

## “LIFE THROUGH THE LENS”



### THE NO LONGER PERFECT PEAR

The Poor Pear. It had been perfect like all the other fruit on the tree. Then, a parrot dressed in beautiful and colourful plumage arrived. Some nibbles later, the once-perfect pear was changed forever.

It took more than one nibble to ruin this pear. Most likely, the first nibble went unnoticed. Slowly, over time and many little nibbles later, this pear was only good for the compost bin, or so I thought.

Not only pears suffer from being nibbled. We have all had times when we feel someone has enjoyed taking a piece from our lives.

People and circumstances can nibble away at our perception of self-worth until we become convinced our value is so degraded we are only fit for the compost bin of life.

The destruction of our self-worth might start as something generally we would consider inconsequential and hardly worth thinking about. However, enough harsh words or looks picking at us can convince us we have no value. An unfriendly word or look that would usually be shrugged off under different circumstances can take a significant bite from my supposedly everyday life. Suddenly, I am convincing myself that I am scared, malformed, and of no use to anyone.

I discovered that the owner had a different view of the pear. “Oh. I’ll cut out the spoilt bit and still use it. Probably make jam.” Despite looking spoilt, the gardeners who had nurtured the tree and its fruit would not throw that pear away.

A bloke, David, who had suffered many setbacks, wrote about the God of the Bible, “He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.” **(Psalm 147:3)**

When you feel “chewed upon”, talk to God. Ask him for support and help you recognise no matter how scarred and misshapen you may have become, he still has plans for your life - a life of purpose and joy.

May the God of love lead you to understand and accept how valuable you are to him.  
Kevin.