



Broadcast Transcript

Broadcast: The Dangerous Gentleman – Part 2

Guest(s): Victor and Eileen Marx

Air Date: December 5, 2025

Dr. James Dobson: Hello everyone. You're listening to Family Talk, the radio broadcasting ministry of the James Dobson Family Institute. I'm Dr. James Dobson and thank you for joining us for this program.

Roger Marsh: Well welcome back to Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk. I'm Roger Marsh, and in just a moment we're going to hear part two of Dr. Dobson's classic conversation with Victor and Eileen Marx from All things Possible Ministries. Together, this husband and wife duo lead high risk rescue missions as a part of their ministry's global mission to set captives free physically, emotionally, and spiritually. And what you're about to hear marks the final time that Dr. Dobson was in studio with Victor and Eileen Marx before Dr. Dobson went home to be with the Lord in August of 2025. And as a result, we have included this conversation as part of our 2025 Best of Broadcast Collection. It features some classic work from Dr. Dobson dating all the way back to the beginning of the Family Talk Ministry. It also includes his final studio interview as well as the last words Dr. Dobson ever spoke into a microphone here at the JDFI. It's a highly anticipated resource. It's available right now as a six-CD set, and when you go to drjamesdobson.org, you'll find out all the particulars you need on how to make a donation in support of our ministry and receive the 2025 Best of Broadcast Collection as our thank you for that gift. And now let's hear part two of Dr. Dobson's conversation with Victor and Eileen Marx, as Victor is telling the story, he's just entered Gaza a highly dangerous and active war zone.

Victor Marx: When we went in, this is very funny. And we go in, me and one other person we're Americans, this SF team takes us. Most of 'em are backing down this berm. I thought they were going to bring us up north. They brought us right into Gaza City. I mean the fighting was going on. So we get up on this berm and I'm like, Lord, the main thing You told me to do is pray. So I'm going to pray. And I have my buddy next to me and I just lift my hands up. Now I'm silhouetted, you can see me. And I just start praying over the evil of Hamas, protection of all innocent people. And as I'm praying, I see my IDF friends, they're getting lower and lower and I'm not really understanding, but I just keep praying. Here's what happened. Unbeknownst to me, there was a sniper and a building in front of us shooting.

I didn't know. They knew, but they were like, no, I had a kit and a helmet on. But still, you don't want a silhouette yourself with your arms up like, hey, take a shot at me. I keep praying and praying. Then I heard the sounds of a tank track

and it's actually on video. It's very like... this tank came out of nowhere and the Israeli tank, turns, aims its turn at the building and goes vroom and just puts a big round right in that building. And the shooting stops. But yeah, I think faith in action, good works that God's prepared for us, everybody in their own lane. I would never recommend somebody doing the work we do. You got to be called to it. But just being faithful to the lane that God has called you to do, man, that will impact people and we need men to step up and just trust God and obey in every area and stop compromising. That's the killer of real moral and what I would call moral masculinity. Compromise.

Dr. James Dobson: And then from there you went to Iraq.

Victor Marx: Yes, sir. Our last mission, which was recent, we had been planning...

Dr. James Dobson: This is the one I want people to hear.

Victor Marx: Well, my bride and I, our team had been planning a rescue from our intelligence of a young woman who had been held captive for nine years and we'd come back from Israel. I'm exhausted. I mean I'm smoked because we hit Israel twice and all of a sudden, I get a call, "Hey boss, it's a green light to get this woman, this girl." And I thought, oh, I prayed. And I said, okay, the only thing is we needed a female on our team, the best chance of a good rescue. So because she was being...

Dr. James Dobson: Let's get this straight now. There's a girl there that had been in captivity for how long?

Victor Marx: Nine years.

Dr. James Dobson: Nine years

Victor Marx: By ISIS.

Dr. James Dobson: And you're going in there with the goal of bringing her out.

Victor Marx: Yes sir.

