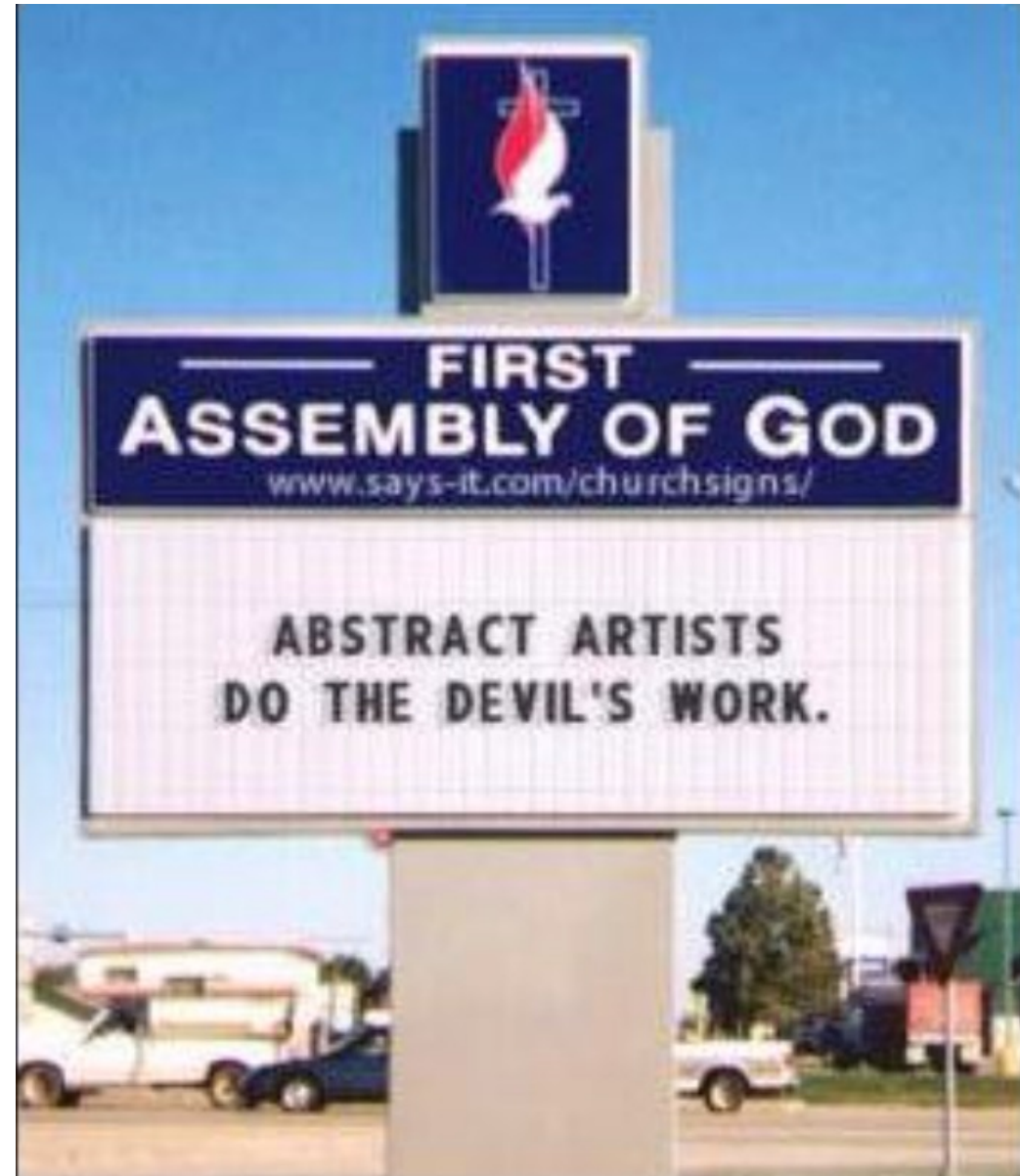
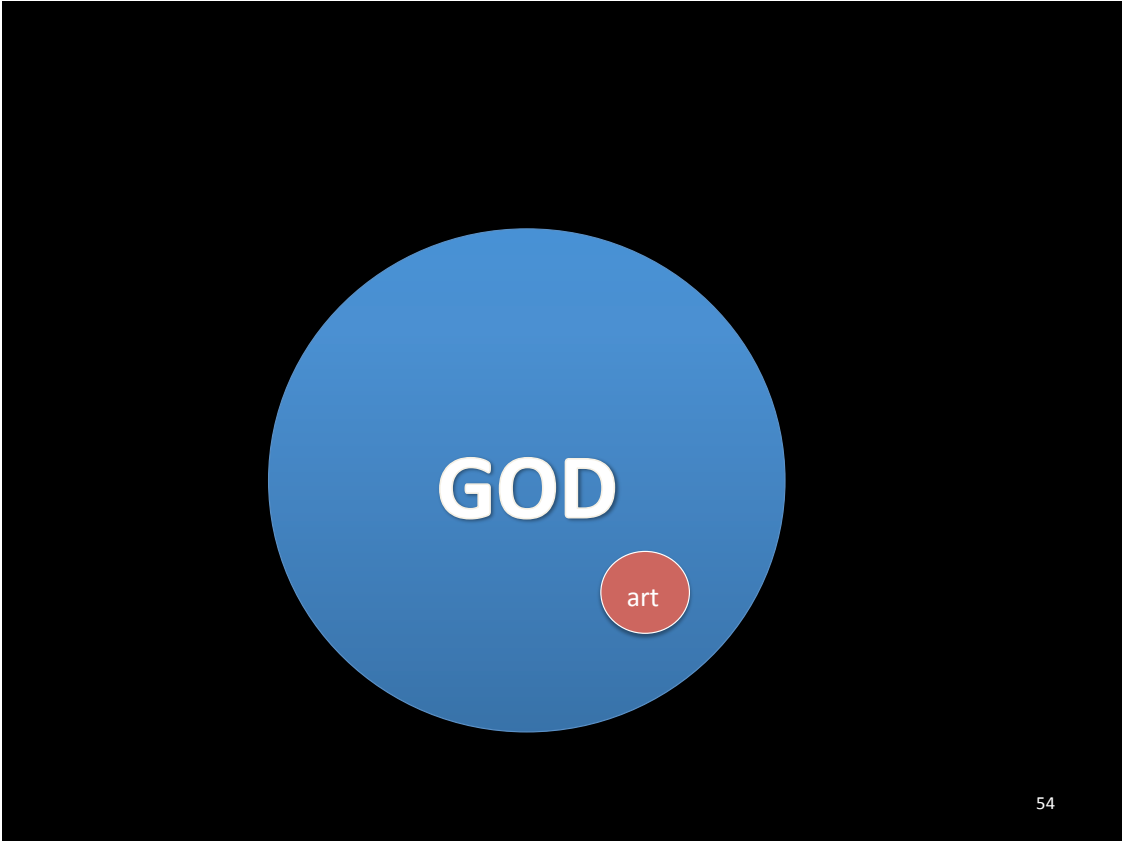
