

Paintbrush Introduction

(Two Perspectives)

Perspective #1

Hello everyone!

Life can sometimes feel like a blank canvas, right? We try to paint it ourselves, but let's be real—it can get messy. I've been there too. I thought I was doing things the right way, but looking back, I realized I was just making one big chaotic masterpiece (and not the good kind).

There's this verse in **Proverbs 14:12-13** (RSV) that really hits home: "12 There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death. 13 Even in laughter the heart is sad, and the end of joy is grief."

Even when things seemed okay on the surface, my heart wasn't in the right place.

But then something amazing happened. I decided to give my messy, hole-filled canvas to Jesus. And you know what? He didn't just fix it—He gave me a brand-new one! A clean canvas!

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come." How cool is that?

I handed over my paintbrush and said, "Okay, Jesus, you take over." And let me tell you, letting Him be the Master Artist in my life has been the best decision I've ever made.

I'm learning to trust Him, to be willing and obedient (**Isaiah 1:19**), and to let Him create something beautiful out of my life.

Even when I mess up now (because, let's face it, we all do), I know He's loves me. **Psalm 51:2-3** says He'll wash me clean when I ask for forgiveness. And **Psalm 51:7** reminds me that His grace makes me whiter than snow. How amazing is that kind of love?

Oh, and here's something I want to share with you—an acrostic for **B.R.U.S.H.** that's been super meaningful to me:

B.R.U.S.H.

- **Born again** (John 3:3, Matthew 6:33, Proverbs 3:5-6): Start each day with Jesus. Put Him first, and everything else will fall into place. (*Brush strokes begin to take place*)

- **Right standing** (Romans 5:17): Through Jesus, you are seen as righteous. Walk in that truth! (*More brush strokes begin to take place*)

- **Understanding** (Matthew 13:23): Be like good soil—ready to receive God’s word and let it grow in your life. (*More brush strokes begin to take place*)

- **Shine** (Matthew 5:16): Let your light shine! Show God’s love and goodness so others can see Him in you. (*More brush strokes begin to take place*)

- **Humble** (1 Peter 5:5): Stay humble and let God lead. He gives grace to the humble and lifts them up. (*More brush strokes begin to take place*)

If this resonates with you, here’s what I recommend:

1. Find a quiet spot and have a little chat with Jesus.
2. Tell Him you’re ready to give Him your paintbrush—your life—and let Him take over.
3. Trust Him to paint something beautiful on your canvas. Then go out and reflect the totality of all that God is. (His love and goodness in everything you do)
4. Keep your heart clean along the way and let God’s masterpiece shine through you.

The Master Artist: Surrendering the Paintbrush of Life

Perspective#2 (Deeper)

Life can often feel like a canvas, a blank space waiting to be filled with the colors and strokes of our choices, decisions, and experiences.

Many of us begin this journey with the belief that we hold the brush, that we are the artists of our destiny.

However, as we navigate through life, we may find that our attempts to create a masterpiece often leave us with a messy, incomplete picture.

This realization can be both humbling and transformative, leading us to seek guidance from the ultimate Master Artist—God.

The Imperfection of Human Efforts

Before surrendering to divine guidance, many of us attempt to **"paint"** our lives based on our understanding and desires.

This approach often feels right in the moment but can lead to unintended consequences. As

Proverbs 14:12-13 (RSV) reminds us:

"There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death. Even in laughter the heart is sad, and the end of joy is grief.

These words resonate deeply for those who have experienced the dissonance between outward appearances and inner turmoil.

Despite our best efforts, our human limitations can result in a canvas marred by mistakes, regrets, and missed opportunities. Yet, there is hope.

A New Beginning: Handing Over the Brush

The turning point comes when we choose to surrender our lives to Jesus Christ. In doing so, we hand over our flawed and damaged canvas—a life marked by imperfections—and receive a new beginning.

