

Sermon Notes

Pastor Paul Anleitner • July 12, 2026

CULTURE AND THE ARTS

REV. 21:22-27, ACTS 17:22-28, EXODUS 31:1-5

What is culture?

In Christ, cultural _____ is a good and beautiful gift.

Every culture has “guiding stories” and myths that have varying levels of harmony with what C.S. Lewis called the “True Myth.”

We’re called to _____ to the True Story.

The arts are an expression of a culture’s guiding story and values, reflecting the people’s _____.

Discussion questions

1. What’s a movie, show, book, or song that you recently watched/read/listened to that had clear signs of spiritual aches and hungers? What were they? How could you have a meaningful discussion about these with a friend?
2. What’s a time in which you were in a different cultural context and noticed something beautiful and redemptive about their distinct customs or creations?
3. What’s one thing that you like to create that opens up your heart to God and could be a blessing to others?

Worship Songs

- *How Great Thou Art*, Carl Boberg and Stuart K. Hine.
- *Just A Closer Walk With Thee*, traditional gospel hymn.
- *Christ Be All Around Me*, D. Leonard, J. Mooring, L. Mooring, and L. Jordan.
- *For the Beauty of the Earth*, Folliott Sandford Pierpoint and William Chatterton Dix.