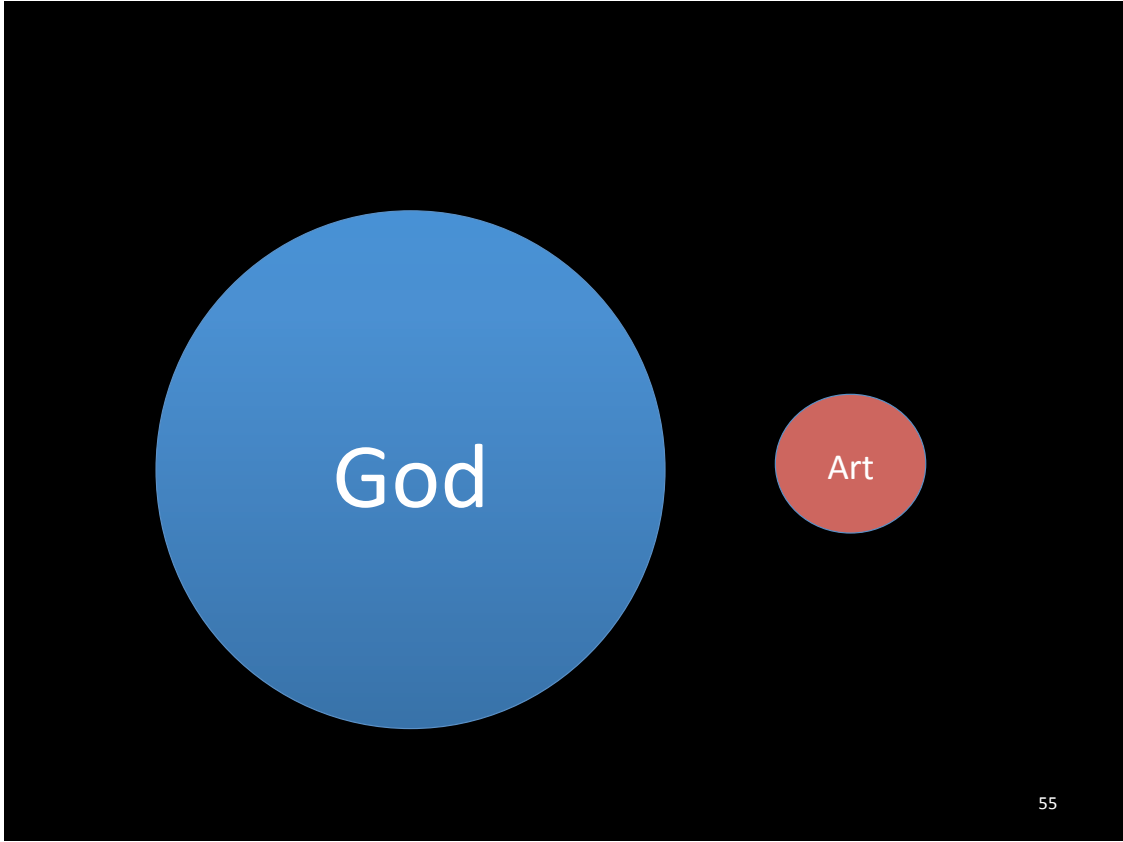


