

Mulberry Tree Spiritual Creativity Escape

Connect with the God-instilled creativity in your soul, your conscious uniqueness, as a steward of God's grace, by escaping on your own personal Mulberry Tree Creativity Retreat. Whether you are looking for new creative inspiration, trying to overcome a creative block, or connecting with your own thoughts, this may be the escape you need. Reserve your campsite today.

- This is an opportunity to love the Lord with your soul and let Him inspire your creativity.
- We want to offer you an opportunity to focus on what God has invested in your soul and how to express His grace creatively (1Pet 4:10).
 - How important is human creativity in God's purposes for His children?
 - What is the redeemed human soul and how do we love God with all of it?
- "God is the fountain of life. The only fountain of life. His glorious life is meant to flow through us every day – healing us, filling us with creativity, courage, joy, playfulness, and resilience." – John Eldredge
- "The ability to hear ourselves think is a sacred and rare superpower." – Susie deVille
 - "Collectively, these findings demonstrate that nature provides humans with a tool for caring for our inner voice from the outside in, and the longer we're exposed to nature, the more our health improves." – Ethan Kross
- We are available for Bible studies and creativity coaching on-site, if you are interested, at no charge.
 - "...unearth, remember, and reconnect with their passion, desires, and curiosity." – Susie deVille
- This especially valuable for college students, who are constantly being challenged with relativism, pluralism, and materialism and just need a refreshing and inspiring alternative biblical perspective.
- We are offering a room or an Amish cabin experience for someone to reconnect with their soul, since God wants us to love Him with all our soul. So much of Western culture has distanced each person from their soul, their individual uniqueness, and we are hoping that a nature retreat will help them be sensitive to God's voice, their soul's voice, and its internal yearning for Him.
- Crisis of Disenchantment:
 - "The West has become "disenchanted" – closed to the idea that the universe contains the supernatural, the metaphysical, or the non-material."
 - "No, true enchantment is simply living within the confident belief that there is deep meaning to life, meaning that exists in the world independent of ourselves." – Rod Dreher who wrote "Living in Wonder" (p. ???)

Your Soul's Yearning

- "And you shall love the LORD your God...with all your soul" (Mk 12:30)
- "Be still, and know that I am God" (Ps 46:10)
- "Deep calls unto deep at the noise of Your waterfalls" (Ps 42:7)

God-Instilled Creativity:

- "His [God's] glorious life is meant to flow through us every day – healing us, filling us with creativity, courage, joy, playfulness, and resilience." – John Eldredge
- "The main character of the conscious brain (including the mind) is creativity. The conscious brain is creative. We can create. We have imagination." – Dr Bruce Lipton
- "Creativity is a fundamental human skill. It's something we are born with, that we all need, and that is actually the key to success in any domain, in any way of life, and any way of living." – Balder Onarheim
- "A reasonable man adapts himself to the world. The unreasonable one persists in adapting the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man." – George Bernard Shaw
- "The secret to creativity is to believe there's always an answer. Because if I believe there's always an answer, I'm always searching for the answer. Super-creativity believes there's always a better answer." – John Maxwell
- "But the real value of the creativity doesn't emerge until you are brave enough to act on those ideas. That combination of thought and action defines creativity: the ability to come up with new ideas and the courage to try them out." [Creative Confidence by Tom Kelley and David Kelley, p. 5-6]
 - taking on bigger challenges
 - more resilient in the face of obstacles
 - more persevering
 - greater confidence in life and creativity
- "We all have a dream or an idea or a longing that we were taught to park or ignore or parse out because it's impractical or embarrassing or somehow just not 'what we're meant to be doing.'" [Never Play It Safe by Chase Jarvis, p. 95]
 - "You just have to stop pretending that it isn't there." [Never Play It Safe by Chase Jarvis, p. 95]

Healing from Creativity Scars

- “One reason that I’m confident that shame exists in schools is simply because 85 percent of the men and women we interviewed for the shame research could recall a school incident from their childhood that was so shaming that it changed how they thought of themselves as learners. What makes this even more haunting is that approximately half of those recollections were what I refer to as creativity scars. The research participants could point to a specific incident where they were told or shown that they weren’t good writers, artists, musicians, dancers, or something creative. This helps explain why the gremlins are so powerful when it comes to creativity and innovation.” Brene Brown, *Daring Greatly*
- “Creating something from our depths holds the power to heal us, complete us, and cement soul contracts with others.” [Buoyant by Susie deVille, p. 94]

Creativity Training:

- Self-Efficacy, the belief that I have choices and conceived outcomes, leads to Self-Motivation, the feeling I get when I feel that I have choices. Self-Motivation leads to Self-Responsiveness, which is the ability to ask myself, is this choice worth pursuing.
- Creativity fosters the belief in your own ability to change, which of course enhances your creativity. “You take on tougher challenges, persevere longer, and are more resilient through obstacles.” [Creative Confidence by Tom Kelley and David Kelley, p. 37-39]
- A consistent flow of valuable ideas strengthens Self-Efficacy and leads to a more fulfilling life.
- “As for the growth-oriented needs, [Scott Barry] Kaufman again proposes three: exploration, love, and purpose. We explore our environment for the sheer pleasure of it, we want to feel a deep sense of connection and love with others, and we seek goals worth pursuing to energize our activities.”
- “Creativity is essentially generating ideas that lead to creating new things that have value: ideas that are actualized, ideas that are performed or demonstrated, and solutions that are conceived to address problems.” – Robert Lettau

New Spiritual Vision:

- “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” (Heb 11:1)
- “God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did” (Rom 4:17)
- “And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.” (Matt 21:22)
- “To relook at your work with the eyes of an artist and to dedicate yourself to pushing past boundaries, breaking fresh ground, and investing in novel things will not only significantly raise your inspiration, energy, and personal bravery, it will shift your life from the mundane into the miraculous.” [The Wealth Money Can’t Buy by Robin Sharma, p. 312]

The Danger of Suppressing Creativity:

- “How many of us have become drunks and drug addicts, developed tumors or neuroses, succumbed to painkillers, gossip, and compulsive cell-phone use, simply because we don’t do that thing that our hearts, our inner genius, is calling us to?” [The War of Art, by Steven Pressfield, p. vi, in the section “The Unlived Life”]
- “And that got me thinking further about all the very good people on the planet today who betray their true passions to do labor that makes them miserable, uncreative, and sometimes even sick.” [The Wealth Money Can’t Buy by Robin Sharma, p. 308]
- “The intuitive mind is a sacred gift and the rational mind a faithful servant. We have created a society that honors the servant and has forgotten the gift.” Albert Einstein [Wired to Create by Barry Scott Kaufman, p. 58]
- “And we’re now running national education systems where mistakes are the worst thing you can make. And the result is that we are educating people out of their creative capacities.” – Ken Robinson
- “Very many people lack purpose in their lives. The evidence of this is everywhere: in the sheer numbers of people who are not interested in the work they do; in the growing number of students who feel alienated by the educational system; and in the rising use everywhere of antidepressants, alcohol, and painkillers. Probably the harshest evidence is how many people commit suicide every year, especially young people.” [Finding Your Element by Ken Robinson, p. xiii]
- “Because this mass losing of self, this epidemic of alienation, isn’t happening by accident. It’s the inevitable outcome of a system designed to separate you from you.” [Love+Work by Marcus Buckingham, p. 26]
- “The uncomfortable truth is that, more than likely, no one is worrying about what makes you unique. Nobody is dedicated to introducing you to yourself, to helping you get curious about and build a really deep relationship with you at your best.” [Love+Work by Marcus Buckingham, p. 4]
- “But I made dozens, perhaps hundreds, of other trade-offs in my careers, relationships, and other areas of my life where I willingly, even if unknowingly, swapped my authentic heart and soul for the tidy, well-worn ruts of others.” [Never Play It Safe by Chase Jarvis, p. 12]

Being Alive and Lit Up:

- “Don’t ask what the world needs. **Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it.** Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.” – Howard Thurman quoted in Violence Unveiled
- “**When you do what lights you up,** you do your part to light up a brighter world for everyone. And when you push your magic into the universe, you model possibility for everyone.” [The Wealth Money Can’t Buy by Robin Sharma, p. 308]
- “Embrace the things that send shock waves of excitement through their bodies as they shake off the habits, beliefs, and expectations that have hidden them from what they truly want, **what lights their souls on fire.**” [Buoyant by Susie deVile, p. 136]
- “So while our art cannot, as we wish it could, save us from wars, privation, envy, greed, old age, or death, it can revitalize us in the midst of it all.” Ray Bradbury, Zen in the Art of Writing, Preface]

Connectedness

- “Art is not painting. Art is anything we do as a human where we bring emotional labor to the table to make a connection.” – Seth Godin, Leap First, 2015

Intelligence and Creativity

- “So my point is if you're not being creative, you're not being fully rational. If you don't allow room for the imagination, you're not actually being intelligent, you're merely being logical.” – Rory Sutherland

Solving Problems

- “Because there are hundreds of problems that can be solved with a mixture of better human insight and creative imaginative solutions.” – Rory Sutherland

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