

# Encourage U



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# Nothing is Wasted

## When Life Stinks

1. Give the fertilizer \_\_\_\_\_.

Why do some people struggle through life – while others overcome the odds and flourish?

It's how we approach life. We all have stuff that stinks; we all have unfair situations, things we don't like. You can get bitter and discouraged ... or you can see it as fertilizer and say, "This difficulty is not going to defeat me; it's going to promote me. It's not going to hinder me; it's going to help me."

God wouldn't have allowed it unless He had a purpose for it. Recognize it's making you stronger. You're developing character, perseverance, grit, and confidence. That fertilizer is making your roots deeper.

2. No experience is \_\_\_\_\_.

In John 4, Jesus used the qualities that had gotten a woman into trouble – her boldness, her forwardness – and He turned it around and said, in effect, “I’m not going to waste that! I’m going to use that to advance the kingdom.” It had worked against her; now it was going to work for her.

Nothing is wasted – the good, the bad, the painful. God knows how to bring blessing out of the broken places. No matter what comes your way, if you keep trusting God, not only will it act like fertilizer and help you, but down the road you’ll be instrumental in helping others.

**“God comforts us when we are in trouble, so that we can share that comfort with others when they are in trouble.”**

(2 Corinthians 1:4)

### 3. **Make music** \_\_\_\_\_.

Remember Favio Chavez who created an entire orchestra in the South American dumps, building all the instruments from the trash!

That’s what our God does. He takes the broken pieces of our life – the mistakes, the injustices, what seems like a waste – and He makes music out of our mess.

**Your best days are not your yesterdays; they are still out in front of you!**