

Arts for the Kingdom: Worship, Creativity, and Discipleship

How can the creation of art by members of a local church contribute to worship and discipleship in their congregation? How can we help the painters, sculptors, poets, or composers among us use their gifts for the building up of the body? How do we integrate this local art with artistic contributions from the global and historic church?

I will explore these questions through key biblical texts, examples from church history, and contemporary efforts in cross-cultural missions. As a case study, I will show how we have attempted to answer these questions at Wasilla Bible Church in south central Alaska, where I have served for the past two decades as Worship Pastor.

Finally, I will conclude by considering how the artistic endeavors of a local congregation can not only strengthen that congregation, but can also contribute to ecumenical understanding and the health of the universal church.