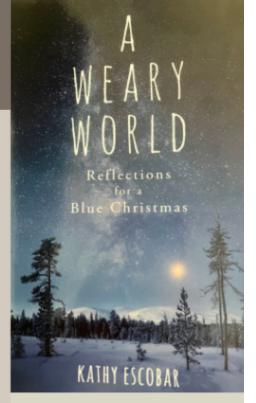
A WEARY WORLD: Week Three **EMBRACING PARADOX**

Tuesday: Beautiful and Ugly

Tuesday's passage was a needed reminder that there can be beauty in even the ugliest situations. Sometimes the beauty is hard to see in the moment, but when you find time to reflect it can seem very obvious. The reading used the example of Mary giving birth in a dirty stable amongst animals. It might not have seemed like the most beautiful scene at the moment, but true beauty was present with the birth of Jesus. How can you relate to finding beauty within an ugly situation? A personal example I can share is how ugly the situation was when I broke and hit rock bottom two years ago. My family saw me in a downward spiral of suffering. They faced the reality that I was admitted to a rehabilitation facility to face my demons. How is there beauty in that? The beauty is they also witnessed a loved one surrendering to the fact they need help and for the first time had hope I could live the life I deserve again. They saw the light and beauty knowing it was the chance to return to the loving, happy person they once knew. I found a small glimpse of beauty in that I no longer had to hide my pain from those around me. Beauty can be found in the ugliest situations, find hope in that.







Today's Reflection **Question:**

> Where are you seeing beauty in ugly?