



Blooming Inspired Arts

Connecting People to God's Heart Through Creative Expression | Featuring work from the imagination of Michelle Bentham

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Certificate of Authenticity

"Walking in Love"

Series: Paper Dolls

Artist: Michelle Bentham

Size: 11x14 Paper & Canvas

Medium: Mixed Media - Acrylics & Paper

Date: February 9, 2019

This painting is one in a series of mixed-media features called Paper Dolls. Paper Dolls are figures drawn onto watercolor paper and then dressed up with acrylic paints before being fixed to an acrylic background on canvas.

Based on Ephesians 5:2, Michelle developed the paper figure and heart concept for this painting while working on a commission project for a client in 2015. Later, she loved the paper figure so much she recreated her on an 11x14 canvas and "Walking in Love" was born.

"We walk in love, as Christ has loved us, giving Himself for us. Our life surrendered as a sacrifice, a sweet and fragrant offering, wholly pleasing to the Lord our God." - Ephesians 5:2 (paraphrased from the NKJV)

Michelle draws her inspiration in art from her time spent connecting to His heart through intimacy, devotion and prayer. She lives to help others connect to God's heart through creative expression. This painting came to represent a beautiful illustration of the promise that when we are in Christ

we have the power to walk in His love the way He loved us. To walk in the love of Christ toward others, we have to give up our comfort and our time and risk rejection to step out and offer others the love Christ so freely gave us. Scripture says that when we live our lives sacrificially toward others, it becomes a pleasing aroma to our Poppa God!

She painted this piece for display at The Against the Grain Studio in 2017, and her work was hosted there from 2017-2018 in Granbury, Texas.

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A step of faith
a heart that trusts
Jesus made the way
Giving Himself for us
A fragrant offering
A sacrifice
A life surrendered
To walk in Christ
Walk in Love
Give Yourself Away
Reach out to those
You encounter today
A generous gift
Given to God
Is a Life Laid Down
A Friend's Greatest Love

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