



Grace Place Ministries, Inc.

Ordinary People Serving an Extraordinary God

JULY 2021

BEAUTIFULLY CRACKED

Several years ago I read about an ancient Chinese technique to repair broken objects called Kintsugi. This 15th. century art to fix broken vessels actually highlights and enhances the breaks which adds value to the broken things. Kintsugi means "golden journey". The belief is that the broken object becomes more beautiful and valuable with its history revealed. Using lacquered resin and powdered gold or silver, the cracks are filled. Instead of throwing out the broken vessel, it is restored to beauty and value!

We all have been broken in some way or another by life's traumas and just by living in this world. We have done an excellent job of hiding our flaws, failures, rejections, insecurities and pains from everyone. We may have felt inferior or unqualified....of no value because of our brokenness. When we are asked, "how are you doing?" we often say, "I am doing just great!" when that's far from the truth.

Where did we ever get the stupid idea that we have to have it all together? How could God ever use us when we are so messed up! This is one of satan's greatest lies!! It's obvious, when we read in the Bible, all the ones God used and we might just realize that His value system is completely different than the world's system. What about Moses, David, Rehab, Jonah, Esther, Samson, Gideon, Paul and Peter just to name a few of unlikely people that God used.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29 says that **God has chosen the weak and foolish so that no one can take the glory except Himself!** God uses the strangest ones to carry out His plans....the least likely and often the most broken! I qualify and so do you!

The broken bowl of my life has been repaired with God's glory gold! I am a candidate for His amazing grace and because He has healed me of so many cracked places of my heart....He can actually use me to minister to others in their brokenness. Psalm 147:3, **"He heals the brokenhearted**

and binds up their wounds." I have often asked the Lord, "did You allow me to go thru that pain way back all those years ago just to help this one in front of me now?" He has beautified all that pain and I say, "thank you, Father"! God doesn't waste anything....good, bad or ugly. When we offer it all back to Him, Ecclesiastes 3:11 says that, **"He has made everything beautiful in His time."** The words beautifully cracked doesn't seem to go together in the same sentence, but just think about Jesus on the Cross!



Isaiah 52:14, **"His appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being and His form marred beyond human likeness."** Our precious Jesus was broken just for you and me! How beautiful is that!!

2 Corinthians 4:7, **"We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not us."**

Jesus is the treasure! He declared in John 8:12, **"I am the light of the world."** Matthew 5:14-16, Jesus said, **"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."** The Jesus light that comes thru the cracks of our lives comes thru the glory gold of His healing grace! Let's not throw away broken and cracked people....let's lead them to the only One Who can heal, set free and beautify them! Our testimony can encourage and give them hope!! Let's let our lights shine in this dark world and bring glory to the Father!!

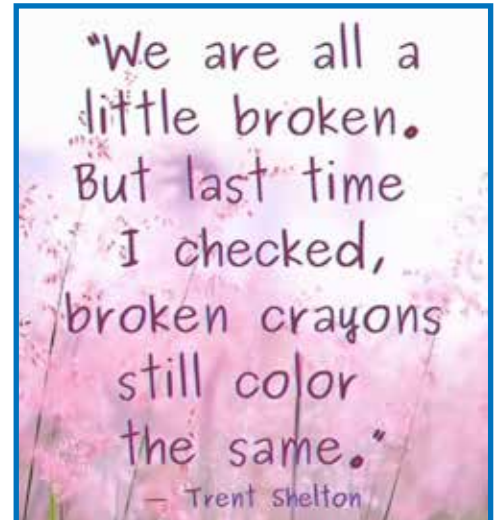
I love all you "cracked pots" out there!!
Rhonda



Donation Drop Off Every Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30am-2:00pm

Total Served in June **2,546**

3 meals a week & groceries twice month



OUR CURRENT NEEDS:

Finances

Men's jeans size 29-36

Towels/Washclothes

Sheets (all sizes)

Women's shoes (all sizes)

Snack size chips

HP 962 xl Ink (black & color)

If God gives you the chance to accept and love a broken person, then that means, He is giving you the opportunity to also encounter His love. It's His way of letting you experience what loving an imperfect person feels like.



Join us Saturday, August 7 for

Kingdom Kids

at Grace Place 10:30am



Learn how you can help at www.GracePlaceMinistries.org



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