Do Christians
have room
for art?





ART and Spirituality

1. Why Art?
2. Beauty in God's eyes
3. When Art is away from God
4. Art and meditation
5. Art and Church





Why Art?

1. Creation is the most important characteristic of God. God created first then salvation came later. (Creation → Fall → Redemption)
2. We are image bearers of God. “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness...” (Genesis 1:26)
3. We are spiritual beings because we are created in the likeness of God. “God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth” (John 4:24)
4. We create everyday. Creativity is daily activity for every human.

Process of Making: God vs. Human

Genesis: the first book of the Bible talks about the origin of the world.

- describe how the world created
- who and what created.



God creates	Human creates
With His Words	With God's creation (main resources of materials)
With His own imagination	Inspired by God's imagination
Original	Imitation

Andy Goldsworthy

We can only create with what God created for us.



Art is not only available from the Museum.

- Every product we use, see, hear and dwell is by someone's idea, imagination.
 - Music, Pen, Car, Bag, Clothes, Computer, Phone, House, Office...etc.
- Daily activity is deeply involved with creation: cooking, putting on make up or outfits, preparing for presentations...etc.



Finding Art in the Bible

- God specifically instructs Moses to make the Tabernacle
 - Make this tabernacle and all its furnishings exactly like the pattern I will show you. (Exodus 25:9)
 - See that you make them according to the pattern shown you on the mountain. (Exodus 25:40)
 - From the materials (pure gold, acacia wood), scale (cubits long), pattern (flowerlike cups, buds), God's detailed plan proves His thoughtfulness of making/creating.

