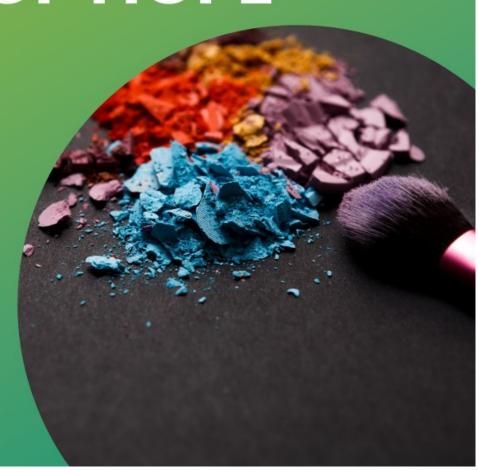
A MESSAGE OF HOPE

Beauty for Ashes Isaiah 61:1-3 NIV



Beauty for Ashes

1The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim the good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, 2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, 3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion, to bestow on them the 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.

Isaiah 61:1-3 NIV



To share with you how...

OBJECTIVE

Christ came to set us free
Christ came to redeem us
Christ came to bring us hope
Christ came to give us beauty instead
of ashes

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim the good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,

Isaiah 61:1 NIV



You are "Anointed ~ Blessed" by God To:

Discern the truth – 1 John 2:27

Do not be deceived. Be encouraged and strengthened.

Testify of the truth – 1 John 5:6

Have confidence in what you have been taught.

Live Righteously – Romans 8:4

We no longer walk or live in the flesh.

Bear spiritual fruit – Galatians 5:22-23

We are recognized by the fruit we bear.

Pray – Romans 8:39

Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ Jesus.



How can we minister to to the brokenhearted?

1 Peter 3:15 NIV

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,



2 to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, To + proclaim the year of the Lord's of favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,

Isaiah 61:1 NIV



3 And provide for those who grieve in Zion, to bestow on them the 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.

Isaiah 61:3 NIV



Representations of Ashes

Loss of a loved one

 Bad relationships
 Loss of employment
 Feeling of betrayal and/or abuse
 Fear of the unknown
 Unfavorable medical report

Biblical References

2 Samuel 13:19 Tamar in distress

Jonah 3:5-7 Repentance from one's own sin

What's Hope Got To Do With It?

Hope is healthy

Hope is strength

Hope is healing

Hope is direction

Hope is power

Hope is a motivator

Hope is necessary



