



Dumpster Diving

God uses everything we give to Him. Have you ever heard the term “Dumpster Diving?” I had a friend years ago who loved to do this.

She would show up on my door in her grubbiest clothes, knee high rubber boots and elbow length rubber gloves asking me to join her. I want you to know something. She was a very successful business woman. She was not someone in desperate need, she just enjoyed searching for treasures in the midst of junk. She loved taking broken things and restoring them into something useful, something good, something beautiful.

She would make her rounds to the department store dumpsters to salvage items that were thrown out. I was amazed at some of the things she found, and how she turned those items that appeared to be trashed into something beautiful.

Her house was not only filled with the beautiful things she salvaged, but she gave many things away too. In her home, there were things scattered on walls and table tops that were simply stunning. I haven't seen her in years, but I have never forgotten the message behind what she did.

There are things in our lives that appear to be ruined or broken. But God can reach down, pluck out what we think is trashed, and remold it into something beautiful. He is the Master Remodeler. He can even take those things where we think we've blown it or we think are worthless.

“Look, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand”
(Jeremiah 18:6).

God can and will take any messed-up portion of our lives in His hand and say, “I can fix this.” We become clay in His hands when we surrender those things to Him.

I thank God for His goodness and ability to salvage things in our lives,, things we thought would be of NO use to anyone, things we messed up at some point, things we ruined, and we all have ruined some things in our lives. There is nothing in our lives that cannot be reshaped by God's hands.

Imagine this. Jeremiah is called by God to go to the Potter's house. Jeremiah goes in and stands there watching the potter work. Suddenly, the clay he was shaping into a vessel with his hands collapsed on him. The shape could not hold the mold. Something happened and it collapsed in a heap on the wheel.

Jeremiah probably expected the potter to toss that clay out and get a new piece. Only he didn't. Oh no! The potter did not throw what appeared to be a ruined piece into the corner of the shop or into the dumpster (grin). On the contrary, the potter became more diligent in his work. He took that collapsed clay, worked lovingly with it, reshaped it, molding it carefully, keeping his eye on it until it was shaped into the vessel which he deemed good.

In other words, he began again from scratch and gave it the shape that was good and would hold the form he desired. Are you feeling broken? Are you feeling flawed? Are you feeling unfit? Let God reshape you today. Let Him heal you and put you back together again.

“The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying: “Arise and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause you to hear My words.” Then I went down to the potter's house, and there he was, making something at the wheel. And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to make. Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying: “O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter?” says the Lord. “Look, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel” (Jeremiah 18:1-6).

I think if God wore T-Shirts -He would have one that says:



Gina Cobb
June 12, 2015