

CHRISTIAN STUDY CENTER *of* GAINESVILLE

“Creative in the Image of God”
Theological Reflections on Imagination and Creativity
Wednesdays, period five (11:45-12:35), beginning September 7, 2016

Description

What does imagination do?

How do you think about creativity?

What ideas and beliefs frame our artistic efforts?

In this class we will begin with a brief look at some of the ideas that frame imagination and creativity in our current cultural context, and then we will consider ways that thoughtful artists in the Christian tradition have answered these questions too. These artists are not only wonderfully creative in their own work but also brilliant in their reflections on the ways that specific points of Christian theology frame and feed their imaginations. The class will conclude with a brief reflection on the artistic creativity of Jesus.

Schedule

Thinking about Imagination and Creativity at the “End of Modernity”

Sep. 7 and 14:

- Self-fashioning – St. Orlean
- Limit-seeking – Marina Abramovic
- The Encounter with Transcendence – George Steiner

Thinking about Imagination and Creativity in the Christian Tradition

Sep. 21 and 28: The Image of God – Hebrew Wisdom

Oct. 5: Culture Making – Andy Crouch [guest speaker: Todd Best]

Oct. 12: The Trinity – Dorothy Sayers

Oct. 19: Sin, the Devil, Redemption, and Depth – Flannery O’Connor*

Oct. 26: Grace – Flannery O’Connor*

Nov. 2: Suffering and New Creation – Mako Fujimura

Nov. 9: Sabbath – Wendel Berry

Nov. 16: Joy – J. R. R. Tolkien [guest speaker: Juan Alcalá]

Nov. 23 [Thanksgiving break]

Nov. 30: Postscript: A Brief Reflection on the Artistic Creativity of Jesus

*As a student in this class you can purchase your own copy of Flannery O’Connor’s *Spiritual Writings* at a discounted price through Pascal’s Coffeehouse. *We strongly encourage you to purchase this book.*