Dr. James Dobson: Did you expect not to survive that? I mean, you're going into Satan's world there.

Victor Marx: I would say this, we always expect to win every time. We've never entered any engagement or rescue without a hundred percent confidence that the Lord is in control. Now, we've had the hard conversations that because of the work we do, if one of us end up in Heaven, are we okay with that? I remember looking at my bride when remember it was to rescue a little boy, bring him out of harm's way in Mosul. And I remember telling Eileen, "Babe, this is a bad one." We do

risk assessments. I go, "This is really bad." And she's like, "Well, did the Lord tell you to go?" I said, yeah. I said...

Dr. James Dobson: Eileen, I got to interrupt. You didn't have to do this and you were putting yourself at risk. You're the mother of all these five kids. How in the world did you get the guts to do what happened?

Eileen Marx: Wow. Well, you know what? I think it's just God speaking to us. He gives us a peace. And I don't question that peace. Yes. I mean, every single time that we've been in, there's always that chance that something bad can happen. But you know what? I've looked at our life. It's like, this is not my life. God saved me. And I'm not afraid. I'm not afraid to die because I know where I'm going. And so many of the people that we are reaching, so many don't know. So many don't have that eternal confidence. So that's what moves me.

Dr. James Dobson: Okay. Tell us what happened. You're going in there to try to rescue this girl. Yes. How old was she?

Eileen Marx: Late twenties. So she was kidnapped as a teenager.

Dr. James Dobson: Did she know you were coming?

Eileen Marx: No, she did not know. So there were so many different pieces that had to make this happen because she was being held in a place that was controlled by ISIS.

Victor Marx: And some things we can't share because it's for security reasons even now.

Eileen Marx: But so we had an incredible team that has intel that like Victor said, six months of planning. So now the window was open. So we get over there and we understand, we understand what we're dealing with and who's behind all of this. So we just went with actually great expectation. Like Victor said, we had such great expectation, even though a thousand things could have gone wrong, a thousand things went great. In fact, the last piece of this whole rescue, we are in a vehicle. We are heading back to our safe house. There is a checkpoint that nobody ever gets out of. Nobody. Our vehicle with the woman and her two children in the backseat, we go right by the checkpoint. Nobody stops us.

Victor Marx: They didn't even stop.

Eileen Marx: It's like an angel was covering the car and it's like the people at the checkpoint didn't even see us travel. That to me is like, this is the final stamp of God saying, "you're done, you're through."

Dr. James Dobson: So you and another woman walked into the place where this girl was being kept.

Victor Marx: So it was only Eileen. And it's so complicated even now, there's some details we can't even allude to.

Dr. James Dobson: I don't want you to put yourself at risk.

Victor Marx: But I will say this, that Eileen was the only female to make first contact with the mother and the two children. And it was so high risk that our ops, our lead ops guy just said, "Eileen, if there's a man with her, he's ISIS. And if he tries to grab her or if he even looks at you, you have to draw your weapon and kill him." And we don't ever want to engage people and have to use violence to do what we do, but we're certainly prepared for it. And thank God, I mean Eileen, when she was kitting up, and again folks, listen, civilian clothes, jacket, low vis body armor, you'd never know. But she's carrying a pistol, two mags, a blade. She put a grenade in her pocket. It's very funny. You look at it and go, man, people have called us the real Mr. and Mrs. Smith. We always chuckled. We didn't until we watched the movie. Then we're like, oh my gosh, maybe kind of we are. But I asked our team, doc, I said, first of all, what's the oldest female operator you've ever worked with in these type of high risk missions? They were like mid-thirties. And folks, I'm telling you, ladies, my bride turned 60 before we did this. And I mean she looks like she's in her late thirties.

Dr. James Dobson: That's true.

Victor Marx: So we're very disciplined to stay mission ready. And that's our challenge to both men and women. Be mission ready, physically, emotionally, and spiritually for whatever God has for you.

