### REBUILDING BROKEN LIVES

# SCRIPTURE LESSON: ISAIAH 61:1-3

ISAIAH 61:1-3, THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD GOD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE THE LORD HAS ANOINTED ME TO PREACH GOOD TIDINGS TO THE POOR; HE HAS SENT ME TO HEAL THE BROKENHEARTED, TO PROCLAIM LIBERTY TO THE CAPTIVES, AND THE OPENING OF THE PRISON TO THOSE WHO ARE BOUND; TO PROCLAIM THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF THE LORD, AND THE DAY OF VENGEANCE OF OUR GOD; TO COMFORT ALL WHO MOURN, TO CONSOLE THOSE WHO MOURN IN ZION, TO GIVE THEM BEAUTY FOR ASHES, THE OIL OF JOY FOR MOURNING, THE **GARMENT OF PRAISE FOR THE SPIRIT OF HEAVINESS; THAT THEY** MAY BE CALLED TREES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, THE PLANTING OF THE LORD, THAT HE MAY BE GLORIFIED.

#### **BEAUTY FOR ASHES**

# "BEAUTY IS SOMETIMES BORN OF PAIN."

## BUT SOMETIMES THINGS THAT APPEAR UGLY JUST NEED THE RIGHT CLIMATE TO GROW.

### THE PROCESS OF THE PROMISE BEAUTY FOR ASHES:

### 1. GOD REDEEMS PAIN TO PURPOSE.

### JOHN 16:33, "IN THIS WORLD YOU WILL HAVE TROUBLE. BUT TAKE HEART! I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD"

## OUR LIVES WILL NATURALLY MOVE IN THE DIRECTION OF OUR PLEASURES, PAIN OR PURPOSE.

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# PLEASURE A LIFE IN THE CONSTANT PURSUIT OF PLEASURE IS A LIFE MARKED BY DISCONTENT, DESTRUCTION AND EXCESS.

## PROVERBS 27:20, DEATH AND DESTRUCTION ARE NEVER SATISFIED, AND NEITHER ARE HUMAN EYES.

# PURPOSE WHEN PEOPLE DON'T KNOW THEIR PURPOSE, THEY CHOOSE PLEASURE AS A MEANS TO DEAL WITH THEIR PAIN.

# PAIN TO MANAGE OR MAKE SENSE OF OUR PAIN, WE WILL TURN TO PLEASURE, SELF-PITY OR PURPOSE.

### "NEVER FOLLOW A MAN WHO DOESN'T WALK WITH A LIMP."

### THE PLACE WHERE YOU'VE BEEN WOUNDED IS THE PLACE GOD WANTS TO USE YOU.

### 2. YOU MUST DECIDE TO SEE THE BEAUTY.

#### "BROKEN CRAYONS STILL COLOR."

2 CORINTHIANS 12:10, THAT IS WHY, FOR CHRIST'S SAKE, I DELIGHT IN WEAKNESSES, IN INSULTS, IN HARDSHIPS, IN PERSECUTIONS, IN DIFFICULTIES. FOR WHEN I AM WEAK, THEN I AM STRONG.

## BEAUTY BLOSSOMS WHEN YOU DECIDE TO SEE THE ASHES NOT AS YOUR BURIAL GROUND, BUT AS THE BIRTHPLACE OF YOUR RESURRECTION

HEBREWS 12:2, LOOKING UNTO JESUS, THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH, WHO FOR THE JOY THAT WAS SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED THE CROSS, DESPISING THE SHAME, AND HAS SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE OF GOD.

### GOLD CAN ONLY BE PROCESSED IN FIRE.

#### "IF WE CAN KNOW THE BEAUTY GOD IS FORMING IN US, WE CAN BEAR THE PAIN HE ALLOWS IN OUR LIVES."

### 3. THE GREATEST BEAUTY IS IN YOUR STORY.

## 1 PETER 2:9, "SO THAT YOU MAY DECLARE THE GOODNESS OF HIM WHO HAS CALLED YOU OUT OF DARKNESS AND INTO HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT"

## THE TRAGEDIES OF THE PAST, THE OPINIONS OF PEOPLE OR THE PAIN OF THE PRESENT ARE NEVER THE FINAL ANSWERS.