

How this Tormented and Abused Child Became God's 'Cinder Girl'

All Christina Meredith ever knew as a child was torment and abuse—emotional, physical and sexual—from her mother and other members of her family. She was put into foster care at age 16 and became homeless two years later.

But after discovering Jesus at an early age and maintaining a relationship with Him despite the trauma she faced, Meredith says God gave her heart—and her life—back to her in her early 20s. She later, much to her surprise, won the Miss California beauty pageant and now is a champion for many causes, including foster care reform, through her Christina Meredith Foundation.

As a child, Meredith's mother physically and emotionally tormented her, but God picked up the pieces.

"I've done years of trauma therapy, so I've dealt with my junk, praise the Lord," Meredith told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of "Greenelines" on the Charisma Podcast Network. "I'm a whole, healthy person who can love and who can be a functioning human being.

"My mother was a broken individual, and she did some terrible things to my father. She did some horrible things to us kids out of her own brokenness. With all the things I went through, the Lord birthed in me and chiseled out of me things that no man can take away from me, dreams that nobody can steal from me. Keep fighting for your dreams because the Lord will bring them to pass."

For more of Christina's incredible story, listen to the podcast below.