Dr. James Dobson: Okay, describe the event. I don't want that a minute to get away from us here.

Victor Marx: So we were able to execute the mission and thread the needle in a way because it was more than one country. We had to move through multiple countries to safely get her to our home. And all the while you, you're basically kidnapping someone from ISIS and you're moving with an ISIS woman. Even though she's kidnapped, she's been held nine years, we weren't for certain how far she was programmed or brainwashed. And that was the big risk the whole time. But when everything finally worked out, it was the most beautiful reunion we'd ever seen. Her brother got on the phone, he could not believe it. She's telling him, I'm rescued, I'm rescued. I'm not with Dash no more or ISIS. He goes, "Where are you?" She goes, "I don't know." We did all of our stuff at night. I don't know. Who rescued you? And all she could say was, they're just Christians from America. And once we talked with the brother, he goes, what do y'all want? And we said nothing. Jesus sent us here to help and we were gone. We were out of country within hours and we're still, because it's kind of fresh. When you hurt ISIS's feelings that bad, they take notice. So we don't live paranoid, but we live prepared.

Dr. James Dobson: Sure. You've been doing this for years, haven't you?

Victor Marx:

Yes, sir. Gosh, 2014 was our first high risk mission. And then before that, working with high risk kids here in the U.S. who've been trafficked or abused. So 21 years now total. I tell folks again, I try to say, it doesn't matter if you're overseas or in your own neighborhood, we're fighting evil and the manifestation of it. And a great example is someone tried to kill me here at our home. A guy tried to shoot me, and this was 10 months ago. And when I talk about being a dangerous gentleman, I've had to make decisions that change the course of bad people's future. And I would say being a dangerous gentleman doesn't mean you're violent or toxic or whatever. Actually what you do is all based out of love and being capable matters. But meekness, one of the first things I learned, and I know you've taught this, is meekness is power under control.

Christ was the best example. When this guy took a shot at me hiding in a trailer on our property as far as I couldn't see him, he pulled a pistol. I didn't even know he was going to shoot me. Boom, he shoots and it was 36 inches from the barrel to my head. And the round missed me by two fingers because they measured it out. And again, guardian angels, there's no way someone should have missed me from that close. And it's like I sent a video to President Trump and I just said, I know what it's like and don't let your anger turn into bitterness. I had spoken Mar-a-Lago when he was there so I just said, we're not hard to find, we're just hard to kill because God's angels are watching over us and He's not through with us yet. I guess the point about meekness is power and control, when this fellow tried to kill me, I drew my weapon and put it on him. I could have killed him like that, but I moved off the X where he couldn't get a shot at me. And I really heard the Holy Spirit say, don't shoot him. I could have killed him right there and it would've been justified. But instead of shooting, it was contain him. Contain him. So had he come out of the trailer as a threat, a hostile intent, then I would've killed him. But I didn't. Five and a half hour standoff by SWAT here in Colorado Springs, El Paso County. He gets arrested for second degree attempted murder, and he's facing that.

Dr. James Dobson:

Eileen, you live in a dangerous world. How do you cope with that?

Eileen Marx:

Well, again, I just go back to, you know what, I know why we're here. This is not our home. And our motto that we used to say before we got married is that we're just passing through. And I just have to say that that's God's faith. God gives us that measure of faith to really believe that and live that out. I mean, old Testament, I was saying earlier, people in the Old Testament, I love the people, their heart because they didn't count their life so precious to them. And I mean, again, this is not our home. So it's easy for me. And I do know that that's a measure there.

Dr. James Dobson:

Do you know there's a song to that effect. Let me sing it to you. Okay? I've never sung a song on the radio yet and you hear my voice, it's craggy. But I'll just tell you what the words say. "This world is not my home. I'm just passing through. My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue. The angels beckon me from heaven's other shore and I won't be alone in this world anymore."

