

# Sermons from the Seats

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## Week 1 | Beauty from Ashes (Scott Newport)

### BOTTOM LINE

Everyone has a story and that story is a message that can speak life to other people.

### GOAL OF THE GROUP

To connect with the pain in our lives and learn how to use that pain to help others in our lives.

### SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:18-28 and Isaiah 61:3

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When you hear the story of Scott Newport, how does it connect you with a past or present situation you or someone you know is going through? Share your experience with the group.
  - a. What is the pain you feel as result of that situation?
  - b. Do you view hardships or challenging situations as good or bad? Why?
2. **Read Romans 8:18-28 and Discuss.** Everyone experiences hardship of some sort and there is no hardship without pain.
  - a. The apostle Paul, in this scripture, speaks specifically about the pain we experience from hardship circumstances. What comparison is Paul making with pain? What is the hope he is talking about?
  - b. What does Paul liken pain to? What are your thoughts on that?
  - c. What does God assure every detail of our lives will lead to?
3. **Read Isaiah 61:3 and Discuss.**
  - a. Does a persons past or present circumstance define who they are? Why or why not?
  - b. For those who place their hope in Jesus, who does God say they are?
  - c. It is from our Identity In Christ that we can be confident that God has a plan to use every detail of our lives to help others and share the hope we have. In your present circumstance or a past one, can you sense that something is being birthed? Please share with the group.
  - d. What do you feel God is saying to you through this message?

Life is not the random mess it may sometimes appear. 'We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.'

Romans 8:28



## TRY THIS

*Are you prepared to share the hope you have with others? If not, pray and ask God for the confidence to take the next step in documenting your story. Take a few minutes to write down your personal story of "beauty from ashes" so you can be ready to share it when you are given the opportunity.*