

Beauty for Ashes: My Love Story

Joyce Guimond

Pray and tell about my transitioning in January

Isaiah 61:3 (NIV)

and provide for those who grieve in Zion— to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.

1. My Ashes

**** Picture #1**

Romans 8:38-39^L

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

{Take out story from ash bucket)

The story of my father's death and my brokenness. I thought I had to take care of myself. Sex, drugs, rock and roll hippie chick. Married for only 2 years had 2 children.

2. Beauty

****Picture #2**

Saved in 1982

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:^[a] The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹God made him who had no sin to be sin^[b] for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Ezekiel 36:26-27

²⁶I 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. ²⁷And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

Tell the story of my brother who led me to the Lord

{Take out story from ash bucket}

****Picture #3**

Journey of falling down, turning away from the Lord, married again, drugs. Turning to the Lord, teaching. Church hurt, fell again, 2005 I came alive. 23 years of following him, and backsliding 2 times from Church hurt. 2005 was different. I came alive in 2005, the prodigal came back and set teach me so that the enemy can never use church hurt again, and for 20 years I have been serving him with all my heart, soul, mind and strength. The Bait of Satan is a book and video about offense so I have removed offense from my life. He healed and continues to restore my soul.

James 1:12

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

Psalm 23:4

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalm 73:25-26

Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

3. My love story

**** Picture # 4**

Genesis 50:20

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

My Life in Him: Tell the story of going to jail for years and no changes and how I confronted the Lord. Take out Desiree and Valeries stories from Ash bucket) Desiree Fisher and Valerie Stremmen stories. Have all of the people stand from jail ministry, ARC houses, Serenity House, sober living homes and Selah.

Galatians 6:9 Do not grow weary in doing good for at the proper time you will reap a harvest if you do not give up.

Picture # 5

Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

How God called me to City Church and to being the women's pastor and all my beauty from ashes was for City Church and for the restoration of women from ashes to beauty.

Psalm 139:13-16 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

Call up Worship Team and Angela

Thank you to:

All the people in church who have encouraged and loved me well.

My fellow dancers

Jail ministry

ARC houses

Serenity House

Selah

Women's Support Team

Breakfast Club

ALCS

Friends

City Church Staff

Pastors

Tom

Family both Biological and Spiritual

Jim Guimond

My Lord and Savior

Angela's testimony

Song:

Picture # 6

God is love

Talk about ALCS

Salvation message and prayer.