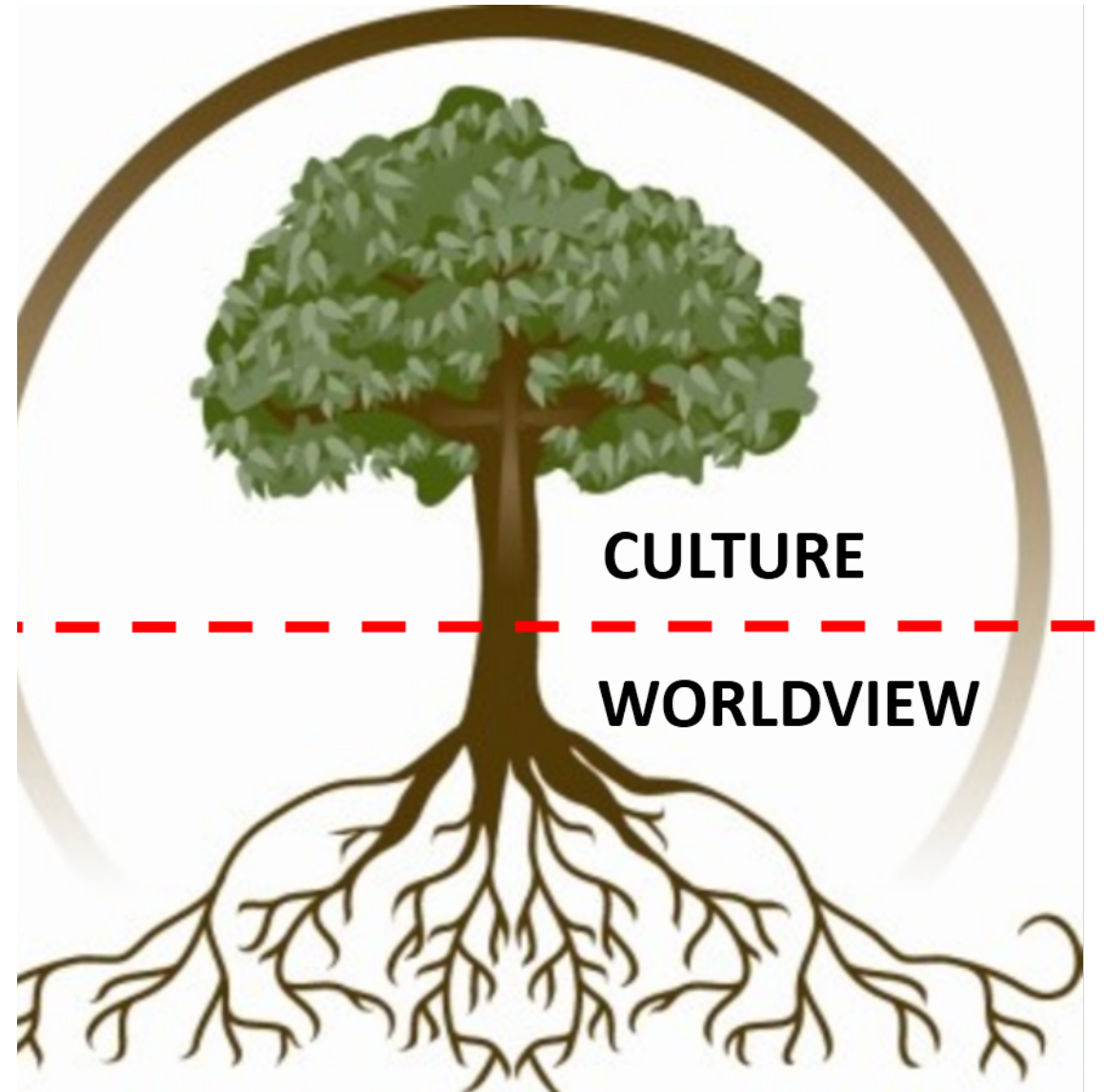
Exodus 35:30-33

- Then Moses said to the Israelites, “See, the Lord has chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and **he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills**— 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 artistic crafts.
- This is the **FIRST TIME** the bible describes the people being filled with the Spirit of God. They were artists.
- God allows art in us. Therefore, art does not need justification from Christianity.

- God required beautiful and precious materials, decorations, patterns, and stylish designs to build his worship place.
 - They are NOT necessary components of the building. The purpose of their existence was to worship God.
 - The true purpose of Art must be worship.
 - We do not create to impress God. We create to worship God.

