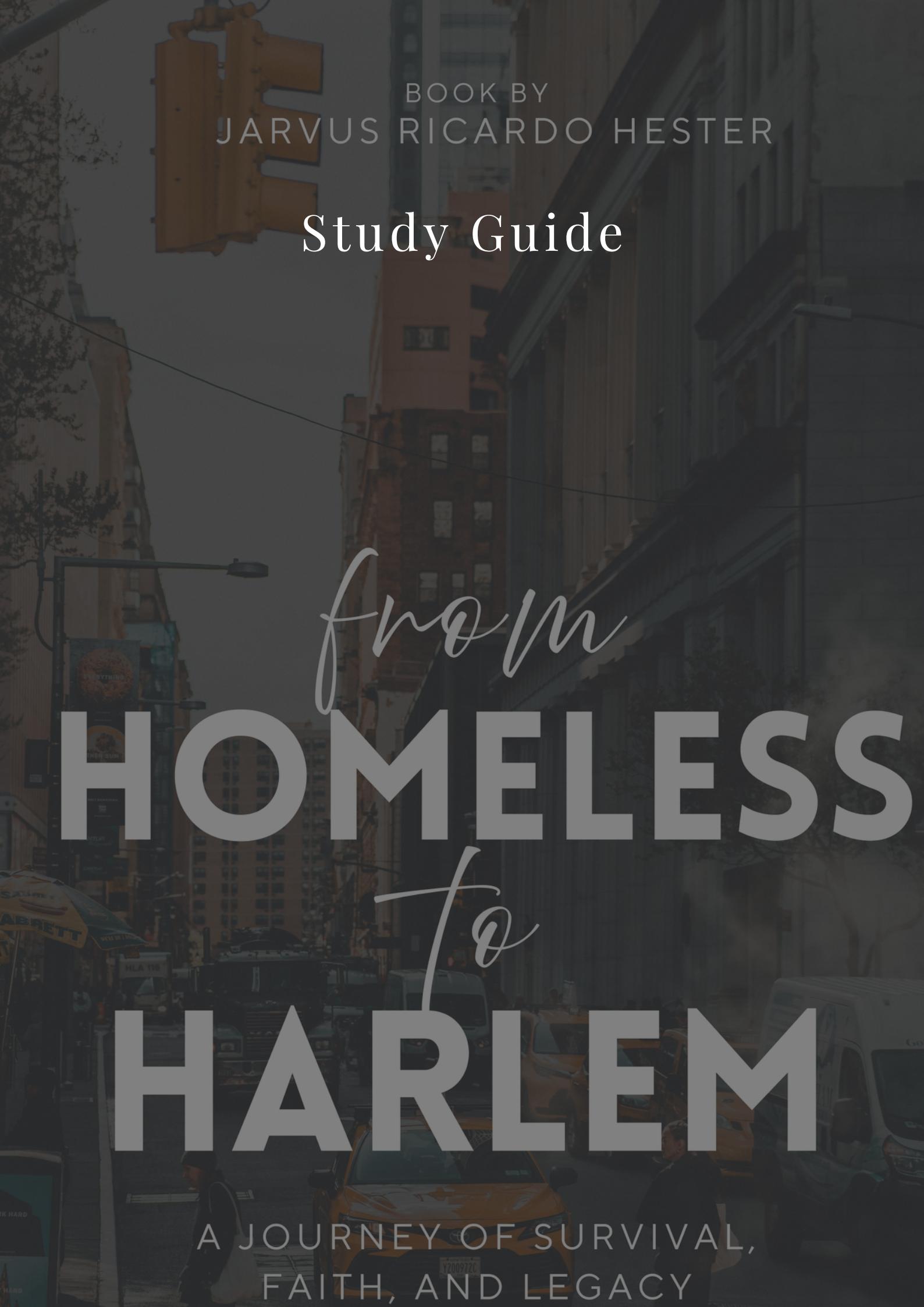




BOOK BY  
JARVUS RICARDO HESTER

## Study Guide

# *from* HOMELESS *to* HARLEM

A JOURNEY OF SURVIVAL,  
FAITH, AND LEGACY

# HARLEM COLLECTIVE



## JARVUS RICARDO HESTER

Jarvus Ricardo Hester is a visionary storyteller, creative strategist, and founder of Mood Magazine NYC — the definitive guide to Harlem's Black-owned businesses, culture, and legacy. A classically trained vocalist and branding expert, Jarvis weaves faith, survival, and creativity into every endeavor. From overcoming homelessness to building platforms that empower communities, his journey has inspired thousands to turn their pain into purpose. He is the author of *From Homeless to Harlem*, and the creative force behind the Harlem Boys Choir revival, Mais Soufflé gourmet brand, Harlem Collective resident artist program and the Harlem Interactive Map.



