

NOTHING IS WASTED:

A TRUE STORY OF HOPE, FORGIVENESS,
AND FINDING PURPOSE IN PAIN



A 2015 home invasion took the life of expectant mom Amanda Blackburn, a pastor's wife. Now Davey Blackburn shares the rest of the story – his journey from hate and heartbreak to forgiveness and purpose.

Nashville, TN (April 29, 2024) – Can a glimmer of faith or hope survive a living nightmare? How does a person ever move forward after trauma, tragedy, and devastating heartbreak? Is it possible to believe that nothing is wasted as we endure unimaginable loss?

After the 2015 murder of his beloved wife Amanda and their unborn daughter, **Davey Blackburn** found himself wrestling with these questions as he lived his worst nightmare. As a high-profile criminal case unfolded over several years, **Davey** began the seemingly impossible task of finding the strength to restore his shattered soul and the broken pieces of his life. Now that the court cases are done and the appeals from Amanda's murderer have concluded, **Davey Blackburn** recounts the worst day of his life and throws a lifeline of hope to all who struggle under the weight of grief.



Nothing is Wasted:
A True Story of Hope, Forgiveness
and Finding Purpose in Pain
by Davey Blackburn

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In his heartbreaking yet inspiring new book, **Nothing is Wasted: A True Story of Hope, Forgiveness, and Finding Purpose in Pain** (Forefront Books, July 30, 2024), national speaker, podcaster, nonprofit leader, and former pastor **Davey Blackburn** offers a raw



account of the tragedy that forever changed his life. **Davey** unpacks how he began facing his pain head-on and eventually discovered a new purpose and hope despite devastating circumstances.

"Pain and suffering are inseparable and inescapable parts of life," **Davey** writes in **Nothing is Wasted**. "But you get to decide what you're going to do with your story. Will you waste it? Will you let yourself get stuck, paralyzed, floundering in hopelessness, or self-pity, or despair? Or will you take God up on the offer he presents to you right now, to walk in healing toward hope and wholeness, to turn your pain around into purpose?"

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Nothing is Wasted reveals the depths of **Blackburn's** grief and anger, shares prescient excerpts from Amanda's journals and photos from their life together, and offers practical, healing takeaways such as:

- Surprising ways to find hope and joy during any trial or sorrow
- Why forgiveness is the key to freedom – even after the most unimaginable offenses
- Where and how to find purpose in our deepest pain
- Learning to accept that we may never understand “why” things happen the way they do

Most readers will not endure the same type of earth-shattering tragedy **Blackburn** has experienced, yet his story is deeply relatable. He assures readers that in their greatest loss or darkest tragedy, there is a path that leads to redemption, healing, hope, and faith. In that place, it's possible to begin to see that nothing has been wasted.

Today **Davey Blackburn** spends his time encouraging people around the world to find purpose in their pain. He is the founder of Nothing is Wasted Ministries, a sought-after speaker, and the host of the *Nothing is Wasted Podcast* which has seen more than 3 million downloads since 2018.

Nothing is Wasted is available for pre-order now at NothingisWastedBook.com, where readers are invited to join a national book launch team. A ticketed book launch event will be held at The Sixpence in Indianapolis on August 1, 2024. Interviews with **Davey Blackburn** are available upon request.

About Davey Blackburn

Davey Blackburn is the founder and director of Nothing is Wasted Ministries, a nonprofit organization based in Indianapolis, IN. The organization helps people who have experienced trauma, tragedy, and major life transitions discover God's purpose in their pain. Thousands have found healing and wholeness through the ministry's seminal curriculum, Pain to Purpose. Davey works with churches, college campuses, corporations, and correctional facilities to help people partner with God to take back their stories. He also hosts the *Nothing is Wasted Podcast*, with more than three million downloads and 300 episodes since 2018. Davey and Kristi Blackburn live in Indianapolis, IN, with their three kids, Natalia, Weston, and Cohen.



Forefront Books is a unique publishing company that caters to the most successful men and women in their respective fields — the thought leaders, the visionaries, the pioneers, the business owners, and the entrepreneurs who have a compelling story to tell — and delivers a world-class end result from a team which has helped create more than sixty *New York Times* bestsellers, including six number one bestsellers.