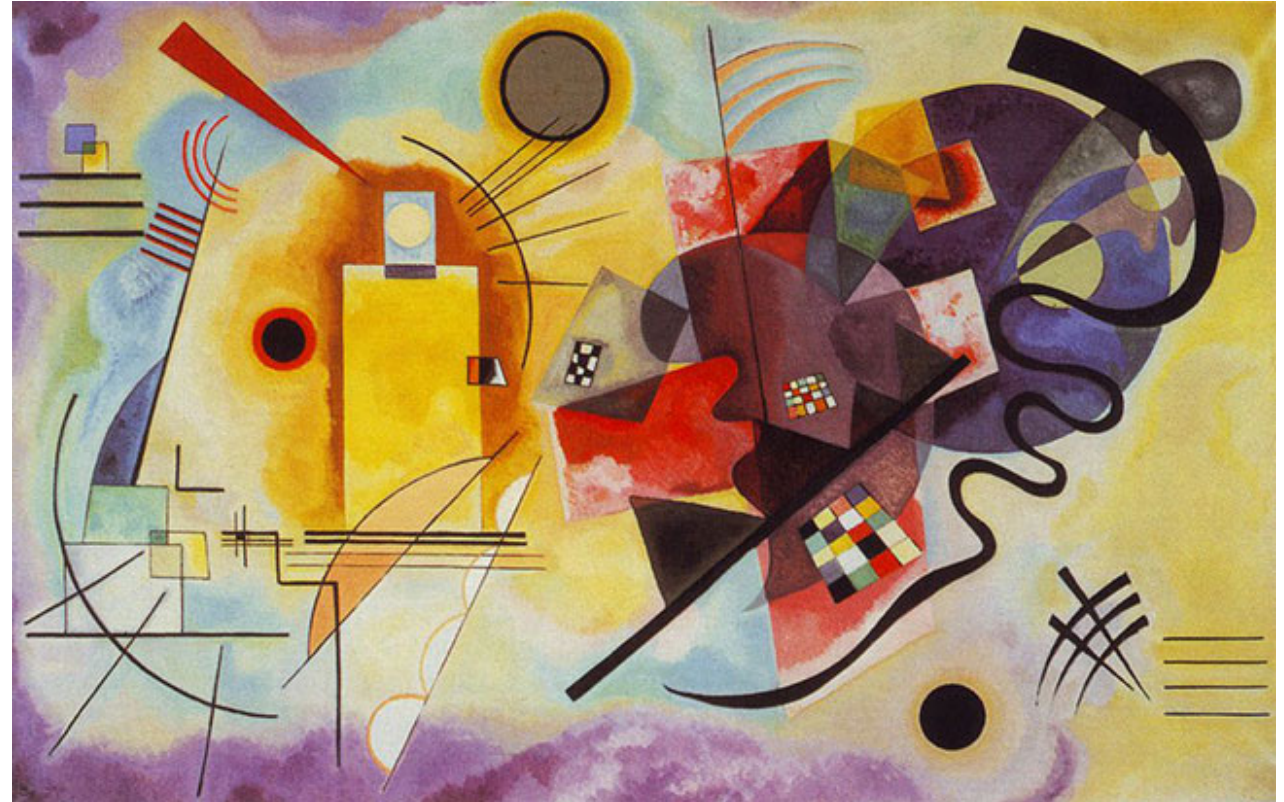
Creativity as a reflection.

- But, do we really create to worship God?
 - What we created is the reflection of who we are.
 - What do we create?



Old vs. New

- Old Art: shamanistic approach
- New Art: Abstract, Conceptual art that includes meditative aspects
 - Abstract Art: non-representational or unrecognizable shapes and lines become main components of art.
 - Conceptual Art: Idea is more important than actual artwork. These forms of artworks focus on thoughts, philosophical idea, and spirituality.



Wassily Kandinsky

Lascaux Cave Art, France

- Hunting and protection from the dangerous creatures
 - Found instruments as well
 - echoing sounds, dark and mysterious location
 - Seeking help from higher power



Tracy Emin-My bed



Jackson Pollock

- Unconscious movement/repeated action to reach to spiritual high.



