

Who's painting your life?

(Two perspectives)

Perspective #1

Imagine your life as a canvas, and every day, every decision, every action is a brushstroke. Who's holding the brush? Your circumstances? What paint are we using, is it yours or the world?

Or have you handed it over to the Master Artist—Jesus?

Let's break it down with two simple analogies: **P.A.I.N.T.** and **B.R.U.S.H.**

These can guide us in letting Jesus paint the masterpiece of our lives.

P.A.I.N.T.

 **Patience (James 1:2-8):** Life isn't painted in a day. Trust the process, even when it feels slow. Patience builds strength and leaves your canvas complete, not lacking anything.

 **Action (James 1:22):** Don't just hear God's word—live it! Be a doer, not just a listener. Let your actions reflect His work in you.

 **Involvement (Hebrews 4:2, John 15:5):** Mix faith with action and stay connected to Jesus, the vine. Without Him, we can't produce anything meaningful.

 **Nothing is impossible (Luke 1:37, Jeremiah 32:27):** There's no challenge too big for God. Trust that He can handle every detail of your canvas.

 **Teacher (John 14:26):** The Holy Spirit is your guide, teaching and reminding you how to live according to God's plan.

B.R.U.S.H.

 **Born again** (John 3:3, Matthew 6:33, Proverbs 3:5-6): Start a new life with Jesus. Seek His kingdom first, and everything else will fall into place.

 **Right standing** (Romans 5:17): Through Jesus, God sees you as righteous. Walk confidently in that truth!

 **Understanding** (Matthew 13:23, Mark 4:15): Be like good soil—ready to receive God’s word and bear fruit in your life.

 **Shine** (Matthew 5:16): Let your light shine! Reflect God’s love and goodness so others can see Him through you.

 **Humble** (1 Peter 5:5): Stay humble and let God lead. He gives grace to the humble and lifts them up.

When you give the brush to Jesus, He paints a masterpiece that reflects all of who God is—His love, holiness, and purpose for your life.

Each stroke is unique to you: your personality, talents, gifts, and abilities. Maybe your strokes are bold and vibrant or soft and subtle. Whatever they are, they’re beautiful because they’re His work.

So, here’s the challenge: **Hand over the brush.** Let Jesus create something extraordinary on the canvas of your life.

Let Him paint **holiness**. Let Him paint **love**. Let Him paint **obedience**. And watch as He brings out the best colors in you—your gifts, talents, and everything that makes you uniquely you.

You are the canvas, and Jesus is the Master Artist. Give Him the BRUSH and let Him have His way in your life! Allow Him to use His paint! (His word) ✍️🌟

Perspective #2

The Master Artist Jesus: Who's Painting Your Life?

In life, we often find ourselves navigating a blank canvas, unsure of how the final masterpiece will look.

The choices we make, the actions we take, and the values we uphold all contribute to the strokes that define the picture of our lives.

But what if we allowed the **ultimate Master Artist, Jesus Christ**, to take control of the brush and the paint?

What if we entrusted Him to paint a life that reflects His glory, purpose, and love?

Let's explore this idea using **two analogies: P.A.I.N.T. and B.R.U.S.H.**, which serve as guiding principles for allowing Jesus to shape our lives into His masterpiece.

The Analogy of P.A.I.N.T.

The **acronym P.A.I.N.T.** represents key attributes and principles that Jesus, as the Master Artist, uses to create a life that aligns with His divine will.

1. **Patience (James 1:2-8):**

Patience is a foundational stroke in the masterpiece of life. **James 1:2-8** reminds us to consider trials as opportunities for growth, producing perseverance and maturity.

As Jesus works on our canvas, patience ensures that we trust His timing and remain steadfast, knowing that He is perfecting every detail.

2. **Action (James 1:22):**

Faith without action is incomplete. **James 1:22** calls us to be doers of God's Word, not just hearers.

When we allow Jesus to guide us, He inspires us to take intentional steps of obedience and faith, actively participating in the process of creating a life that honors Him.

3. **Involvement (Hebrews 4:2; John 15:5):**

To achieve His vision for our lives, Jesus requires our involvement. **Hebrews 4:2** emphasizes the importance of combining faith with action, while **John 15:5** reminds us that apart from Christ, we can do nothing.

