



EPISODE 6:

Incarnation

True Beauty “open[s] the pathway for the search for God, and disposes the heart ... to meet Christ, Who is the Beauty of Holiness.” – The Pontifical Council for Culture

As we continue our quest to live our purpose with courage, we may find that we struggle to keep going. We are left asking God, “Where are you?” We long to experience His presence and to feel joyfully and abundantly alive in His love. The Way of Beauty leads us into a deeper encounter with God.

God created us in His image. In His Incarnation, God shows us that the human body is a fitting receptacle for the Divine Presence. This is why Beauty can move us toward the Good and the True: because God meets us in our daily lives through the body and the senses.

Beauty can be seen as a distraction, or even as a deception, because evil is imitative of what is good. The world says that beauty is what glitters, but God shows us that true Beauty is His revelation of Himself. The Holy Face of Jesus is the most beautiful face because it shows us the depths of His love for us.

The Pontifical Council for Culture proclaims that true Beauty “open[s] the pathway for the search for God, and disposes the heart ... to meet Christ,

Who is the Beauty of Holiness.” The Way of Beauty invites us to become like little children again and to rush out to meet God in wonder and joy.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Are there moments in your life when you have felt joyfully and abundantly alive in God’s love? What was this feeling like? How did these moments offer consolation?
2. Think about Dr. Alexander’s statement that “the logic of the sacraments is the logic of Christ.” How does this help you see more clearly the incredible love and mercy that God shares with us?
3. Think about Dr. Sanford’s statement that everything which is evil is a perversion of that which is good. Have you seen this in your own experience? What might this tell you about the true longings of the human heart?

SUGGESTED READINGS

- The paintings of Fra Angelico (especially *The Annunciation*)
- St. Augustine, *Confessions*
- J.R.R. Tolkein, *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*
- Isaiah 53
- St. John of the Cross, “The Dark Night of the Soul”

Notes:
