

Inspired to Create!

by Kari Berglund, USA

[previous article](#) | [home](#) | [next article](#)

Genesis 1 tells the story of God creating everything from nothing. I have always been amazed at the diversity that flowed from His hands. He did not just create a bird; He created thousands of species of birds, each with its own unique characteristics. He created more varieties of insects than we have yet been able to identify. I am even more amazed when I look through the lens of my camera and see the majesty of a sunset or the intricate details of a flower.



I feel most connected to my heavenly Father when I head out to experience His creation with a camera in hand, hoping to create an image that will in some way show a little of His glory. Genesis 1:27 says that God created man in His image, and I believe that His desire to create is one basic aspect of His image in us.

This became more evident to me when I visited the Alhambra in Granada, Spain. I was struck with the beauty of the architecture around me. I realized that even though the Moors were prohibited from making representational art, the God they did not even acknowledge as their Lord instilled in them such a desire to create beauty that they designed amazing, intricate patterns in wood, tile, and concrete. Exodus 31 tells about God calling and gifting artists to create the Tabernacle. It shows that God loves many different styles of art, and that art can glorify Him.



I always try to remember that my urge to create comes from Him and that I must respond by using my talent any way that I can in hopes of glorifying Him. Recently, God provided an opportunity for me to





use the talent He gave me in a new and exciting way: by coupling it with my love of missions. In March 2006, I joined the Women of the Harvest retreat team that traveled to Papua New Guinea and was the

photographer for the two retreats there. I felt privileged to stand on the sidelines and watch the women through my camera lens as they relaxed, worshipped, laughed, and shared special moments with each other. My desire was to capture the heart of these retreats so that others might better understand their importance and meaning to these women.



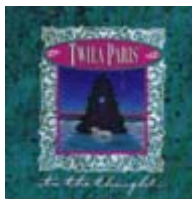
And, as an added bonus, I was able to enjoy some new wonders of God's diverse creation. Although I went into this experience with certain desires and expectations, my faith was stretched in wonderful ways and I was truly blessed by it. I learned a lot about myself and about God and His heart for the people of Papua New Guinea. I even gained some new friendships along the way! My horizons were expanded, to say the least.

PhotoMission exists to visually support the growth of the Gospel. It is a worldwide community of Christian photographers. This ministry is set up to take photo requests that the photographers are only too happy to fulfill. These requests make it possible for Christian photographers to put their talent to use for God's Kingdom, giving them an outlet for artistic expression and a defined role in the Great Commission. For more information about joining or requesting photos, go to their website: www.photomission.com

I believe that God, as the Creator, delights in any creative endeavor we pursue that glorifies Him. So whether you create a home environment or prepare a meal for your family or pick up a brush or a camera to create a picture, I challenge you to go out and create *something*, remembering to thank your Creator for the gift of His image in you.



All photography by Kari Berglund/photomission.com



Kari lives in Colorado. "My favorite Christmas CD (which is hard to choose, I love Christmas music) is Twila Paris' 'It's the Thought'." [Give a listen!](#)

[Comment on this Article](#) | [Return to front page](#) | [Printer-Friendly Version](#)

[HOME](#) | [ABOUT US](#) | [PUBLICATIONS](#) | [SIGN ME UP](#) | [PARTNER WITH US](#) | [FORWARD TO A FRIEND](#) | [CONTACT US](#)