By staying connected to Him as the vine, we allow His strength and wisdom to flow through us.

4. Nothing is Impossible (Luke 1:37, Jeremiah 32:27):

Jeremiah 32:27 declares that nothing is too hard for the Lord. When Jesus holds the brush, He creates possibilities beyond our comprehension.

He transforms challenges into opportunities for growth and demonstrates that no obstacle is insurmountable for those who trust in Him.

5. Teacher (John 14:26):

The Holy Spirit, sent by Jesus, serves as our Teacher and guide. **John 14:26** assures us that the Spirit will instruct us in all things and remind us of Christ's teachings.

With Jesus as our Teacher, we gain clarity, wisdom, and direction as He paints our lives with purpose and meaning.

The Analogy of B.R.U.S.H.

The **B.R.U.S.H.** analogy further illustrates how we can align ourselves with Jesus' artistry and allow Him to craft a life that reflects His character.

1. Born again (John 3:3, Matthew 6:33):

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."

Matthew 6:33 encourages us to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. Starting each day with Jesus sets the tone for a life centered on Him.

When we prioritize Him above all else, He lays down strokes of peace, purpose, and alignment with His will.

2. Right Standing (Romans 5:17):

Through Christ's sacrifice, God sees us as righteous. **Romans 5:17** reminds us that we have received the gift of righteousness through Jesus.

Recognizing this truth allows us to live confidently, knowing that our identity is rooted in Him.

3. Understanding (Matthew 13:23):

In **Matthew 13:23**, Jesus speaks of the good soil that produces abundant fruit. Understanding God's Word and applying it in our lives ensures that we become fertile ground for His work.

This understanding allows His truths to take root and flourish within us.

4. Shine (Matthew 5:16):

Jesus calls us to let our light shine before others (**Matthew 5:16**). By reflecting His love, grace, and truth, we become beacons of hope in a world that desperately needs Him.

As Jesus paints our lives, He uses vibrant colors that radiate His glory.

5. Humble (1 Peter 5:5):

Humility is essential in allowing Jesus to take control of the brush. **1 Peter 5:5** instructs us to clothe ourselves with humility toward one another. When we surrender our pride and submit to His guidance, He creates a masterpiece far greater than anything we could achieve on our own.

Giving Jesus the Brush

The question remains: Who is painting your life?

Are you holding tightly to the brush and paint, attempting to create your own vision?

Or are you **willing** to hand it over to Jesus, the Master Artist?

When we give Jesus the brush, we allow Him to work on the canvas of our lives with strokes of **holiness, love, obedience, and grace.**

Each person's masterpiece will be unique, reflecting their God-given gifts, talents, and personality traits.

Some may shine through artistic abilities like music or painting; others may display charisma or leadership skills. Whatever the way, Jesus uses it to highlight His glory through us.

The Result: Reflecting God's Totality

When Jesus paints our lives, the result is a reflection of all that God is—His love, mercy, wisdom, and power.

The masterpiece He creates is not just for our benefit but also for His glory.

As others witness the beauty of a life surrendered to Christ, they are drawn closer to Him.

The process may involve challenges and moments of uncertainty but trusting Jesus as the Master Artist ensures that each stroke contributes to a greater purpose.

Allow Him to paint your life with vibrant colors of faith and hope.

A Call to Action

Take a moment today to reflect on your life's canvas.

Are you ready to give Jesus the brush? Surrender your plans, dreams, and ambitions into His hands, trusting that He will create something extraordinary.

Let Him have His way in your life. With patience, action, involvement, faith in the impossible, and guidance from the Holy Spirit our Teacher (**P.A.I.N.T.**),

coupled with a commitment to begin with Him daily, live in right standing, understand His Word, shine for Him, and walk humbly (**B.R.U.S.H.**), you can become a masterpiece that reflects His divine artistry.

You are the canvas; let Jesus be the Master Artist who paints your life into something truly magnificent.

What about the Palette?

The reflection on the concept of the "Godly Palette" versus the "Devil's Palette" is thought-provoking. Here's a structured way to expand on this subject:

The Palette Concept

1. Godly Palette

- **Definition:** Represents choices and influences aligned with God's will.
- **Characteristics:**
 - **Harmony:** Living in accordance with biblical teachings (Romans 12:2).
 - **Identity:** A strong sense of self rooted in faith.
 - **Influence:** Surrounded by positive, uplifting influences that promote growth.

