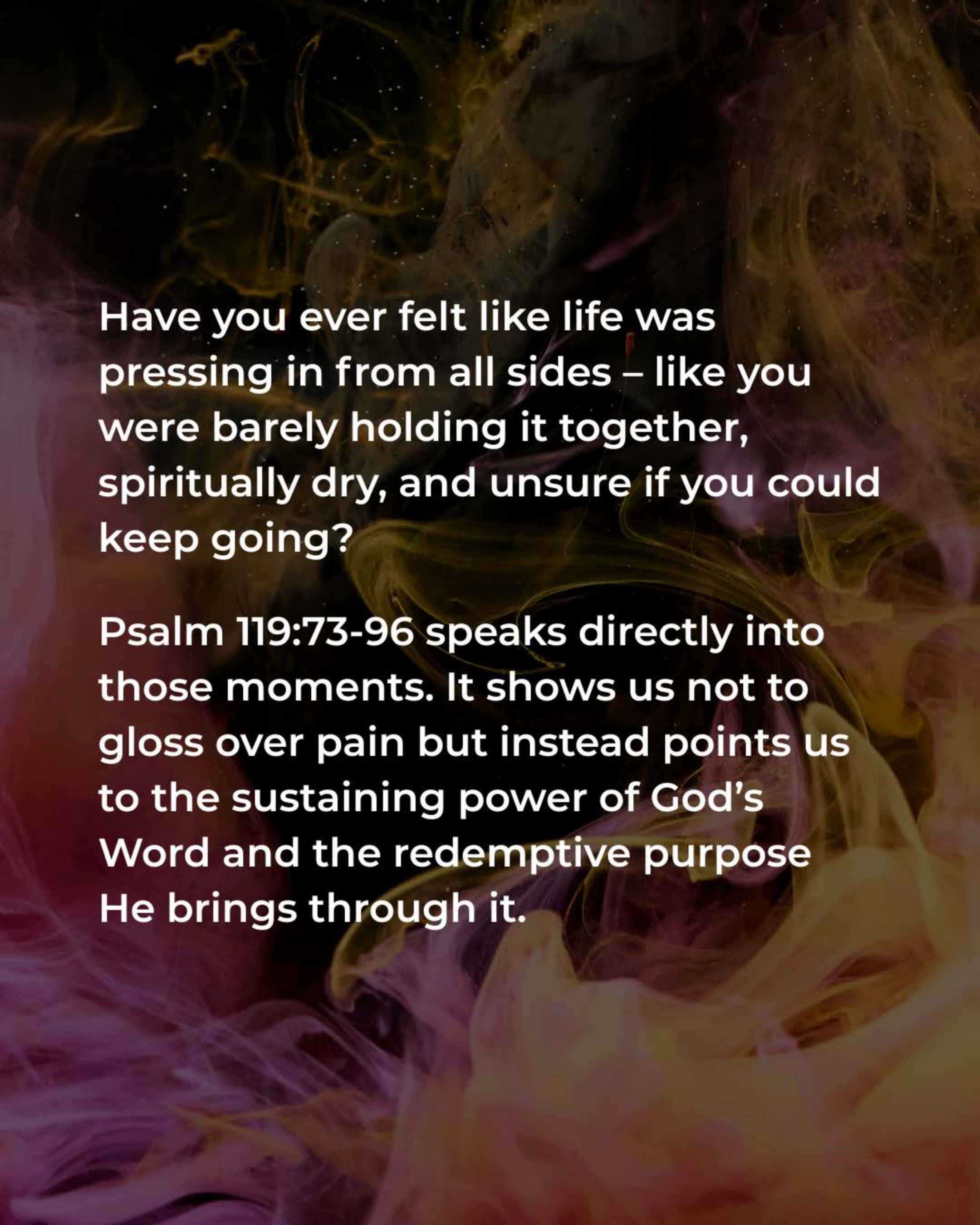




D'WELL BITES

8 OCT 2025
PSALM 119:73-96

BY
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The background is a dark, abstract composition of swirling colors, primarily deep purple, magenta, and hints of yellow and green. The colors flow and swirl together, creating a sense of movement and depth. In the center, there is a faint, ethereal figure that appears to be a person with their arms outstretched, possibly in a gesture of prayer or surrender. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.

Have you ever felt like life was pressing in from all sides – like you were barely holding it together, spiritually dry, and unsure if you could keep going?