Mark Rothko

- Simple color combination to create emotional and spiritual experience



- Yayoi Kusama
- Created specific stage using lights and darkness to experience fantasy for the audiences



- Carsten Höller
- Special installation for the audience to experience oneness with water to feel calm and floating.

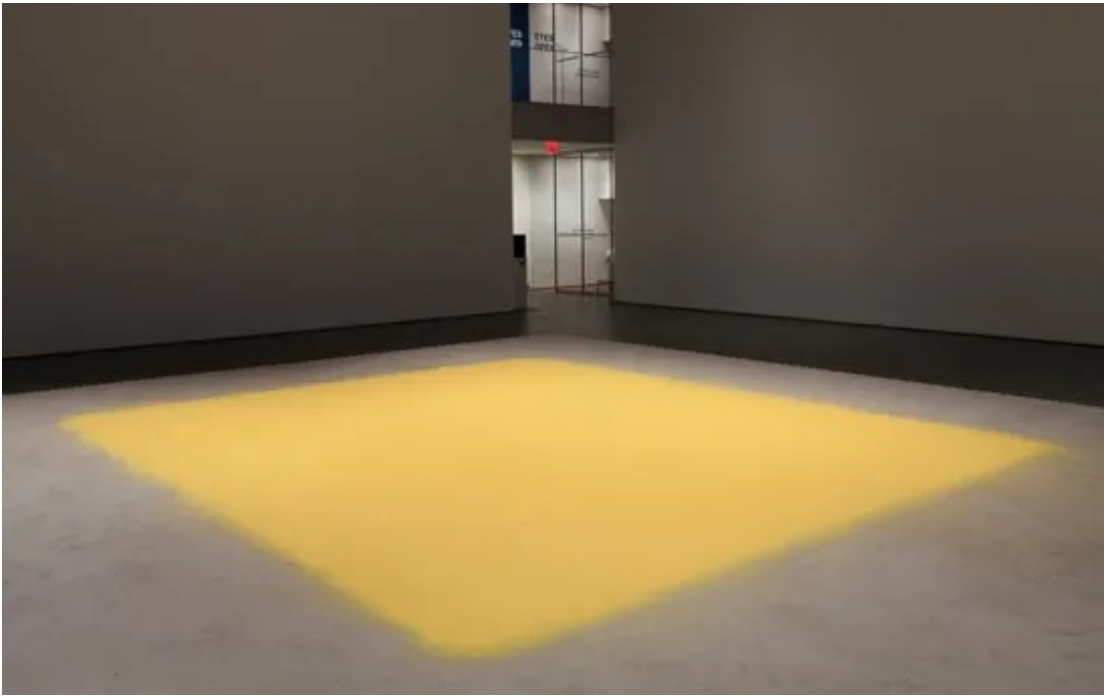


- Doug Wheeler
-sound proof rooms to
experience absolute quietness



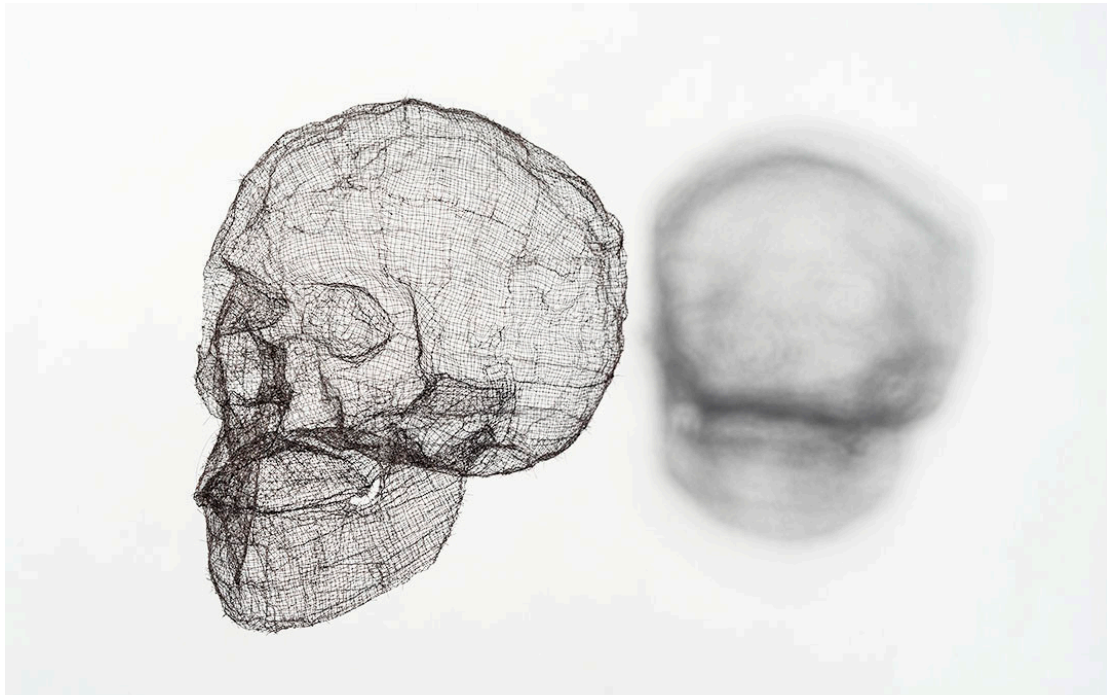
Wolfgang Laib

- Collected pollens laid on the floor in a simple geometric shape to create calm and holy atmosphere.



