

Sermon Outline

You're Only An Earthen Vessel, But God Has a Use for Cracked Pots (2 Cor.4:7; 1 Pet. 3:15)

Introduction: *How does it feel to be called a 'cracked pot'??*

- I. EARTHEN VESSELS/CRACKED POTS ARE ORDINARY
 - A. Ordinary, but called by God (1 Cor. 1:26)
 - B. Called to carry God's treasure to the world (2 Cor. 4:5&10)
 - C. The treasure we carry is Jesus

- II. LET'S LOOK AT THE TREASURE WE CRACKED POTS CARRY
 - A. God is **with us** (Matt. 1:23; Hosea 11:9)
 - B. God is **for us** (Philipp. 2:2-8)
 - C. God is **in us** (Col. 1:27; Gal. 2:20)
 - D. We carry this treasure to others (2 Cor. 4:7)

- III. WHAT ARE EARTHEN VESSELS/CRACKED POTS LIKE
 - A. They are **fragile**, but God's grace strengthens them (2 Cor. 12:9-10)
 - B. They are **fallible**, but God still uses them
 - C. They are **functional**, God has a job for them
 - D. God calls "Clark Kents", not supermen

- IV. THE TREASURE WE CARRY IS HOPE IN JESUS CHRIST (1 Peter 3:15)
 - A. What does that hope "look like" in real life situations?
 - B. Consider: abortion
 - C. Consider: homosexuality
 - D. Consider: broken marriages or wayward children

Conclusion: *Hope in Christ for a prostitute... A St. Louis ghetto in 1977*