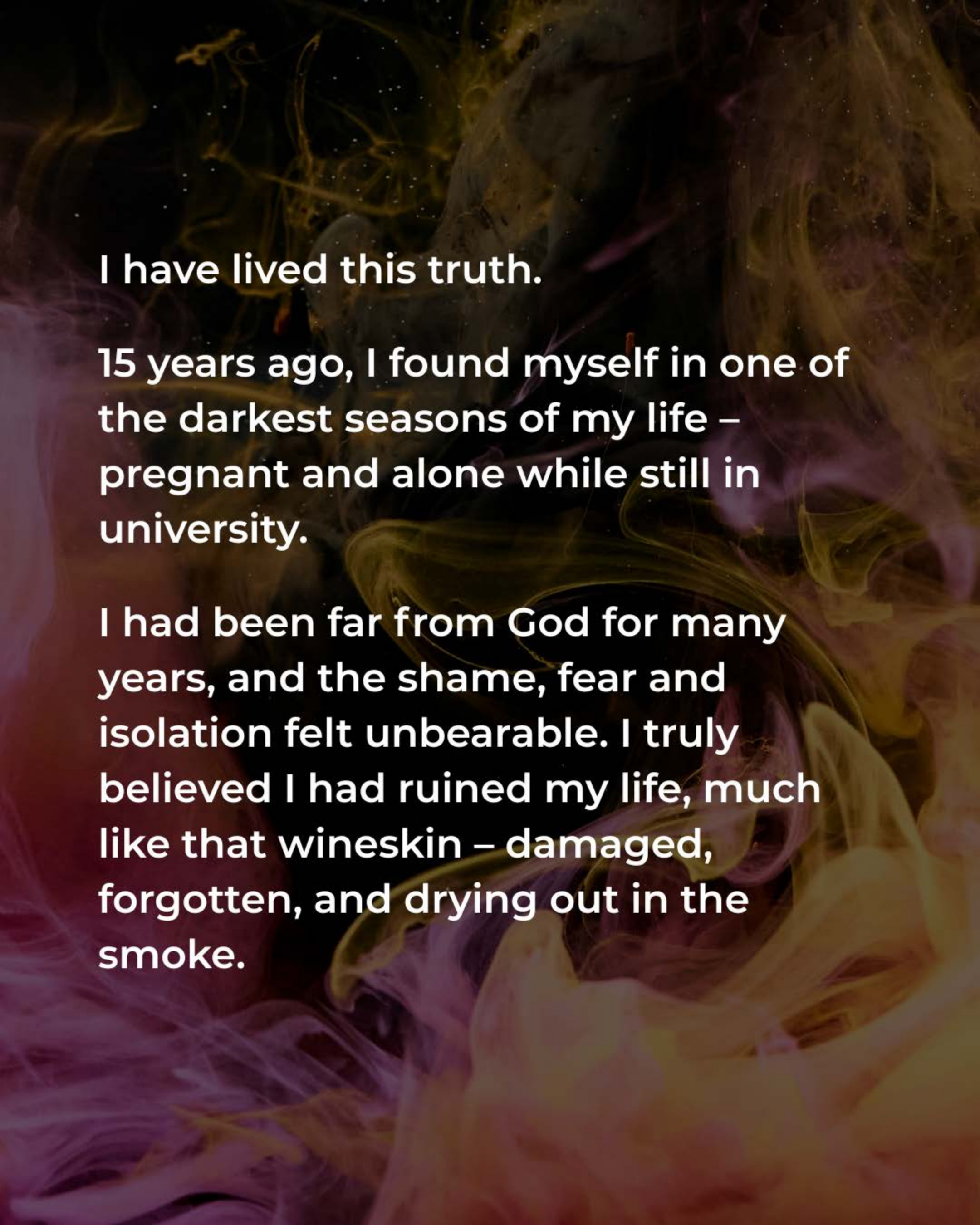
Psalm 119:73-96 speaks directly into those moments. It shows us not to gloss over pain but instead points us to the sustaining power of God's Word and the redemptive purpose He brings through it.

GOD'S WORD SUSTAINS US IN AFFLICTION

"I am like a wineskin in the smoke" (v83)

In ancient times, wineskins (made of animal hide to store liquids) were hung near fires to dry. When exposed to too much smoke, they would shrivel, crack and lose their usefulness.

The psalmist uses this image to describe his extreme exhaustion and sorrow – fragile, stretched, close to breaking. Yet even in his suffering, he declares, "I do not forget Your statutes," choosing to press into God's Word.

The background of the image is an abstract composition of swirling, smoke-like patterns in shades of purple, pink, and yellow. The colors are soft and ethereal, creating a dreamlike atmosphere. The text is overlaid on this background, with each line of text appearing on a new line.

I have lived this truth.

15 years ago, I found myself in one of the darkest seasons of my life – pregnant and alone while still in university.

I had been far from God for many years, and the shame, fear and isolation felt unbearable. I truly believed I had ruined my life, much like that wineskin – damaged, forgotten, and drying out in the smoke.



The psalmist writes, *“If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction”* (v92).


That is the truth I experienced firsthand. In that place of brokenness, God’s Word became my lifeline, reminding me that I was not forsaken. It spoke of His steadfast love, mercy, and power to redeem even the most painful circumstances.

YOUR FAITH CAN ENCOURAGE OTHERS

*“May those who fear you rejoice
when they see me” (v74).*

This verse reminds us that our lives
can be a source of encouragement
to others.

Because of what I have walked
through, God has brought many
women into my life who were
struggling with relationships, sexual
sin, broken marriages, or unexpected
pregnancy, and He allowed me to
point them to the same hope I found.

An abstract background featuring swirling, ethereal colors in shades of purple, pink, and yellow against a dark backdrop. A jellyfish is visible in the upper left quadrant, adding a sense of movement and depth to the composition.

**That's the beauty of redemption:
God doesn't waste our pain; He uses
it to bring healing to others.**

**Don't miss an opportunity or be
ashamed to share your story.**

The background is a dark, textured composition featuring swirling, ethereal colors in shades of purple, pink, and yellow. A translucent jellyfish is visible in the upper left quadrant, adding a sense of depth and movement to the scene. The overall atmosphere is dreamlike and contemplative.

If you feel stretched thin or spiritually dry today, this is a reminder:

**God sees you, His Word revives,
and His love will not let you go.**

REFLECT

- > Have you ever felt like that wineskin in the smoke – worn out, ashamed, or close to breaking? What would it mean to hold fast to God's Word there?*
- > Is there a part of your story that you've struggled to see as redeemable? How might God be inviting you to see it through the lens of His grace?*
- > Who in your life might need to hear your testimony – not the polished version, but the real one that reveals God's mercy and redemption?*