

VT7 Theology of Creativity

When I think about creativity, I start with God's first creative act—creation itself. Dr. Ted Hiebert reminds us that when “God saw how beautiful it was,” God wasn't just describing what was made; God was delighting in it. That tells me that creativity is rooted in seeing the world as beautiful and worth caring for. Every time we create—whether it's art, community, or justice—we join God in saying again, “This too is good.”

Dr. Anna Case-Winters takes me even deeper. She says incarnation shows us that God doesn't create from a distance—God enters creation. God becomes flesh, matter, and community. So for me, creativity is incarnational. It's not just an idea—it's embodied love that takes shape in how we live, how we serve, and how we care for the Earth. Every creative act—planting a garden, mentoring youth, rebuilding a block—is a sacred act because it mirrors God's love for all creation.

Patrick Reyes in *The Purpose Gap* helps me bring that home. He says creativity is how people on the margins survive and dream forward when the system tells them there's no room for them. Creativity isn't a luxury—it's liberation. It's how we co-create spaces of life and hope right in the middle of struggle.

And that's exactly what my project, *Reclaiming Creation Victory*, is about. It's where my theology of creativity meets the real world. By tackling environmental racism and economic exclusion—two crises that are really one. Training my neighbors in green careers joins God's creative work of restoration. Every solar panel installed, every young person trained, every partnership formed becomes an act of creative worship.

Audre Lorde's words warn that “the master's tools will never dismantle the master's house.” Real creativity, she says, means building new systems that honor difference and community, not repeating the patterns that caused the harm. That's what my project does—creates new tools, rooted in faith and justice, that empower people of color to rebuild our own neighborhoods and futures. Lorde also says, “Without community there is no liberation.” That line is at the heart of my project. Creativity isn't just about making things—it's about making community.

My theology of creativity is this: to create is to co-create with God—to make beauty out of brokenness, to turn imagination into healing, and to build something the master's tools never could: a world that's whole, just, and alive. When we reclaim creation, we're really reclaiming our divine imagination—and that, to me, is the victory.