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I am convinced of the importance of creating beauty, forming it with heart and hand, and offering it to a world possessed with speed, information, and impersonal screengazing. Perhaps art can help us all to slow down, be silent, and stand in awe before the beauty all around and within us.

Perhaps the crowning affirmation for me now continues to be his final words in that same chapter, admonishing the artist to do all things “so that God may be glorified.” So, what a ministry! To give glory to God through my world.

No doubt, the deepest joy and sense of fulfillment has come through helping others discover the creative spark within themselves: the children, many of whom have gone on to pursue the arts in some form; all those frightened folks who have taken my “Water and Wonder” workshop only to find astounding beauty and excitement in watercolor and words; the Sisters in our Community who have worked for the very first time in our Earthen Vessels studio, delighting in the way that clay has come alive for them.

So, over the past fifty years, the conviction that my art is truly ministry has grown within me. I know that art has the power to teach, to heal, to comfort, to challenge, to entertain, and to help people pray. The beauty that will save the world comes in many forms, and we minister to one another over and over by unraveling our own special part of the whole of God’s beautiful creation.

Today, as I sense the technological takeover of the human spirit, I am convinced of the importance of creating beauty, forming it with heart and hand, and offering it to a world possessed with speed, information, and impersonal screengazing. Perhaps art can help us all to slow down, be silent, and stand in awe before the beauty all around and within us. A worthy ministry!

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