

Sunday, January 18, 2025 - THE CREATIVE MIND OF GOD – Pastor John Henry Raskin

God is the ultimate Creator, and humanity is made in God's image to reflect divine creativity. The creative mind of God is not just an attribute—it is the very nature of God, and this creative DNA lives within each of us through the Holy Spirit, the Mind of Christ.

Scriptural Foundations

- **Genesis 1:1-3:** God creates the heavens and the earth, bringing light and order out of chaos.
- **Genesis 1:27:** Humanity is made in God's image—visionary, imaginative, and intentionally creative.
- **Genesis 2:19:** Adam is invited to name creation, acting as a co-creator.
- **Psalm 19:1:** Creation itself proclaims God's glory and craftsmanship.
- **John 1:1-3:** Jesus is the creative force behind all existence.
- **Exodus 31:1-3:** God empowers people with wisdom and craftsmanship for creative works.
- **Philippians 2:5:** Believers are called to have the mind of Christ—creative, humble, and loving.

Illustrations of Divine Creativity

- **Nature's Wonders:** Seeds, eyes, oceans, and snowflakes all reveal God's imaginative and generous design.
- **Human Creativity:** In His redemptive story, the Bible, from Noah's ark to Solomon's temple, God inspires and equips people to create for His glory.

Practical Applications

1. **See Your Life as a Canvas**
 - Every word, choice, relationship, and act of worship is a brushstroke on the canvas of your life.
2. **Invite the Mind of Christ into Your Imagination**
 - Ask God for His perspective, seek new possibilities, and strive to reflect His character daily.
3. **Create with Purpose and Humility**
 - Use your creativity for God's glory and the good of others, not for self-glory.
4. **Build What God Has Placed in Your Heart**
 - Whether it's writing, composing, starting a business, healing families, or rebuilding communities, pursue the ideas God has given you.

Final Encouragement

- The world needs your God-given creativity.
- You are made in the image of a creative God, empowered by the Spirit, and invited to be a co-creator in God's ongoing masterpiece.
- Step into your calling and let God's creative vision shape your life.

THE CREATIVE MIND OF GOD

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Last week we spoke about David and explored a little bit about what made him the man after God's own heart despite his human flaws and how despite our human flaws, we can be people after God's own heart as well.

Today we're going to explore the creative mind of God and how it lives in us and through us by means of the Holy Spirit, the very Mind of Christ.

Every worldview begins with a starting point. Ours begins with a God who creates.

Not a silent force, not some impersonal energy.

But a God with a mind, a will, imagination, intention, and purpose.

A God who created something out of nothing.

We see the first moment of Creation in Genesis Chapter One.

Genesis 1:1-3

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

3 Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

Before there was light, there was God’s vision.

Before there was form, there was God’s imagination.

Before there was creation, there was an intentional Creator.

And then, later in that very first Chapter of the Bible, Scripture makes a stunning claim:

Genesis 1:27

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

God made you and me in His image. He made us visionary, imaginative and if we are willing, He made us to be intentionally creative.

In the very next Chapter of Genesis, we see God asking Adam (which means mankind) to be creative in naming His creation.

Genesis 2:19

19 Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name.

The same God who imagines, designs, and creates... made you to imagine, design, and create.

Before there was the law, before there was a covenant, there was a blank canvas and a Creative Mind that conceived of His human partners made in His image as co-creators.

Today we explore how that divine creativity isn't just something God does, but it is a part of who He is—and how that DNA lives inside of you.

But first let's consider the creative mind of God and how incredibly artistic, poetic and even musical His Mind is...

When we look at the world, we see that God is not a minimalist.

He didn't just make "fish"; He made the Mandarin Dragonet and the Bioluminescent Jellyfish.

He didn't just make "birds", he made the peacock and the Toucan.

He didn't just make "stars"; He made galaxies and pulsars and binary systems.

God's creativity is an expression of His generosity. He created a world that doesn't just "work", it "wows."

Psalm 19:1

**The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.**

God's creativity is the overflow of His joy.

He didn't create because He was lonely; He created to share the beauty of His own nature.

Here are a few examples to contemplate...

Think of the Symphony that is hidden inside a seed.

Hold a seed in your hand. It's small enough to lose between your fingers, light enough for the wind to carry.

Yet inside that tiny outer shell is an entire blueprint for a forest.

Not just one tree but generations of trees.

Not just wood, but shade, oxygen, fruit, ecosystems, birdsong, and beauty.

God hides entire worlds inside things we overlook.

A seed is not just a seed.

It is a sermon about a God who writes symphonies in small places and releases them in His time.

