



### Questions:

1. Where else do you see evidence of our human desire to create beauty?
2. How far can beauty take us towards a relationship with God?
3. What is the beauty that drives your actions?
4. What are some other examples of beauty created in the face of brokenness

### EPISODE TITLE: "Beauty"

Hope: A Pessimist's Guide, Episode 7

### Featured Guest: Melvin Bray

Born and raised in inner-city Washington, DC, by a strong single mother, I grew up in a multi-racial, multi-ethnic, multi-class faith community that gave me opportunities to live beyond the ordinary limitations of my socio-economic circumstance. My church was my first experience of the beauty that can arise when we transcend boundaries of difference, and I have lived my adult life helping others imagine even greater possibilities.

### Pneuma Divina Scripture: Song of Solomon 1:1-5, 2:2-7

<sup>15</sup> Ah, you are beautiful, my love;  
ah, you are beautiful;  
your eyes are doves.

<sup>16</sup> Ah, you are beautiful, my beloved,  
truly lovely.

Our couch is green;

<sup>17</sup> the beams of our house are cedar,  
our rafters are pine.

<sup>2</sup> I am a rose of Sharon,  
a lily of the valleys.

<sup>2</sup> As a lily among brambles,  
so is my love among maidens.

<sup>3</sup> As an apple tree among the trees of the  
wood,  
so is my beloved among young men.  
With great delight I sat in his shadow,  
and his fruit was sweet to my taste.

<sup>4</sup> He brought me to the banqueting house,  
and his intention towards me was love.

<sup>5</sup> Sustain me with raisins,  
refresh me with apples;  
for I am faint with love.

<sup>6</sup> O that his left hand were under my  
head,  
and that his right hand embraced me!

<sup>7</sup> I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,  
by the gazelles or the wild does:  
do not stir up or awaken love  
until it is ready!