up and she goes.. I can't hear her, but you can see the gums while she's yelling at me with flipping me off in the car, and I was pretty sure I didn't do anything wrong, but I might have, and instead of going BOO, BOO, you're the worst! I just went oh, oh, so sorry. So sorry, like this. And she looks at me and she goes, oh it's okay, it's okay. I don't know what I did. I probably messed up somehow. And I thought about that later. I thought I wonder how her day might have been different just depending on how I responded to that situation. It might have been half an hour; it might have been the whole day if I had lashed out back at her. She might have been more curt with her kids, or lost her temper with her husband or best friend or made a bad decision at work. But instead maybe she was able to go a little bit more graciously with the day because someone didn't let her have it. I'm done with letting people have it. How about you? I think I want to just have faith that God will take care of that. I don't need to sort it out. I don't need to tell it like it is. I don't need to fix people. I don't need to predict the future. All I got to do is just trust the Lord with faith. Let faith, not fear, shape your future and your future will be a lot brighter. The whole world will open up to you and things will be much better. So Lord, we ask for that in Jesus' name. Only you can do it, Lord. We ask for faith. We ask that we would rightly discern and understand the Bible, that it would be true in every aspect of our lives, and that today we could just trust our lives to you, and we do. We thank you, God, and we love you, it's in Jesus name we pray, amen.

BENEDICTION – Bobby Schuller

Now the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift His countenance upon you and give you His peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, amen.