

The Colors of Love

A painting by Kendra Burton

*Story behind **The Colors of Love** Painting...*

Jesus loves everyone of every color, language, and nationality. His love has no boundaries. He cares for each one of us individually and desires to comfort us and to bring us peace. His joyous smile gives us hope.

The concept of the "Colors of Love" became more apparent as we attended an extended family reunion. I looked around and saw so many colors. Many of us had Native American ancestry. My tall red headed cousin married a beautiful girl who has English and African heritage. Another member of the family was a Hispanic boy. Visiting and laughing together were relatives including those with Brazilian, Japanese, Danish, German, Middle Eastern, and Romanian heritage. They had hair colors of red, blonde, brown, black, gray and white. Some had curly hair while others had hair that was straight, long or short. Some didn't have much hair at all. I saw glistening, cheerful eyes of blue, green, amber, hazel, brown and black. Freckles dotted some people's skin while others had skin of olive or chestnut. Many of these precious relatives joined our family through marriage. Some were adopted from locations in our country as well as from other places around the world.

I saw how beautiful all colors must be in the eyes of our Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ who love each one of us unconditionally. Following their divine examples, we can see the beauty in all of God's children.

In this painting I tried to capture the feelings of our Savior's love, like a beautiful, pleasant day surrounding us with contentment and we hope this feeling never ends. The warm sun is shining on a happy baby who is cradled in the arms of the Savior. This little one represents many children throughout the world.

As I searched to find models for the painting, I told friends and relatives of the idea. A dear friend had recently adopted a child with African ancestry. The baby was only two months old and was a perfect choice. I still needed to find a model for Jesus. One day I spotted him in a store some distance away from where I was standing. I was pleased that he accepted my request and I believe it was more than coincidence that brought us together in the same place at the same time that day.

We are loved. Each of us with our own unique look, personality and abilities can make a difference in this world. In God's eyes every person is an amazing work of art. He sees us as part of a beautiful pallet, each representing the COLORS OF LOVE.

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