

# Be Your Creator's Creation

*by Tammy Winn Bocher*

When taking part in something larger than myself, I often find it exhilarating to recognize how each individual contributes a talent that collectively becomes far greater than what one could offer alone. A personal example that comes to mind is the process of recording an album. In that effort there are many roles, such as songwriter, arranger, singers, musicians, engineer, producer, photographer, artist, graphic artist, duplicator, distributor, and so forth. From the initial spark that inspires a tune to the physical or digital end product there are many people involved. How fun it is to witness and take part in such a synthesis!

Then there are the plethora of situations in life wherein I'm merely a passive recipient of the expertise and teamwork of others. A trip to the doctor's office or a stop at the auto mechanic's shop can acutely remind me of just how much we humans need the varied skills of one another. When I benefit from someone who has discovered their path, and developed certain capabilities in service to society, I am both humbled and deeply grateful. The positive impact we have upon each other in these ways is marvelous!

This leads me to think about vocation and my belief that the more people live out their callings, the better the world functions. And let me clarify that one doesn't need to be paid to live out aspects of their vocation, nice as that may be. Rather, to me, vocation first and foremost is one's unique way of being in the world in which intrinsic gifts are used and shared. Whether or not you make a dime at it isn't the point. Whether or not you receive any public accolades for it does not matter. You live out your vocation because it is who you have been designed to be. And when you settle into those gifts you cannot help but bless others with them.

While I certainly realize it's a privileged position to be able to discern one's talents and contributions, I also think some of us tend to create imagined hurdles to that discernment. We get on the hamster wheel of routines and responsibilities and make excuses to help us avoid becoming who we're being called to be. We forget the sacred responsibility we have to our Creator, to be the creation intended in us. But just imagine if no potential was left unrealized. Imagine if all who could recognize their path would take it. Imagine if all calls were answered... what a beautiful balance this planet would have!

May you be inspired!

Ephesians 4:11-16 speaks to the diversity of gifts among us and how, when we each do what we have been gifted to do, we make our community more Christlike:

“And he gave some as apostles, others as prophets, others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers, to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the extent of the full stature of Christ, so that we may no longer be infants, tossed by waves and swept along by every wind of teaching arising from human trickery, from their cunning in the interests of deceitful scheming. Rather, living the truth in love, we should grow in every way into him who is the head, Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, with the proper functioning of each part, brings about the body’s growth and builds itself up in love.”