

# God's Masterpiece: Restoring beauty for ashes [ Ephesians 2:8-10 (NLT) ]

## **1. People can feel hopeless**

Poverty and the dust of debt can feel like the toxic lead dust that characterised the Notre Dame fire in April 2019. CAP (Christians Against Poverty) working in partnership with local church volunteers can help lift the burden.

## **2. Our world**

Since the Garden of Eden (see Genesis 3) people feel separated from God and our relationships with other people (e.g. through pride and greed), with ourselves (e.g. doubting our worth), and the world (e.g. through injustice) are broken. It is hard to see God's original masterpiece below the surface.

## **3. God's plan**

In Ephesians, Paul sees a wholeness beneath the mess. We are God's masterpiece: created by him and loved by him.

God wants to restore what's broken.

Through Jesus we can experience true restoration.

## **4. How we can help**

We are called to bring hope amidst loss. When the Church shows up poverty does deplete. It's about clearing debt and ending UK poverty.

We can help by:

- Praying,
- Volunteering for a CAP course, see Natalie,
- Giving financially.

## **Questions for reflection**

**Imagine being trapped in a cycle of debt or barely existing above the poverty line.  
How would this make you feel ?**

**What does it make you think or feel to realise that you are God's masterpiece ?  
Can you give an example of how you might explain this to those who are struggling  
to make ends meet and / or those who haven't yet found Jesus as their Saviour ?**

**Think of a time when you felt broken and consider how God may have supported  
you in that period.**

**What might God be calling you to do to support His work through the ministry of  
CAP ?**

**We believe our God-given vision is see:  
thriving communities springing up,  
where everyone can belong and find hope in Jesus.  
Group Sunday message notes 2026**

