Human beings have a love/hate relationship with mirrors. We always see what we're looking for. If we look for imperfections, we will only see imperfections. If we look for attractive features, we will find those attractive features.

But no mirror exists that enables us to see ourselves below the surface. If we honestly look within ourselves (which rarely happens), we would see guarded secrets and hidden thoughts that would be humiliating if they were revealed.

Since we are created in God's image, our souls are like mirrors. He designed us to be a unique reflection of Himself. However, those beautiful reflections were shattered when sin entered the world through the choices made by Adam and Eve.

They didn't want to be reflections of God; They wanted to be God. So they rebelled and chose their own path. What they didn't know was that choice would shatter them. It shattered their relationship with God. It shattered their relationship with each other. It shattered their relationship with the world around them. It shattered their perfect identities.

That brokenness became a cancer passed down through every generation since. All of us are born shattered because we inherited this cancer of wanting to be our own God. Now, all we have are slivers and shards of that mirror in which we desperately try to find our reflections. And no matter how hard we try, no human can put the reflection back together.

We do our best to create our identities from the shards of our once-perfect reflections, but we can do nothing to fix ourselves. All we can see are distortions of who God designed us to be.

And THAT is why we are such a mess. It is why the world is in such a mess.

How often have you tried to put yourself together by saying, "This is me." How often have you ended up disappointed, depressed, and disillusioned? How often have you tried to save or reinvent yourself, only to be left unhappy, unfulfilled, and unworthy?

These questions are not easy to answer. They require honest answers.

However, being honest—maybe for the first time—is the best place to start.