Victor Marx: That's beautiful.

Eileen Marx: I love that. Amen.

Victor Marx: That's comforting.

Dr. James Dobson: I grew up with that song.

Eileen Marx: Wow, that's beautiful.

Victor Marx: And that's truth. And that's what men need now more than ever. And I think the young men understand there's nothing that satisfies. I mean, we have the highest levels of anxiety, depression, and suicide among our young people more than ever. So this is when...

Dr. James Dobson: Who are you referring to in the U.S.?

Victor Marx: Young people. It's the one thing, while I was just in Texas this past weekend and I spoke at a youth prison. There was about 40 kids in there, all violent offenders. And I thought, man, here we go, Lord. And the U.S. state representative there, the warden, and they just said, man, if you can get through these kids, and I shared my story and I told them the truth of the gospel and what God could do. Half of them raise their hand to give their life to Christ.

Dr. James Dobson: Is that right? Again?

Victor Marx: Again. So we are tasked with the responsibility of presenting the gospel. And I think *The Dangerous Gentleman* is a good way to encourage men.

Dr. James Dobson: Well, let's talk about that. *The Dangerous Gentleman*. Explain that as a place to begin.

Victor Marx: Well, people ask me, dangerous gentlemen, that sounds like an oxymoron.

Dr. James Dobson: Is Jesus the dangerous gentleman?

Victor Marx: I think He's the best example, doc, because everything He did was motivated out of love and He had capability beyond anyone else on this earth. Christ never called us to be passive. That's a misnomer and that's bad propaganda. He called us to have active faith to occupy until He returns. I mean, how many times are we telling the Bible to not be afraid and to be courageous? So the book is stories and accounts of what we've done that I think will both encourage and challenge men, that's what we're hearing to go, oh my gosh, God is able to do that. It's like Eileen told me in Iraq on a mission to go get this kid. I said, "Babe, are you willing to become a widow for the cause of Christ? Because if I leave here and go try to get that little boy out of Mosul, there's a chance I could be killed." And

I'll never forget, "I'd rather be a widow than married to a man known for being a coward."

Dr. James Dobson: Oh my.

Victor Marx: And women, you need to challenge your husband. Stop nagging. Nagging doesn't get anything done. One of the most powerful things Eileen has said to me is when I'm sideways or struggling, she just goes, honey, lead me better than that.

And I'm telling you, husband and wives, that's the best ministry you can have. That's the greatest thing I've ever done, is stay married. Never cheated on my wife, never been cheated on. That's the greatest thing I've ever accomplished because that's the institution that God ordained from everything else, it flows. But if we didn't make it, then we wouldn't be talking about any of these stories of God's miraculous power.

Dr. James Dobson: Victor, what is a man of courage today? I'm sure a lot of people really don't know because it's not modeled in many places. What does it mean to be a man of courage?

Victor Marx: Well, there's physical courage and then there's what I would say moral courage. I think moral courage or moral masculinity, leading with that as a foundation will give a man physical courage. If you try to reverse him, then there's a chance you won't accomplish it. Stand up for what is right. Don't be quiet in the face of what's evil. And you've done that for all these decades. You've stood up against what the culture says is no more right. We're living in a day and age what the Bible says that they'll call evil good and good evil, and men need to stop being passive, accept responsibility, fight for a greater good. There's a war going on. Again, it's spiritual, but it takes the courage that you can receive by the power of God's spirit in your life. It will be dampened by I think impurity. I tell men, if you're looking at porn and you're not living a pure life, don't expect the power of God to flow through you.

That will clench everything. Have a clear conscious and well, I never forget I was in a locker room, some men were talking, and this has happened more than one occasion, and these men start talking about cheating on their wife and they're laughing. They look over at me and I just looked at them and said, I don't find that funny. You made a commitment to your wife and now you think somehow it's wrong. And I've said that on more than one occasion. I've said it to politicians in a small room of some well-known people, and one of 'em was talking about cheating with his... so it's okay for men to stand up.