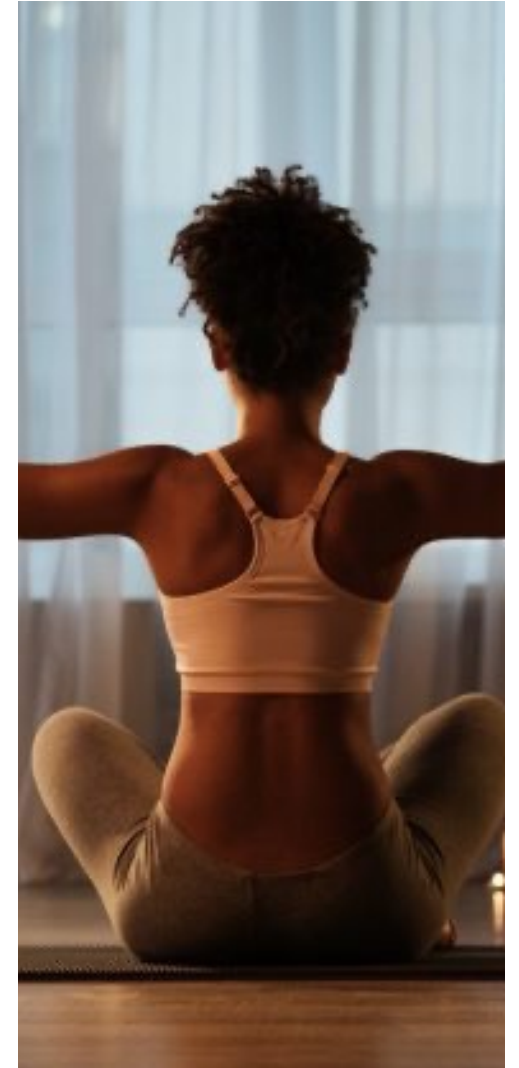
Jayoung Yoon

- Artist uses her own hair to create a sculpture and installation to reconnect herself to past and present.



Daily activity of Meditation

- Modern spiritual journey is to reconnect to ourself and find peace in us.
- When God is missing in the mediation, we become the center of the universe, and nature becomes our shelter.
- True Spirituality means the lordship of Christ over the total man. –Francis Schaeffer
- Our life must become work of art to praise God.