John 3:3 (NKJV)

Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

As **2 Corinthians 5:17** (RSV) assures us:

"Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come."

This act of surrender is not a sign of weakness but of wisdom. By giving Jesus, the paintbrush of our lives, we allow Him to take control and transform our brokenness into something beautiful.

It requires trust, **willingness**, and **obedience**, as emphasized in **Isaiah 1:19** (RSV):

"If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land."

The Process of Transformation

The process of letting Jesus paint our lives is not instantaneous; it requires continuous surrender and faith.

Mistakes will still happen, but with God's grace, we can be forgiven and restored. **Psalm 51:2-3** (RSV) offers a heartfelt prayer for this renewal:

"Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me."

Through His sacrifice, Jesus offers us cleansing and renewal. As **Psalm 51:7** (TLB) beautifully states: "Sprinkle me with the cleansing blood and I shall be clean again. Wash me and I shall be **whiter than snow**."

The B.R.U.S.H. Acrostic: A Daily Guide

To live a life surrendered to God requires intentionality. A practical tool for this journey is the acrostic **B.R.U.S.H.**, which serves as a reminder of how to approach each day with faith and purpose:

- B – Born again (**John 3:3, Matthew 6:33, Proverbs 3:5-6**): Start every day with Jesus. Seek His kingdom first, trusting that everything else will align according to His will. (*More brush strokes begin to take place*)

- R – Right standing (**Romans 5:17**): Through Jesus, God sees you as righteous. Embrace this truth and walk confidently in His grace. (*More brush strokes begin to take place*)

- U – Understanding (**Matthew 13:23**): Be like good soil—ready to receive God's word and allow it to bear fruit in your life. (*More brush strokes begin to take place*)

- S – Shine (**Matthew 5:16**): Let your light shine before others. Reflect God's love and goodness so that His presence is evident in you. (*More brush strokes begin to take place*)

- H – Humble (**1 Peter 5:5**): Stay humble and let God lead your steps. He gives grace to the humble and lifts them up in due time. (*More brush strokes begin to take place*)

By incorporating these principles into daily life, we can align ourselves with God's purpose and allow Him to create a masterpiece on the canvas of our lives.

Practical Steps for Surrender

Surrendering your life to God is both a spiritual decision and a practical commitment. **Here are actionable steps to help you give Jesus your paintbrush:**

- 1. Find a private place:** Create a quiet space where you can connect with God without distractions.
- 2. Express your surrender:** Speak honestly with Jesus, letting Him know you are giving Him control over your life.
- 3. Offer your brush:** Symbolically or mentally hand over the paintbrush of your life to Jesus.
- 4. Trust His process:** Allow Him to lead you and shape your life according to His perfect plan.
- 5. Embrace transformation:** Let the Master Artist work on your canvas, turning it into something beautiful.
- 6. Reflect His glory:** Live in a way that reveals God's love and grace to others.
- 7. Stay pure:** Continually seek forgiveness and strive to walk in righteousness.

Becoming a Living Masterpiece

When we allow God to take control of our lives, He transforms us into living masterpieces that reflect His character and glory.

This transformation is not just for our benefit but also for others who witness our journey. By living in alignment with God's will, we become beacons of hope and inspiration.

As we continue this journey of faith, let us remember that life's true beauty comes not from our own efforts but from the work of the Master Artist.

By surrendering our paintbrush to Him, we open ourselves to a life of purpose, grace, and fulfillment—a life that reflects the totality of all that God is.

In future reflections, we will explore another meaningful acrostic—**P.A.I.N.T.**—and delve deeper into how God's artistry shapes every aspect of our lives. Until then, may we each strive to keep our canvases clean and allow God's hand to guide every stroke.

Let us move forward with confidence, knowing that the Creator of the universe is painting something beautiful with our lives.

[Click here.](#) Original source.

[Click here.](#) R.P.G. Prayer Focus (WPF #32) Who is painting your life?