

WEEK ONE

"I SAW THE ANGEL IN THE MARBLE AND CARVED UNTIL I SET HIM FREE."

- MICHELANGELO

In the beginning, God hovered above formlessness, and in the deeps of the water before Him, He envisioned something profoundly beautiful. The darkness of the void didn't define what was possible – God saw beyond the raw material and into what could be drawn out of them. And since that divine and miraculous beginning, the act of creation has inspired a desire in our own spirits to see beauty be written, carved, and painted where first there was nothing.

Michelangelo said, "I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free." That's the gift of creativity woven in our design – the gift of true sight. Creatives have a touch of the same divine perspective God used to create everything we see today. He gifts us vision that looks beyond formlessness, darkness, and the void to find form, light, and purpose.

That's why faith and creativity are inextricably connected. Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things unseen (Hebrews 11:1 ESV). In a world that promotes the assurance of things achieved and conviction of something tangible, partnering with God to bring divine visions to life is a practice of faithfulness.

We see the angel in words, on the canvas, and in the marble, and as we pick up our tools to excavate a good and beautiful creation, we choose to have faith that the Father entrusted us with the task – we will see the formation of the very thing He planted in the depths of our heart.

As creatives, we navigate the tension of reality as we know it and the hope for what it could look like. We look toward the veil that separates us from eternity and catch glimpses of Heavenly light glistening in the darkness – we see a world that already exists and one He's asked us to communicate in a way only we can. We reveal His truths and contend with the deepest mysteries: like hope that never wavers, light that never sputters, and discovering that angels that walk among us.

In faith, we partner with God in this act of co-creation and co-communication. We don't make to garner applause, build platforms, or achieve fame. No, artists with true sight create to communicate the divinity of the Father and the hope-filled messages He's gifted us to share.

We create because we have the gift of seeing His Heavenly light all around us.

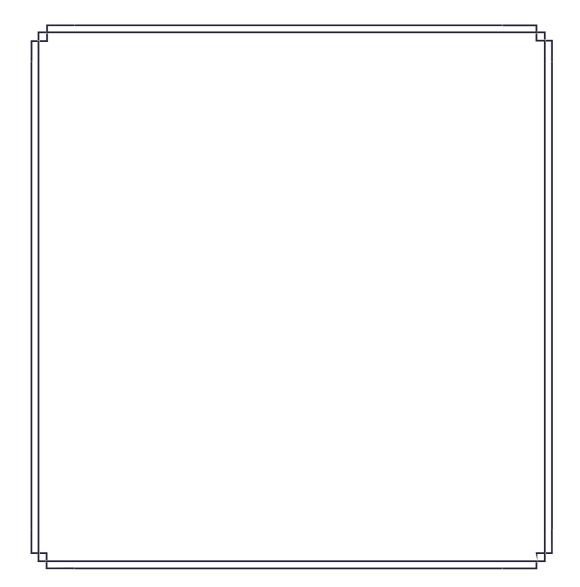
BIBLE VERSES TO REFLECT ON

Hebrews 11:1-3 Genesis 1:1-2 Colossians 1:16 Psalm 19:1-6

JOURNAL PROMPTS

LIGHT A CANDLE. GET COZY. PRAY AND REFLECT.

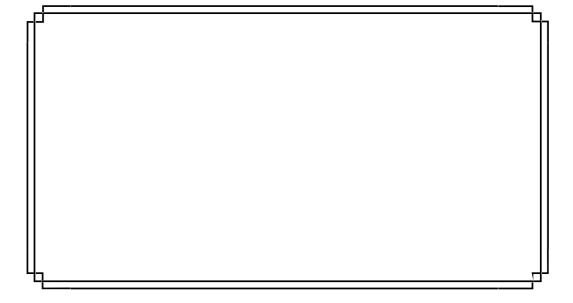
Where do you feel the Lord revealing hidden angels in your life right now?



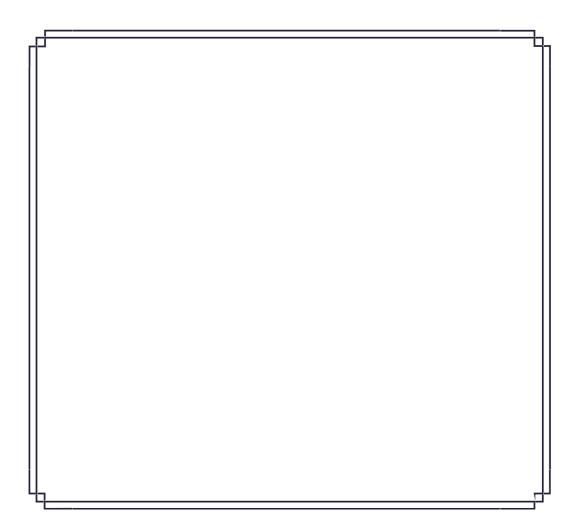
What do you notice in the world or in nature that most don't?



How has creativity been an exercise of faith throughout your journey?



Do you believe God has gifted you with a touch of divine sight? Why or why not?



CREATIVITY PROMPT: HAVE FUN!

Using Michelangelo's quote as inspiration, create something that communicates a divine moment of true sight – that moment when something clicks and a vision or dream forms in your heart. (Paint, scrapbook, write a poem, take a photo, etc. There are no rules, just permission to use your imagination!)