

**Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> November 2013**  
**Awesome 4**  
**Luke Scott**

## **Creativity in the Church**

The start of the thinking for this message started with a conversation with Chris Porteous...

So I believe that we are all created in the image of a creative God therefore we are by Nature creative beings.

I get so annoyed by people who say—when confronted with a piece of art, film or design: "I wish I could do that I'm just not creative enough..."

*All children are artists; the problem is how to remain an artist when they grow up. -Picasso*

Imagine a room full of kids asked to draw a picture, and one says teacher "I'm not creative enough for this". It wouldn't happen because children display a creativity that is untainted and unrestrained

Jesus says in Matt 18:3 unless we become like a child we will not enter the kingdom. What does that mean...? I believe to not only have the faith of a child but to dream like a child, to imagine like a child and to be creative like a child with no restraints and no holding back. Imagining the possibilities in God.

3 main points on creativity in the Church

### **1) Be original**

Too often, Christian media is simply a tidied up reflection of what is current in mainstream media. Christian music for example, is often just rock, or pop or rap. With swear words taken out and a few Jesus' pit in. I agree that there is a need to be relevant to the culture we live in but if we are to be true lights on a hill, to spread the truth to those around us. Gathering up what we see around us and slapping a Christian label on it to try and sell it on, just does not cut it. We need to be original.

Jesus was the epitome of original; his communication was incredibly creative and was like nothing anyone had heard before. He rubbed mud in us guys; you don't be much more original than that.

For me recently I have been pondering the idea of how in my work I can have the mind of Christ. I was given an incredible prophecy last week, that I need to not always seek the technology to find my inspiration bit instead take time out to seek The Lord and spend time in His presence and the creativity and inspiration will flow as a by product of that.

*I believe our job, in the modern day is to be culture shapers not culture mirrors.*

We need to create inspired culture through possessing the mind of Christ: to tell the truth and be original in our telling.

### **2) "Something that is done for the church, need not be done to a high standard"**

This is a terrible lie!

In order to communicate the truth we can not do it half heatedly, nothing gets me more fired up than people who say we haven't really prepared but oh we'll cause that's when god shows up. God gives us talents, abilities and creativity so that we might increase them for his glory. He is not there to take the slack when we don't feel like putting in the effort. If we are to worship in spirit and in truth I believe we are called to do this to the best of our ability, without compromise. Often half the reason the truth that we proclaim through Christian media does not reach a wide audience is because it simply isn't good enough.

### **3) The truth is not always what people want to hear.**

Getting people to listen to something they do not want to hear takes a lot of creativity. And that's why in our calling to make disciples of all men we need creativity more now than ever.

If you are someone who is an artist or any kind or you just feel like you have creativity or ideas bubbling up inside, please come and talk to me after, I would love to talk to you and work along side you to see your creativity realised because it is my vision that GCC would become a place where creativity and originality is celebrated and flourishes.