

The Potter's Clay - Worthy Vessels

Presented by Christa Matheou

*You know me inside and out, you know every bone in my body;
You know exactly how I was made, bit by bit,
how I was sculpted from nothing into something. Psalm 139:15*

1) Recognizing That You Are a Chosen Vessel

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit - fruit that will last. John 15:16

*You are who you are for a reason. You're part of an intricate plan.
You're a precious and perfect unique design, called God's special woman or man.
You look like you do for a reason. Our God made no mistake.
He knit you together within the womb, you're just what he wanted to make.
The parents you had were the ones he chose, and no matter how you feel,
They were custom-designed with God's plan in mind
And they bear the Master's seal.
No, that trauma you faced was not easy. And God wept that it hurt you so;
But it was allowed to shape your heart, so that into His likeness you'd grow.
You are who you are for a reason; you've been formed by the Master's rod.
You are who you are, beloved, because there is a God!
By Russell Kelfer*

A) ...Learning How to Like What You See in The Mirror

Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. 1 Samuel 16:17

- 1) What do I like about myself?

- 2) What don't I like about myself?

- 3) What can I do to take the focus from myself and put it toward the needs of others?

Remember - IT'S NOT ABOUT ME!

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B)...Knowing That God Has a Purpose For Your Life

Moreover, because of what Christ has done we have become gifts to God that he delights in, for as part of God's sovereign plan were chosen from the beginning to be His, and all things happen just as He decided long ago. 12 God's purpose in this was that we should praise God and give glory to Him for doing these mighty things for us, who were the first to trust in Christ. Ephesians 1:11

We were born and placed on this earth _____ His purpose and _____ His purpose.

Do I know my life's purpose?

What can I bring to God that will bless *His* heart?

2) Melt Me - The Broken Vessel

It is a broken spirit you want - remorse and penitence. A broken and a contrite heart, O God, you will not ignore. Psalm 51:17

A)... Can The Pieces Be Put Back Together Again?

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in Spirit. Psalm 34:18

- 1) Is my life what I thought it was going to be? _____ Yes or No _____
- 2) Have I fulfilled God's purpose for my life? _____ Yes or No _____
- 3) Do I want to become a vessel that God can use? _____ Yes or No _____
- 4) Is it too late for me? _____ Yes or No _____
- 5) What is broken in my life?

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B)...What Can Be Done For An Old Heart Like Mine?

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of my salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me. Psalm 51:10-12

3) Mold Me - A Soft and Pliable Vessel

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 in his hand; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. (Jeremiah 18:1-4)

A)...Add more water before I become too brittle!

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. Psalm 42:1

The Woman at the well: "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." John 4: 13-14

Are you a soft and pliable vessel?

Are you willing to allow God to soften and mold you into a pliable vessel?

Remember that He never throws the clay away. He will continually pick up the broken pieces and start all over again. Praise His name!

B)...Out With The Old And In With The New!

- 1) *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come. II Corinthians 5:17*
- 2) *I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. Ezekiel 36: 26-27*
- 3) *For I am going to do a brand new thing. See, I have already begun! Don't you see it? I will make a road through the wilderness of the world for my people to go home, and create rivers for them in the desert! Isaiah 43:19*
- 4) *For see, I am creating new heavens and a new earth- so wonderful that no one will even think about the old ones anymore! Isaiah 65:17*
- 5) *Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22-23*

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4) Fill Me - Preparing The Vessel

A)...I'm Ready For Battle

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything to stand, stand firm, then with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take up the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Ephesians 6:10-17

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10

Write 3 things you have allowed Satan to steal from you.

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

I want you to claim those things today and TAKE THEM BACK - TAKE POSSESSION OF EACH ONE OF THEM and stand FIRM!

B)...Fill In The Holes Lord

My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water. Jeremiah 2:13

What have you been filling your life with?

Are you stepping in the same hole day after day?

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5) Use Me - A Ready And Willing Vessel

Be strong and courageous and get to work. Don't be frightened by the size of the task, for the Lord, thy God is with you. He will see to it that everything will be finished correctly. 1 Chronicles 28:20

A)...Me A Bold Witness?

When I called, you answered me; you made me bold and stouthearted. Psalm 138:3

Do you believe that you are an instrument that God can use?

Are you **READY AND WILLING** to allow God to use you?

B)...Show Me My Heart Lord

As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man. Proverbs 27:19

- 1) What are your desires?
- 2) What do you love to do?
- 3) What are you passionate about?
- 4) Where have I already been successful?
- 5) Where have I seen fruit in my life that other people have confirmed?

C)...Dare To Dream

Now glory be to God who by his might power at work within us is able to do far more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of - infinitely beyond our highest prayer, desires, thoughts, or hopes. Ephesians 3:20

What do you dream of becoming for God?

(Write a promise to God)