

# **In the Potter's Hand**

Te Puna Wai Ora

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# Introduction

## Contents .....approach to this subject

- *The Potter*
- *The Clay*
- *Design*
- *Wedging*
- *Turning*
- *Drying*
- *Firing*
- *Flaws*
- *Restoration*

# The Potter

- **Jeremiah 18:1-4**

**God told Jeremiah, “Up on your feet! Go to the potter’s house. When you get there, I’ll tell you what I have to say.”**

**So I went to the potter’s house, and sure enough, the potter was there, working away at his wheel. Whenever the pot the potter was working on turned out badly, as sometimes happens when you are working with clay, the potter would simply start over and use the same clay to make another pot.**



# The Clay

- Romans 9:21

Who in the world do you think you are to second-guess God? Do you for one moment suppose any of us knows enough to call God into question? Clay doesn't talk back to the fingers that mold it, saying, "Why did you shape me like this?" Isn't it obvious that a potter has a perfect right to shape one lump of clay into a vase for holding flowers and another into a pot for cooking beans?



# Design

- **Isaiah 44:21-22**

I made you, *shaped* you: You're my servant.

O Israel, I'll never forget you.



# Wedging

- **Isaiah 45:9**

**But doom to you who fight your Maker—  
you're a pot at odds with the potter!**

**Does clay talk back to the potter:**

**'What are you doing? What clumsy fingers!'**



# Turning

- **Hebrews 12:1**

**Do you see what this means—all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on *Jesus*, who both began and finished this race we're in.**



# Drying

- **Romans 12:2**

**So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him.**



# Firing ... the Kiln of life

- **Isaiah 48:10**

**Do you see what I've done?**

**I've refined you, but not without fire.**

**I've tested you like silver in the furnace of affliction.**



# Flaws

- **2 Corinthians 4:7**

If you only look at *us*, you might well miss the brightness. We carry this precious Message around in the unadorned clay pots of our ordinary lives.



# Restoration

- **Psalm 23:3**

You have bedded me down in lush meadows,  
you find me quiet pools to drink from.

True to your word,  
you let me catch my breath  
and send me in the right direction.



# Conclusion