Snakes

- **The snake made Adam and Eve fall to sin** (Genesis 3:3-24)
 - “You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ...
- **The snake made a symbolic meaning of Christ coming to the world.** (John 3:14)
 - And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,
- **The snake brings healing to people.** (Numbers 21: 8-9)
 - So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.
- **The snake shows God's power to the enemy.** (Exodus 7:8-13)
 - “When Pharaoh says to you, ‘Prove yourselves by working a miracle,’ then you shall say to Aaron, ‘Take your staff and cast it down before Pharaoh, that it may become a serpent.’”
- **The snake brings death to people.** (Number 21:6)
 - they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died.





Art and Church

Discuss

The church must be a place to discuss art and culture and encourage people to create freely

Teach

The church must teach the importance of how our spirituality leaves traces through our creation.

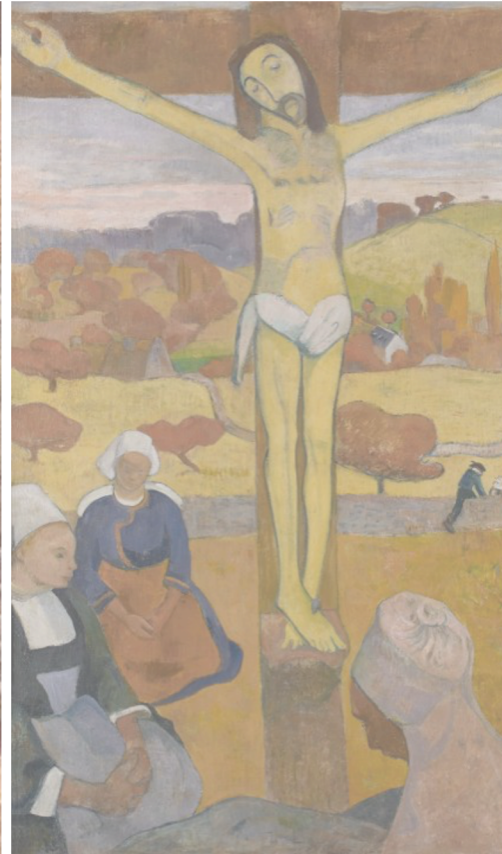
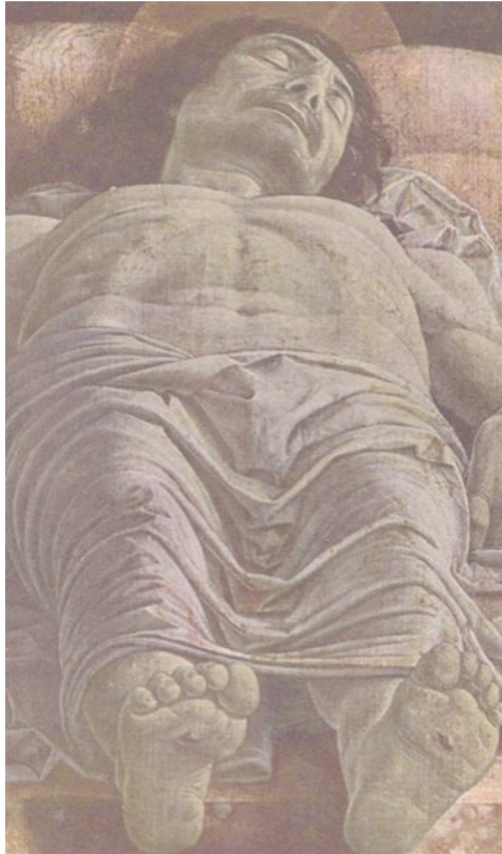
Remind

The church must remind people that God watches our every step from decision-making, the process of making to finished products. God sees our heart, attitude, and purpose.

Encourage

The church must encourage people to meditate on God's words so His words and blessings can overflow through our creation.





Don't you want to see artworks that bring people to God?

Don't you want to see artworks that worship God visually?

Don't you want to create to please God?

Don't you want to appreciate what God has been doing throughout this creation?

Makoto Fujimura

- Art making, to me, is a discipline of awareness, prayer, and praise. Imagination gives us wings to create, but it is through Christ's tears and the invitation to the feast of God that we can be partakers of the New Creation.
- I now consider what I do in the studio to be theological work as much as aesthetic work. I experience God, my Maker, in the studio.

-A Theology of Making Art and Faith