CHAPTER ONE

# THE DAY I SHOULD'VE DIED

Title: The Day I Should Have Died

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## Chapter Summary:

In Chapter One, Jarvis Ricardo Hester shares the gripping account of surviving a deadly car accident, grappling with survivor's guilt, and navigating the unraveling of identity, faith, and purpose. We meet a young dreamer thrust into trauma, spiritual confusion, and the early days of what would become a legacy movement. It's a story of physical survival — but more importantly, the beginning of emotional and spiritual rebirth.

YOUR BRAND NAME HERE

# KEY THEMES

PART  
1

INTRODUCTION

PART  
2

SURVIVOR'S GUILT

PART  
3

SHATTERED IDENTITY

PART  
4

SPIRITUAL CONFUSION

PART  
5

THE TENSION BETWEEN CALLING  
AND REJECTION & MIRACULOUS  
PROVISION THE BEGINNINGS OF  
LEGACY

# REFLECTION QUESTIONS

## **Reflection Questions:**

### **1. Life After Impact:**

“Have you ever survived something that left you asking, ‘Why me?’”

How did that experience change the way you saw God, yourself, or your purpose?

### **2. The Myth of Perfection:**

Jarvus describes hiding his sexuality and trying to meet religious expectations.

“What masks have you worn to be accepted? What did it cost you?”

### **3. When Faith Collides with Failure:**

After being expelled from Bible college, Jarvus questioned everything.

“Have you ever been rejected by something that once affirmed you? What did you learn in the silence that followed?”

### **4. Miraculous Provision:**

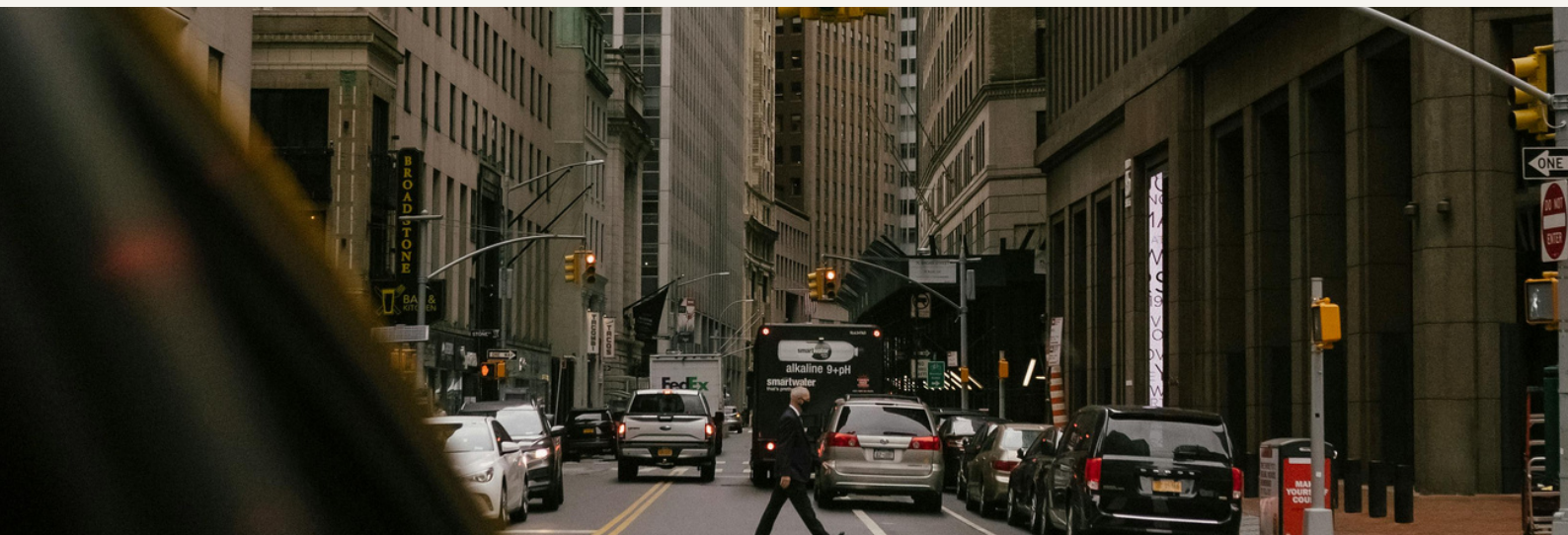
From nowhere, three baby grand pianos were delivered — a symbol of divine abundance.