Dr. James Dobson: Well Victor and Eileen, I always enjoy talking to you all because of your courage, your commitment, the people that you have changed. And this book, I think will be of great meaning to a lot of people because America's forgotten what it means to be masculine.

Victor Marx: Yes, sir.

Dr. James Dobson: And to do what God calls us to do. It's always a pleasure talking to you guys. We want to end with a story. We've known you all these years, as I've said. Shirley and I decided to come over to your house and ask if you would teach her to shoot a pistol just for self-protection. I'm gone a lot and so you agreed to do that. You brought us over, we went out in your backyard and you gave us each pistol. And Shirley shot first and you gave her a few instructions, not much. And then put her about 10, 15 feet away from a target. And she stepped up there and she blew a hole in the center of that target three times, didn't she?

Eileen Marx: Yes. Oh, I was so proud of her. She hit the target one, two.

Dr. James Dobson: Believe me, this has never happened before.

Victor Marx: And you had said she never used a firearm. And Eileen, it's one of our highlights. We have some very fun pictures of that where we were both shocked. I'm like, good night.

Eileen Marx: Truly.

Victor Marx: And then you followed up. You said, I haven't shot a pistol in so long, and you got up there and you were hitting the target really well in the chest. And you go, but I want to shoot him in the face. I said, well adjust this. Boom, boom, boom. You're shooting the target. I said, "These are two warriors, babe. In their eighties warriors."

Dr. James Dobson...: You're telling the truth now. This actually happened.

Victor Marx: Oh, we have photos to prove it. We were both proud and excited. And again, that's leadership. I said, look at them. They're out here still training, still hungry.

Dr. James Dobson: I have a courageous wife.

Eileen Marx: You do. Yes, you do.

Victor Marx: Yes, you do. We call her the Queen Warrior.

Dr. James Dobson: Well, thanks for being with us today and yesterday. Appreciate you telling the personal stories that you've gone through. You take some risk whenever you talk like this, don't you?

Victor Marx: We do. And again, we try to be sensitive to God and know our time on Earth is limited. So we want to advance the kingdom as much as we can. And again, being prepared keeps us from being paranoid.

Roger Marsh:

While you've been listening to a special edition of Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk featuring part two of Dr. Dobson's conversation with Victor and Eileen Marx. Now, this was the last time that Dr. Dobson was able to sit down in studio with Victor and Eileen before he went home to be with the Lord this past August. If you'd like to learn more about All Things Possible Ministries or the book that they were discussing, Victor has written a book called *The Dangerous Gentlemen*, just go to drjamesdobson.org/familytalk. And as I mentioned at the start of the broadcast, this conversation with Victor and Eileen Marx is included in our 2025 best of Broadcast Collection. Your prayers and financial support mean the world to us here at the JDFI and now through the historic Dr. James Dobson Memorial Matching Grant, every gift we receive will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$6 million until the deadline of New Year's Eve, December 31st.

This remarkable memorial honors Dr. Dobson's legacy and ensures that the only organization he entrusted to carry forward his work, which is the JDFI can continue reaching families for generations to come. Go to drjamesdobson.org and get your copy. The six-CD set is available there, and it's our thank you gift for your special year-end contribution of any amount to the Dr. James Dobson Family Institute, which will be doubled thanks to the Dr. James Dobson Memorial Matching Grant. Again, you'll find that information at drjamesdobson.org. You can also call a member of our Constituent Care team at 877-732-6825. Or if you prefer, you can send your donation through the U.S. Postal Service. Our ministry mailing address is Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk, P.O. Box 39000, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80949.

Well, I'm Roger Marsh and on behalf of all of us here at Family Talk and the James Dobson Family Institute, thanks so much for listening today. Be sure to join us again next time right here for another edition of Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk, the voice you can still trust, for the family you love.

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