

I Am Putty In Your Hands

Have you ever worked a lump of clay? The art of throwing a pot is underestimated if you have watched the scene in the movie Ghost. The movie gives us a romantic vision of a potter gracefully sculpting a piece of clay into a beautiful vessel. The Bible uses the analogy of God being the potter and we are the clay. The Lord God formed man from the dust on the ground. (Genesis 2:7) The creation starts with the creator placing his clean hands on the muddy formless pile of dirt. The dirt is cold and hard. The potter uses the warmth of his hand to begin to form the clay into the vessel he has imagined in his heart. The clay does not automatically form into the desired shape, not realizing that it is being created for a special purpose. Resisting the creator, the clay responds to the creator asking, "Why have you made me like this?" (Romans 9:20). The creator longs for the clay to feel the pressure of his hand on his creation, pressing down with love and building strength in areas that will be needed to fill its purpose. Proceeding with caution, the creator's pressure is applied in a way that it will not spoil the pot.

Isaiah 64:8 ESV

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**But now, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.**