2. Devil's Palette

- **Definition:** Represents choices and influences that lead away from God.
- **Characteristics:**
 - **Chaos:** A life marked by confusion and misalignment with divine principles.
 - **Identity Crisis:** Struggles with self-image and purpose due to negative influences.
 - **Worldly Influence:** Exposure to ungodly values that distort one's understanding of identity.

Biblical Reference

- **Romans 12:2:**
 - *"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."*
 - This verse emphasizes the importance of choosing God's ways over worldly influences.

What about the Paintbrush? How does it relate to reading God's word?

Life can be likened to a canvas, where every choice, action, and moment adds a brushstroke to the masterpiece of our journey.

The question is, who holds the brush? Are we letting the world, our circumstances, or even ourselves dictate the strokes? Or are we surrendering the brush to the Master Artist—Jesus Christ?

As we immerse ourselves in God's Word, we allow the Holy Spirit to take control of the brush, painting our lives with His divine purpose and eternal truth.

His Word becomes the paint, rich with colors of faith, hope, love, and wisdom.

To be effective instruments in His hands, we must first know His Word deeply. Only then can we become His paintbrushes, used to touch and transform the hearts of others.

When Jesus walked among us, He painted lives with hope, love, and the will of the Father. He was intentional with every stroke, creating masterpieces that reflected God's mercy and glory.

As followers of Christ, we are called to do the same speaking His Word and reflecting His character so that others may see His beauty through us.

Daily reading is an opportunity for us to grow in this understanding.

By committing ourselves to reading and applying God's Word, we equip ourselves to be stable and effective in sharing His truth.

Just as an artist must know their tools and materials, we must know God's Word to use it rightly.

When we surrender our lives to Jesus, He paints a masterpiece that not only blesses us but also draws others closer to Him.

The process may not always be easy—there will be challenges and moments of uncertainty. However, trusting in Jesus as the Master Artist ensures that every stroke has a purpose and contributes to a greater design.

Let us allow Him to paint our lives with vibrant colors of faith, hope, and love.

Let us also yield ourselves as instruments in His hands, sharing His Word with those around us.

Remember, you are the canvas, and Jesus is the Master Artist. Hand Him the brush, trust in His vision, and let Him create something extraordinary in your life.

May you continue to grow in faith and be a reflection of His glory.

Conclusion

- **Choice:** Each individual has the power to choose which palette they will use in their life.
- **Impact:** The choice between the Godly Palette and the Devil's Palette profoundly affects one's identity and overall life experience.

Reflection Questions

- What influences are currently shaping your life?

Here are the other portions of God's word to consider.

Stay humble.

1 Corinthians 8:1 (RSV)

Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge."

"Knowledge" puffs up, but love builds up.

May your joy be full!

John 16:23-24 (RSV)

23 In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, if you **ask** anything of the Father, he will give it to you in my name.

24 Hitherto you have asked nothing in my name; **ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.**

God's joy in you provides strength!

Nehemiah 8:10 (RSV)

...for the **joy** of the LORD is your **strength**."

Give praise to the Lord before the battle.

Judges 1:1-2 (NKJV)

1 Now after the death of Joshua it came to pass that the **children of Israel asked the LORD**, saying, "**Who shall be first** to go up for us **against** the Canaanites to **fight against them?**"

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2 **And the LORD said, "Judah (H3063, H3034) shall go up.** Indeed I have delivered the land into his hand." (H3034 Praise)

Spiritual clothes for those in Christ.

Garment of praise (Isaiah 61:3)

Garments of salvation (Isaiah 61:10)

Robe of righteousness (Isaiah 61:10)

Clothed with power (Luke 24:49)

Clothed with humility (1 Peter 5:5)

Put on the whole armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-17)

Be encouraged!

Complete verses for P.A.I.N.T.

Patience

James 1:2-7 (RSV)

- ² Count it all joy, my brethren, when you meet **various trials**,
³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.
⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be **perfect and complete, lacking in nothing**.
⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives to all men generously and without reproaching, and it will be given him.
⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.
⁷ For that person must not suppose that a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways, will receive anything from the Lord.

