

Life, Love & Loss



Kathy [Thiessen] Burrus '80,

who majored in Bible and Church Music, has found her ministry calling in reaching out to women facing life transitions. Kathy's work is in helping women begin again within life's changes — to help them understand God's plan for their lives, even in the midst of loss. Her job titles include life and marriage coach, writer, and speaker, but for Kathy her work goes beyond the temporal issues that can make day-to-day life a challenge to what is eternally important.

For the past 30 years, Kathy has been working with people to help them "intentionally design hope in life, love and loss." She helps people to take a step back from the current situation to see what is keeping them from moving forward. Kathy considers herself a storyteller and wants to help her clients learn from their personal story, grow through their story, and then be able to share that testimony with the world.

"My greatest joy is seeing a woman embrace her whole story and see the beauty within; the power of her unique design, the lessons she has learned, and message she is meant to share." said Kathy.

Kathy's story telling ability has recently reached a new level. This year, she published a book "Lovely Traces of Hope" marking the 10th anniversary of the loss of her 15-year-old daughter Leisha from a pedestrian-car accident. Through the book, Kathy said family and friends chose to remember Leisha's life and the influence Leisha had to see how God used that tragedy to teach about His providence, life and hope.

In the days following Leisha's death, Kathy found a chapter of a book her daughter had begun to write. From that initial discovery, God used Leisha's journals and tapes to show Kathy how God was and is influencing her life and "showing up" in her story. "Lovely Traces of Hope" is a book for people seeking to discover how seemingly random and unexpected things are signs that God is in control and orchestrating life's journey. The book is for people who need to rediscover hope within the hard times of life and need to be reminded of God's faithfulness and power.

"This book has reminded me that our loss does not need to be our defining moment in our life. How we respond to loss is what is important. I was prompted to be still and pay attention to the lovely traces of hope God was planting to lead me out of the grief tunnel. It is my prayer that the book will point the way to hope for the reader as well." said Kathy.

To learn more about Kathy or read a chapter of the book, visit her at greenhopecoaching.com or get her entire book at Amazon.com.

