

VT6 Theology of Change

My theology of change begins with the belief that God's incarnation is ongoing. Change, for me, is not always disruption— but is always participation. I see creation as not a finished event but a living process that continues through us. Change, then, is not a threat to faith but a sacred partnership with God's creative Spirit. Wherever transformation occurs— whether in nature, communities, or hearts—God is present, still creating, still redeeming.

Patrick Reyes, in *The Purpose Gap*, reminds us that many of us “are seen as problems before we even have a chance to speak our purpose.” (p.3) He argues that thriving requires designing conditions where our people can live into their God-given purpose with belonging, meaning, and power. In his view, closing the purpose gap is holy work—it's participating in God's ongoing creation by reimagining systems that were never built for us to flourish. (p 95-97)

This speaks directly to my project, *Reclaiming Creation Victory*, which reclaims both environmental and economic justice for Black and Brown communities. In my neighborhood, climate neglect and job exclusion are deeply connected forms of oppression. But when we train people for green careers and teach ecological theology, we are doing incarnational work—joining God in restoring creation and community. As I see it, when someone learns to install solar panels or care for the environment, they are not just earning a living; they are living out divine purpose.

Author and monk, Thich Nhat Hanh teaches in his book, *Living Buddha, Living Christ*, that mindfulness means living with awareness of the sacred in every moment. My theology of change puts that mindfulness into motion—seeing each act of justice, each career training, each breath of clean air as a visible sign of God's Spirit renewing the world.

Change, for me, is sacred collaboration. It's how God closes the purpose gap through us—one life, one community, one green job at a time.