Habakkuk 2:2-3 (RSV)

- ² And the LORD answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain upon tablets, so he may run who reads it.
³ For still the vision awaits its time; it hastens to the end -- it will not lie. If it seem slow, wait **for it; it will surely come, it will not delay**."

Romans 8:24-25 (RSV)

- ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?
²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, **we wait for it with patience**.

Psalms 37:7 (NKJV)

- ⁷ **Rest** in the LORD, and **wait patiently** for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass.

Hebrews 6:12 (RSV)

- ¹² so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through **faith and patience** inherit the promises.

Ephesians 1:13-14 (RSV)

- ¹³ In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised **Holy Spirit**,
¹⁴ which is the **guarantee of our inheritance** until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Action

James 1:22 (RSV)

²² But be **doers** of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Hebrews 10:35-36 (RSV)

³⁵ Therefore **do not throw away your confidence**, which has a great reward.

³⁶ For you have need of endurance, so that you may do the will of God and receive what is promised.

Involvement

Hebrews 4:2-3 (RSV)

² For good news came to us just as to them; but the message which they heard did not benefit them, because it did not **meet with faith** in the hearers.

³ For we who have believed enter that rest, as he has said, "As I swore in my wrath, 'They shall never enter my rest,'" although his works were finished from the foundation of the world.

Hebrews 4:2-3 (NKJV)

² For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being **mixed with faith** in those who heard *it*.

³ For we who have believed do enter that rest, as He has said: "*So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest,' "* although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

John 15:5 (RSV)

⁵ **I** am the **vine**, **you** are the **branches**. **He who abides in me**, and **I in him**, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Nothing is impossible

Luke 1:37 (AMP)

³⁷ For with God **nothing** is ever impossible *and* no word from God shall be without power *or* impossible of fulfillment.

Jeremiah 32:27 (RSV)

²⁷ "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh; is **anything** too hard for me?

Teacher

John 14:26-27 (RSV)

²⁶ But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will **teach** you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

2 Timothy 2:2 (AMP)

² And the [instructions] which you have heard from me along with many witnesses, transmit *and* entrust [as a deposit] to **reliable and faithful** men who will be **competent and qualified** to teach others also.

2 Timothy 2:2 (RSV)

² and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be **able to teach** others also.

John 16:13 (RSV)

¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will **guide** you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.

Our Rome trip

Our guide for our Rome Trip

Don't get ahead of your guide.

In other words, don't get ahead of the Holy Spirit our Guide.

A Reflection on Patience and Spiritual Growth

Allow the layers of paint or God's word set in our heart.

Life can be likened to a canvas, where each decision, action, and moment becomes a brushstroke in the masterpiece of our existence.

Once again, the question arises: who holds the brush—our circumstances, external influences, or ourselves? And what paint are we using—our own choices or the colors provided by the world around us?

Just as a painting requires time for its **layers** to **dry** and **set**, so too does the process of spiritual growth and personal transformation.

Rushing this process can lead to smudges and imperfections. **Patience**, therefore, is not merely a virtue but a necessity in allowing the work of the Master Artist—Jesus—to unfold in its fullness.

His work is always thorough and intentional, provided we approach it with willingness and obedience.

When it comes to memorizing scripture or embedding God's word into our hearts, this principle of patience remains crucial.

Each verse, beginning with its **reference first**, requires time to settle in our spirit. Without this **deliberate process**, the truths we seek to internalize may **blur** or **drip** together, losing their distinct meaning and impact.

Regular review and reflection ensure that these divine brushstrokes remain vivid and enduring on the canvas of our hearts.

Let us embrace this journey with humility and perseverance, trusting that the masterpiece being created within us is worth every ounce of patience and faith.

Feel free to copy, share, and spread God's love! All materials are yours to use.

Hebrews 13:16 (TLB)

Don't forget to do good and to share what you have with those in need, for such sacrifices are very pleasing to him.

[Click here.](#) Who is painting your life? (Much more!)

[Click here.](#) Does anyone have these clothes?

[Click here.](#) Writing God's Word in or on our hearts Spiritual Training Part 13 (Building a Scripture Arsenal) (PDF)