Consider the Human Eye.

Think of it as a living camera designed by a cosmic Genius

Every second, your eyes take in millions of pieces of information—light, color, depth, motion.

They focus faster than any lens humans have yet invented.

They adjust automatically to darkness and brightness.

They send signals to your brain at lightning speed, allowing you to recognize a face, read a word, or admire a sunset.

This living lens focuses, adjusts, and interprets the world in an instant, and all of this happens without you thinking about it.

The eye is not an accident.

It is the signature of a God who sees, who designs, and who delights in detail.

The eye is God saying, “I designed you to see My glory.”

Now let’s consider The Ocean’s Rhythm.

We stand at the edge of the ocean and listen.

The waves never stop. They move with an ancient rhythm.

They rise, fall, crash, retreat—like the breathing of creation itself.

The tides move with mathematical precision, pulled by a moon placed at just the right distance.

The ocean teems with life—creatures with colors, shapes, and abilities we still haven't fully discovered.

The sea is a gallery of God's imagination.

It is creativity in motion, power in rhythm, beauty in endless variety.

The sea is God declaring, "My creativity is endless, and My power is precise."

Now here in California, we don't really get much snow.

But our daughter Chelsea, her husband Robi and our six-year-old grandson Alex live in Connecticut, where it has been snowing quite a lot lately.

Every winter, billions of snowflakes fall from the sky.

Not one of them is identical.

Each one is a six-pointed sculpture, crafted in midair, shaped by temperature, humidity, and the breath of wind.

People walk on them. They brush them off their coats. They wipe them off their windshields.

Last week Alex and his friends made snowballs and snowmen and sledged on packed snowflakes.

Think of it though, each one of those snowflakes is a tiny masterpiece—

a reminder that God's creativity extends even to the things that melt in our hands.

When you put all of this together—the seed, the eye, the ocean, the snowflake, you see a pattern.

A signature. A divine fingerprint.

Our God is not only powerful. He is imaginative.

He is intentional. He is artistic.

He is creative beyond measure.

And here is the astonishing truth:

The same God who designed all of this... made us in His image.

The God who imagines galaxies...

The God who shapes oceans...

The God who designs snowflakes...

That God chose to imprint His creative mind, His nature, His likeness into humanity.

In the Gospel of John, we see that there is even a greater connection to be made between God's creativity and our potential to create and to know our Creator.

John1:1-3 NASB

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him not even one thing came into being that has come into being.

By this scripture we know that it is Jesus, the uncreated Son of God made flesh, who is the creative force and designer of all that is.

Think of this.

Jesus Christ our savior, our friend and the very person of God whose image we were created in and whose very person we are being conformed into is the creative force behind all that exists.

God fashioned the universe out of nothingness, and He has placed a spark of that same creative ability within us.

If God is the ultimate Creator, and we are made in His image, then to be human is to be creative.

Creativity is a God-given gift, equipping people with intelligence, craftsmanship, and artistic skills to reflect His majesty.

God bestowed upon humans the ability to imagine, invent, and create. Our capacity for art, music, literature, technology, and innovation is a reflection of God's creative nature.

Throughout history, God has inspired artists, writers, musicians, and thinkers to create works that communicate spiritual truths and beauty.

This divine inspiration is a manifestation of His creative influence.

It is this divine inspiration that moved upon the writers of the Bible to use their human gifts to supernaturally and unerringly create the very word of God that we have today.

Throughout the Bible we see God's influence on human beings, giving them insight and wisdom to create for His Glory using talents He also provided commensurate with their faith.

Noah demonstrated creativity and craftsmanship when he built the ark according to God's specifications.

His obedience and skill in constructing the ark saved all life on earth.

When the Lord God gave Moses the design for the Ark of the Covenant and the Tabernacle which traveled with the Israelites on their journey

through the desert, He also gave His Spirit to talented men to do the work.

Exodus 31:1-3 NASB

Now the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 2 “See, I have called by name Bezalel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah.

3 And I have filled him with the Spirit of God in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of craftsmanship,

King David, in addition to being a warrior and a poet, was a musician and songwriter. He played the harp and composed many of the psalms and hymns found in the Book of Psalms.

King Solomon was known for his wisdom, but he was also a creative individual.

He composed many songs and proverbs, and he had expertise in various fields, including architecture and horticulture.

Solomon's construction of the First Temple in Jerusalem showcased his creativity and architectural skills.

Every person that is born has been made in the image of God.

Every person that is born is like that miraculous seed that contains the potential to be a life-giving forest.

In Christ, we have the Spirit of God within ourselves to realize and release that potential.

