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# The Writer's Inkhorn

Volume 13, Issue 3

Continuing Reflections on the Word for Your Personal Growth in Christ

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## “Truth Serums”

Various Scripture References

“**Truth serum**” is an informal name for any of a range of psychoactive drugs used in an effort to obtain information from subjects who are *unable* or *unwilling* to provide it otherwise. (Wikipedia; *italics* mine)

We’ve all seen the old movies where suspects containing wanted information were often given truth serum which they could not resist, thereby causing them to reveal their secrets. As I was preparing today’s inspirational post, this topic, “truth serum,” came to me. And my next thought was that it was to be expanded to be this next issue of the Inkhorn.

The point of these wisdom pieces is to cause you to face the truth about yourself and/or others. I am just crafting this as I go and as He gives it to me, so I ask your patience at the unfolding. I trust that they will not only *bless* you but that they also *propel* you forward in ways that are meaningfully directional and instructive.

**TRUTH SERUM #1**  
**Waiting on a God Who Is Waiting on You**

**The ability to wait patiently is a *virtue*, whose flip side, *procrastination*, is a *vice*.**



*Wait on the Lord and be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: **wait**, I say, on the Lord.* (Psalm 27:14)

*But they that **wait** upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.* (Isaiah 40:31)

*For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, **wait** for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.* (Habakkuk 2:3)

There are many more times in scripture where we are admonished to wait on God and/or to be still. There were times when the Lord firmly stressed to His people to wait on His direction. (Are you familiar with how King Saul got himself in big trouble for *not* waiting on God via Samuel?) We are to wait for God’s timing, if we want to be within His will.

And then, there are times when God is waiting **on** us, waiting **for** us:

*And therefore will the LORD **wait**, that He may be gracious unto you, and therefore will He be exalted, that He may have mercy upon you: for the LORD is a God of judgment: blessed are all that **wait** for Him.* (Isa. 30:18)

I absolutely love this verse from the prophet Isaiah and its surrounding context, expressing that God is waiting on His people to bless and

to be gracious unto them. How wonderful is that? **God** waits to be good to **us**!

Waiting **on** God requires trust **in** God and that is a good thing. Being able to wait patiently is indeed a **virtue**, since far too many of us have what we call knee-jerk reactions to things and make what I will call knee-jerk decisions (too quickly and ill-thought-out).

But here is the rub. On the flip side of the virtue of waiting patiently is the **vice** of procrastination. So, one must be truthful about which side of the coin one finds oneself. If you are truly a procrastinator, it is time for some truth serum. Ask yourself questions that can help you uncover the real cause of your inaction. Are you afraid of failing? Are you afraid of success? (Yes, this is possible, too.) Are you fearful of what others will say about what you want to accomplish? Are you feeling that you are not enough?

Consider this last big question that connects to all of the others: Are you more afraid of **people** than you are of having to answer to **God** for not doing what He has called you to do, destined you to be, equipped you for, or purposed you to accomplish in the earth realm? God never asks us to do **anything** that we are not capable of doing. We **are** enough.

So, be honest with yourself. Are **you** waiting on **God** or is **He** waiting on **you**?

## TRUTH SERUM #2

### Living Fully into Who You Are as a Creative Being

**Your willingness to embrace the totality of who are as a creative being should permeate every aspect of your life.**

The notion of helping people understand what it really means to be created in the image of the great Creator God is one that is near and dear to my heart. So, if you have read or heard anything in the past that I have written or spoken about it, perhaps this will at the least, serve as a reminder if you still need to act on this notion.

*And God said, Let us make man **in our image, after our likeness** ...*

*So God created man in His own image, **in the image of God** created he him; male and female created he them. (Genesis 1:26a, 27)*

*And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now **nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.** (Genesis 11:6)*

*And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri... And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship. (Exodus 31:1-5)*

The above scriptures are my go-to passages when I need to be reminded and/or remind others of the incredible unlimited potential that is within all of us as a matter of birthright – that of being **created** beings in God's image – which of necessity means that we are **creative** beings as well. Particularly in Genesis 11:6, God Himself testifies of the unlimited potential that He placed within us. As the people were determined to build a tower up to heaven, God intervened by confusing their

language to stop them from accomplishing their goal too soon. Think about it. Look at the accuracy with which the pyramids were built. Thousands of years later, they are still standing and yet no one knows quite how they were built with no modern day equipment at the disposal of the builders.

One of my absolute pet peeves in life is hearing people say, "I'm not very creative." As a principal in an elementary school, it was important to me that students were allowed to work creatively in various venues. And even as a college professor in the education department, I would require students to prepare and give their presentations in some type of creative format, and not just read from a paper, since I considered this an important skill to develop for when they had their own classrooms.

Here is something interesting that I watched happen semester after semester. The instant someone got up to present and prefaced their presentation with these words, "I'm not very creative," almost without fail, every other person after that one would start with those same fatal words. It was like something contagious! It was as if saying those words made whatever they had to offer a little more acceptable if they thought they fell short of some invisible standard.

So I had to spend time throughout those nearly two decades of teaching college students, talking about the fact that we *are* creative in different ways and that the first thing to do for each of us is to begin to understand what it means to be created in the image of the great Creator-God, which goes far beyond anything that we can fathom. Even when Adam and Eve sinned and had to be punished and driven from the Garden of Eden, God never took back their being His image-bearers. That was not part of their punishment. Every person born into time is created in God's image.

Your willingness to live fully into and to embrace the totality of who you are as a creative being created in the image of the great Creator-God should permeate every single aspect of your life. Teach this to your children and grandchildren and other people's children. From childrearing to cooking to career, from finances to friendships, from health and wellness to wealth and spending, from personal growth to professionalism, from relationships to religion, you were created **to** create, in every core area of your life. **That** is the essence of what it means to be created in the image of the great Creator-God.

Learning to explore, refine and then harness the unlimited potential within all of us for the good of mankind is the work of life. Here are just a few questions to get you thinking in this creative domain. When is the last time you experimented with creating your own recipe or modifying one to make it uniquely your own? Or, when have you tried a new creative design in some other domain?

What experiences do you provide for your children or grandchildren that are out of the ordinary? Do they have all of the latest and same electronic gadgets as everyone else just because? Do you think up unique things for them to do that they will remember long into adulthood? If you do not have children of your own, do it for other people's children.

Give some thought to these seven core areas of your life and attempt to do at least one creative thing in each area, by taking them one at a time so as not to become overwhelmed: mental, spiritual, physical, familial, financial, personal, and career. You may be surprised to discover that once you open yourself up to the creative vein that is within you by virtue of your human birthright, more creative ideas will flow into you from our great Creator-God who has an infinite supply. Just think, if He gave one new creative thought to each of the



