

HELP! I CAN'T FIND MY CREATIVITY

Michelle Myers

All quotes are from Michelle Myers unless otherwise noted.

HEARTstorming means that before I USE my brain, I make sure my heart is aligned with God, so it can be OPEN, PLIABLE + SOFT

My BRAIN will not naturally produce God's thoughts and God's ways.

H - What is HE saying/teaching me?

God's work depends far more on God than it depends on ME.

If I'm not slowing down to listen + obey, I'm not doing His work, I'm expecting Him to do mine.

PRAYER is productive. If you're not praying about it, it's not ministry.

What is God initiating with me?

E - Am I doing what has been ENTRUSTED to me already?

Feeling "stuck" often makes us think we need something new

Feeling stuck makes us stem from not being diligent enough from where God has us.

Am I pouring in and discipling others?

Am I in genuine community, not just plugged in to users on social media?

Life is a mission field.

A - Am I ACTIVE in the mission?

SERVING is the best way to break through a creative plateau.

God invented creativity.

He created the world we know:

- To declare His glory
- To serve us

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What can I do today to display God's glory? Serve someone else on His behalf.

Don't associate creativity with the crowd – associate creativity with your Creator.

Creativity is for the Creator.

R – Am I working from a place of REST?

Rest does NOT mean COMFORT.

REST means I'm working from a place of:

- Dependence, not drive
- Response, not results

Look at what God has called you to do + look at where He has placed you, ask yourself “Am I working from a place of rest?”

T – Are my feelings TRUE?

Our feelings are not immune to our sin nature, so just like our actions need to be corrected; our emotions sometimes need to be corrected too.

Emotions can be paralyzing and can be overarching in keeping us from serving how we need to.

Feelings make a bad compass.

* Is that person's opinion true or merely their opinion?

* Is this an insecurity (misplaced identity) or a weakness? (human limitation that reminds me of my need for God?)

* Is fear leading faith or faith leading fear?

- “It's okay to be fearful as long as you're still faithful.” – Somer Phoebus

When we are weak and He is strong, that is when His glory is on display.

When we attempt to glorify our insecurity to appear authentic, then we are missing the point of what weakness is - to show that when we are weak, God is strong.

Are we allowing our fears to hold us back from being faithful?

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Commitments of Christ-Centered Creativity:

#1: God is my audience, others are my community.

“But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers.” – Matthew 23:8

We are all followers and sisters.

Lead, but don't get hung up on the idea of being a Leader.

Stay in awe of the fact that you are a sinner who has been saved by Grace.

#2: God is my growth agent, not my creativity.

“I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.” – 1 Corinthians 3:6

Why would you settle for your creativity as your growth agent when you could have God?

Planting + watering (basic activities) appeal to our humility; creativity (activities with the potential for praise) appeals to our pride.

Let God be your growth agent.

#3: When I feel stuck, my instinct will be to fully serve Him.

“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourself fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.” – 1 Corinthians 15:58

When we feel fully stuck, fully serve.

Quick Practical Tips:

#1: PLAY.

Creativity happens in your subconscious, so that bright idea is probably not going to come when you're focused at your desk. It's probably going to happen when you're driving, playing outside with your kids.)

For those of you who know your work day is constantly interrupted, this should encourage you.

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Workaholics are the least creative people because their minds never wind down.

#2: Stop scrolling!

The biggest enemy of your subconscious is scrolling. Don't expose your brain to so much stimulation that it doesn't have time to be creative!

#3: Try new things as often as you can.

What we know is comfortable; what is new stretches us.

#4: BRAIN DUMP.

If your mind is full with tasks you can't forget, your mind won't be clear to create.

#5: Don't be paralyzed by perfection.

#6: Don't waste too much time feeling stuck.

Move on to another task OR do something completely unrelated.

#7: PAY ATTENTION.

Creativity isn't really you coming up with something completely new; it's connecting things that already exist for the first time.

"Creativity is just connecting things. When you ask creative people how they did something, they feel a little guilty because they didn't really do it, they just saw something." – Steve Jobs

Seek God, serve others + pay attention!

If God has placed something on your heart, there is always a way to scale back.

It does not always have to be a big idea that serves the masses.