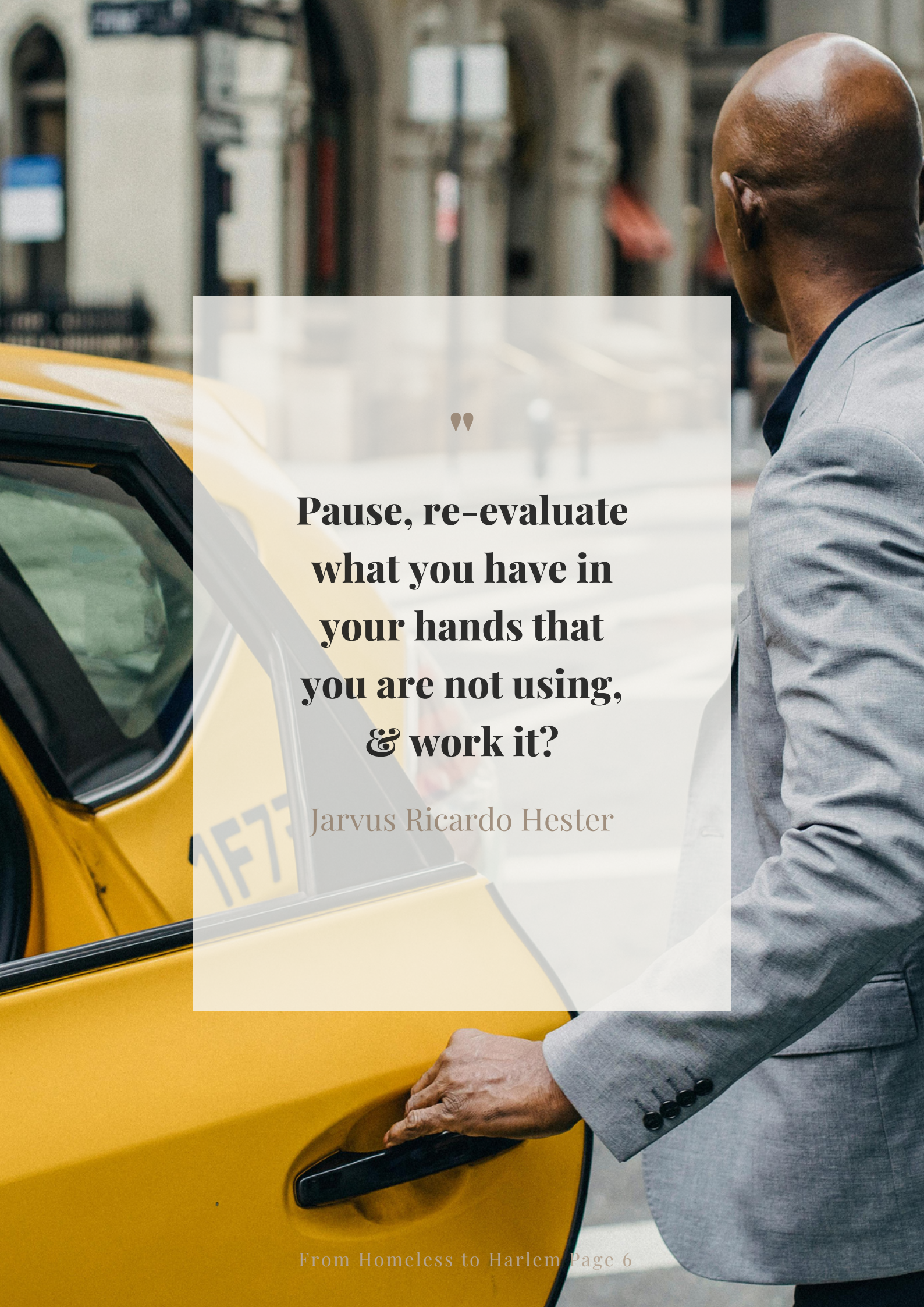
“What’s one moment in your life that didn’t make sense... but felt like grace?”

### **5. Legacy in the Ashes:**

Even while homeless, Jarvus started building something.

“What is God asking you to build with the broken pieces you still carry?”



A photograph of a man in a grey suit opening the door of a yellow taxi on a city street. The man is seen from the side, looking towards the taxi. The background is a blurred city street with buildings and traffic lights. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the image, containing text and a small icon of two hearts.

♡♡

**Pause, re-evaluate  
what you have in  
your hands that  
you are not using,  
& work it?**

Jarvus Ricardo Hester

# 7 DAYS CHALLENGE

## Scripture Tie-Ins:

**2 Corinthians 12:9** – “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

**Isaiah 43:2** – “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you...”

**Psalms 118:17** – “I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.”

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## Journal Entry:

“I thought it was the end, but now I see it was the beginning of...”

Write freely about one moment in your life that felt like death, disappointment, or disgrace — and how it might actually have been the seed of something greater.

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## Suggested Soundtrack

“Never Alone” – **Tori Kelly**

“Take Me to the King” – **Tamela** “He’ll Do It Again” – **Shirley Caesar**

“Never Would Have Made It” – **Marvin Sapp**

“Rescue” – **Lauren Daigle**

“Brighter Day” – **Kirk Franklin**

THANK  
YOU!

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