

# Worship

## Art and Creativity

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Music, Dance and Drama,- known as the performing Arts.  
Inclusive not exclusive.

# Worship

## Art and Creativity

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Creation, the Fall and Redemption

Created for good

Tragically fallen

Graciously redeemed

Rejoice in the good

Have a robust view of sin

Lay hold of God's grace in Christ.

# Worship

## Art and Creativity

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A Creator God. *Gen.1*

*Creative adjective:*

Inventive.- creating with imagination

Imaginative- bearing evidence of imagination

Able to create.

Different from imaginary. The God we worship is real.

# Worship

## Art and Creativity

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Creation shouts imagination and creativity.

Colours, light, shade, contrast, sounds, smell and variety.

Not just our earth, but the whole Universe. The stars , the heavens.

What is man? *Ps.8*

# Worship

## Art and Creativity

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We are made in His image.

*Gen 1: 26* Let us make man in Our image.

*v 27.* So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him.

*v31.* God saw all that He had made, and it was very good.

Rejoice in the good.

# Worship

## Art and Creativity

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### The Arts

Imaginative, creative, ingenuity.

Role of the Arts.

The Arts should be helping us to see things as if we had never seen them before.

Freed from complacency or over familiarity.

# Worship

## Art and Creativity

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“ To evoke in oneself a feeling one has experienced and having evoked it in oneself, then by means of movement, line, colours, sounds or forms expressed in word, so to transmit that feeling, that others experience the same feeling. That is the activity of Art.”

*Leo Tolstoy*

# Worship

## Art and Creativity

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“To express ourselves in Art is to experience more fully the richness of being human”.

Man, made in Gods image is capable of this. All of us. All of mankind made in His image.

Imaginative, creative. Helping us to see things as if we had never seen them before. Freed from complacency or over familiarity.

# Worship

## The Arts in worship

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In the Old Testament is well documented.

“ See I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts- to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship. *Exodus 31 ; 2-5*

# Worship

## The Arts in worship

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Note the order: Filled with the Spirit of God. Skill, ability and knowledge.

Moses composed and sang.

Miriam danced. King David danced.

Music, song, poetry and dance all documented and used in worship.

When we know the Creator, we can worship Him, not His creation.

# Worship

## A Robust View of sin

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Understanding that we are tragically fallen.

False worship. Worshiping the creation rather than the creator.

Beauty, skill and craftsmanship can be worshipped.

The performing arts by nature can seem to place the performer in a position of drawing more attention to themselves.

# Worship

## A Robust View of sin

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Some performing artists seem to go out of their way to place a separation between themselves and their audience.

Push God out. More of self.

# Worship



## God at the centre

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However, with God at the centre, Art becomes far more interesting.

No longer worship the art form with God at the centre.

This is enormously freeing.

Cain and Abel. *Gen 4*. Offering the very best we have to God.

# Worship



## God at the centre

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Sin is ever crouching at our door *verse 7*.

All of us need to have a constant check that we make right choices.

The more of God, the more we are freed to be what we were made to be.

# Worship



## God at the centre

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We are fallen.

We are graciously redeemed.

Lay hold of Gods grace in Christ.

The New Testament is no less creative.

# Worship

## God's plan

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God's plan for mankind is incredibly creative.

From conception to death and resurrection, Born in a stable. Death on a cross. Risen from the death.

NT speaks of relationship, God to man and man to God through Christ.

Worthy of all our worship, every last creative breath.

A testament of relationship not of rules.

Graciously redeemed.

# Worship

## God's plan

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We can sometimes fear that by being imaginative and inventive in our presentation of Gospel truths we will dilute our heart felt message.

Remember that Art should be helping us to see things with freshness.

Not change for change's sake.

Ezekiel

# Worship

## Music – the ear

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Enormously unifying and freeing all at the same time.

A single note played from one place occupies the whole space. It is everywhere.

A 2nd note blends with the first note.

A beautiful picture of God and us.

Tuned to Jesus but freed to be ourselves.

Individual but part of the whole.

# Worship

## Music – the ear

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Filling the same space, not 200 private spaces,  
overlapping voices.

Freed to be ourselves, freed to find our voice, freed to be  
the person we were meant to be in Christ.

The more of God, the more it frees us to be what we  
were made to be.