Interview Questions

- **Davey**, your young family experienced unimaginable tragedy in November 2015, when your home was invaded and your pregnant wife Amanda was murdered. How did you manage to survive the first few days, weeks, and months after her death? Who helped you and Weston (your son was just 18 months old) make it through that initial season of grief?
- Your new memoir is entitled *Nothing is Wasted*. How does that title reflect the seven years you shared with your wife Amanda and the almost nine years since her death?
- How did the media coverage of the criminal investigation and the years-long court cases affect your grief and your healing process?
- You write that healing happens when we slow down and let time do its work. What did this look like for you, and why is it difficult to heal slowly?
- You and Amanda moved to Indianapolis to plant a new church where you were the pastor. How did your relationship with God change after losing Amanda? Did this loss change how you pastored people in pain?
- How did you handle the guilt you felt after Amanda's death, and how did you keep it from completely paralyzing you?
- You wondered why God allowed this to happen since you and Amanda simply wanted to serve Him with your lives. How do you manage the tension of realizing you may never know why God allowed this tragedy?
- You share that you struggled with deep hatred at one point, and yet you were eventually able to forgive the men convicted of Amanda's death. Tell us about your journey to forgiveness.
- After Amanda's passing, what sparked your desire to help kids and teenagers in inner-city Indianapolis?
- People may think of redemption as life returning to what it was before a bad thing happened. But that wasn't possible for you. What did your road to redemption look like?
- You write that you and your current wife Kristi are living a beautiful story of redemption and healing, forgiveness and hope. How did God bring the two of you together? What has it been like to blend your two families?
- How would you encourage people who are walking through a tragedy, transition, or trial today?

Early Praise

Nothing is Wasted

A True Story of Hope, Forgiveness, and Finding Purpose in Pain

"Learning about the Blackburns and our connection made my heart soar and sink at the same time. In the days and months following Amanda's murder, I joined countless others who stood in awe, watching courage be personified and Jesus be glorified again and again through Davey's boldness and honesty in response to unfathomable pain. He has taken a principle I believe in and found instrumental in handling suffering – running toward the roar – and has lived it out to an unimaginable degree. No matter what the future holds for you, God wants to use the precious words on these pages to help you train for the trial you are not yet in."

- **Levi Lusko**, pastor of Fresh Life Church, bestselling author of *Through the Eyes of a Lion*

"We serve a God who never wastes anything—because everyone and everything is valuable in His eyes. **Davey Blackburn** is a walking, talking illustration of how God can bring light out of incredible darkness. You may not understand everything you're going through right now, but the message behind *Nothing Is Wasted* will challenge you to keep putting one foot in front of the other."

- **Dave Ramsey**, bestselling author and nationally syndicated radio show host

"For my friend **Davey Blackburn**, "the valley of the shadow of death" is more than a line from a psalm. It's a permanent part of his story. The murder of his wife, Amanda Blackburn, sent shockwaves through a local community and the community of faith. In *Nothing Is Wasted*, **Davey** tells his story—their story. But at some level, it is or will be our story. In the end, it's a story of hope and redemption."

- **Andy Stanley**, pastor of Northpoint Church (Atlanta) and bestselling author

"God is in the business of taking what the Enemy intends for evil and using it for His purpose and for our destiny. I am grateful for stories like **Davey's** that remind us of that truth and fill us with hope no matter what unexpected challenges we face."

- **Christine Caine**, founder of A21 and Propel Women

"**Davey's** story of love and loss with his sweet wife, Amanda, is touching, devastating, and God-glorifying all at the same time. If you're questioning the Lord in the midst of your own pain, *Nothing Is Wasted* will help you find healing and trust that God is good even if our circumstances aren't."

- **Lysa TerKeurst**, *New York Times* bestselling author and president of Proverbs 31 Ministries

"**Davey Blackburn** is a great friend and brother. His life's journey has taken him through the valley of unimaginable tragedy, to the heights of healing and hope. This book recounts every step. If you have ever questioned the purpose in the pain of life, **Davey's** book *Nothing Is Wasted* is for you."

- **Brad Cooper**, pastor, NewSpring Church

"**Davey Blackburn's** story is one of the most heartbreaking, yet faith-building, stories I've ever encountered. If you are hurting from a betrayal, grieving a loss, or struggling to overcome a deep wound, **Davey's** book *Nothing Is Wasted* is for you."

- **Craig Groeschel**, pastor of Life.Church, and bestselling author

"Moving. Hope-filled. Faith-building. Scripture tells us that suffering is the refiner's fire God purposes for the purification of our faith. **Davey Blackburn** is walking through that fire, and his made-like-gold faith is evident in the way he's stewarding his story. If you've ever wondered what your Father's plan is for your pain, *Nothing Is Wasted* will help you anchor in His promises and trust His purposes."

- **Louie Giglio**, pastor of Passion City Church, founder of Passion Conferences, bestselling author