We are all different and we all have unique talents and abilities, and we all have something to offer the Body of Christ and the Kingdom of God.

It is in our God-nature to be creative.

Creativity is not a gift reserved for painters, musicians, or poets. It is a fundamental human trait.

We see it in the engineer who finds a creative solution to a structural problem.

It's found in the gardener who brings order and beauty out of a chaotic plot of dirt.

The entrepreneur who conceives of and builds a business that serves a community.

The parent who creates a peaceful home environment.

The volunteer who brings a peacemaking mindset that allows broken, dysfunctional people to come under the authority of Christ.

We may not all be Michelangelos or Beethovens but because of our God-nature, we all have the ability to be peacemakers in Christ.

If you think of it, peacemaking is creating something out of nothing.

When God's Spirit hovered over the chaotic waters in Genesis 1 and God spoke let there be light, He brought peace and order out of darkness and dysfunction, creating something out of nothing.

By stepping into environments where only chaos and dysfunction exist, a peacemaker who is centered in Christ and hears from the Holy Spirit, can create peace out of chaos and dysfunction by speaking what he hears in love.

Every family and group of friends needs a dedicated and creative peacemaker.

In 2 Corinthians 2:16 the Apostle Paul tells us that we have the Mind of Christ.

This is one of the most astonishing statements in Scripture.

Jesus is not merely a messenger. He is the exact expression of God's nature.

The writer of Hebrews calls Him the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person.

If you want to know how God thinks, look to Jesus.

Here is something to consider...

Creation was God's first masterpiece.

Redemption is His second.

Look at the Gospels... Jesus creatively reimagines what humanity can be:

- He touches lepers no one else would touch.
- He speaks life where others speak condemnation.
- He turns fishermen into apostles.
- He turns a cross—an instrument of death—into a doorway of life.

The mind of Christ sees possibilities where others see problems.

The Apostle Paul tells us this...

Philippians 2:5

5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,

What kind of mind did Jesus have?

- A mind that empties itself
- A mind that serves
- A mind that obeys

- A mind that loves

Christ's mind is humble and self-giving.

Creativity without humility becomes pride.

Creativity with the mind of Christ becomes ministry.

Paul also tells us in Romans 12:2 to be “transformed by the renewing of our minds”

Transformation begins not with behavior but with imagination, with the capacity to see as God sees.

The mind of Christ is creative, redemptive, humble, and renewing.

We have seen that we were made in the image of a creative God and that our creativity is not a personality trait—it is a divine imprint.

Animals survive and adapt Humans imagine and create.

We envision futures that do not yet exist.

We dream. We plan. We innovate.

This is the image of God at work.

Humanity is designed to shape the world

God creates the raw materials. Humans cultivate them.

- God makes trees; humans make tables.
- God makes sound; humans make music.
- God makes color; humans make art.
- God makes soil; humans make gardens.
- God makes relationships; humans build families and communities.

We are co-creators—not equal to God but created and invited to be partners with God.

God gave humanity a mandate:

Genesis 1:28

28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

This is not domination. It is stewardship.

We are entrusted with God’s world to cultivate, protect, and develop it.

Creativity is not just about producing things.

It’s about expressing God’s nature:

- Love creates belonging
- Wisdom creates order
- Mercy creates restoration
- Justice creates fairness
- Faith creates courage
- Hope creates endurance

When we live creatively, we reflect God’s image.

So today, I invite you to accept God’s creative vision for your life.

1. See your life as a canvas on which you are painting something every day:

- **With your words**
- **With your choices**
- **With your relationships**
- **With your work**
- **With your worship**

2. Invite the mind of Christ into your imagination

Ask:

- **“Lord, how do You see this situation?”**
- **“What new possibilities are You opening?”**
- **“What beauty can I bring here?”**
- **“How can I reflect Your character today?”**

3. Create with purpose and humility

Use your creativity not for self-satisfaction and self-glory but for God’s glory and the good of others.

4. Intentionally strive to build what God has placed in your heart.

You may have:

- **Books to write**
- **Songs to compose**
- **Businesses to start**
- **Ministries to launch**
- **Families to heal**
- **Communities to rebuild**
- **Ideas waiting to be born**

The creative God who imagined galaxies and the Christ who renews minds has placed His image in you.

THE WORLD NEEDS YOUR GOD-GIVEN CREATIVITY

The world is not changed only by power or politics.

It is changed by imagination—

by people who see what God sees

and dare to create what does not yet exist.

You are made in the image of a creative God.

You have access to the mind of Christ.

You are empowered by the Spirit who hovered over the waters of creation.

So, step into your calling today.

Let's pray