

Creative Submission: Painting



margins

Isaiah Ganesh, Vanguard College Student, 2022

Vastness (Gk. *aperantosýni*): the quality or state of being very large;

This painting represents the uniqueness of God's call: unexplainable, but with many details. The audience should envision what it means to be in the center of God's will. Students at Vanguard College know that, at times, following God's vision and purpose feels like how the backdrop of the painting looks: We may not know where we are going, but we wait with expectancy and patience amidst the grand yet gentle voice of the Holy Spirit.

The four paintings are one:

The first one shows unique lines

(what God is calling you to, is specific only to you),

The second shows a rapid pulsation of movements as a flood in one direction

(God's grace will flow with and follow you),

The third revolves around rough black lines, but shows vibrancy

(though the journey is rough, God will be with you),

The final one shows the broadness of the will of God

(we will not understand everything, but we can focus on the compartments of ministry that God is leading us to in the right time - step-by-step).

The word "Margins" is the focal (center) point of the painting. The idea is that "margins need to become a reality for us, for us to finish well" (MacKnight, personal communication, February 24, 2022). Margins are about us prioritizing how we spend our time. May this be a reminder that time spent wisely is mandatory for achieving effective results in ministry. It all begins with margins, and then on to the broadness of what God is calling us into. Jesus reveals His plan when we align ourselves to Him (James 4:8, Amos 3: 7).

Finally, the flame in the colour beige commemorates the 75th anniversary of Vanguard College (previously known as Northwest Bible College).

I hope this painting brings a sense of peace to you, knowing that the will of God is not a puzzle we can solve, but a canvas in which God has all the details and we do not. Trust Him in the times of hard ministry, but also rejoice in times of thanksgiving. Through it all, let margins prevail.

This painting was inspired by Rev. Mark MacKnight's class on margins in Pastoral Life Issues. It has been donated to Vanguard College and is available to view in the Library foyer.



