

### Exodus 28:3

*So you shall speak to all who are gifted artisans, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments, to consecrate him, that he may minister to Me as priest.*

Artisans, who are they? Well, they are also known as Skilled Craftsmen. You know those who can create beautiful clothing or awesome jewelry or wonderful paintings and sculptures. You know those things we see people do on YouTube or that we see at museums and that we wish we could do, but no matter how hard we try, we cannot create the beautiful things they create. But you know what? That's okay. Why because if you think about it, the artisans that God is talking about in today's devotional verse are not priest. Yeah, so what, you may be thinking. If you think about it, it is a big deal, because without the artisans the priests would not have the garments of glory and beauty to wear.

† **Exodus 28:2** *And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty.*

That should be an encouragement to a lot of us, because there are things that your pastor can not do without you. You may be thinking that I'm not a pastor are an artisan, so what good am I? Well even though the artisan creates the holy garments, they did not supply the materials for it, which are:

† **Exodus 28:5-6** *They shall take the gold, blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine linen, and they shall make the ephod of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine woven linen, artistically worked.*

And if you read on, they would take the gold and beat it into a gold thread, so others would do this work and supply the materials needed for the garments.

Here is another example of things that happen in the church today. The church I am attending right now is a very small church, and they meet in a school every Sunday. That means every Sunday morning several people need to show up early to get everything set up and stay late to tear it down after the service.

Could the pastor do it all? Yes he could, but God has not called him to set up chairs, but to teach the word of God and share the gospel, that's his calling.

† **Acts 6:2-4** *Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."*

For some of us, our calling is to set up and tear down chairs in church each Sunday.

Wow, that sounds exciting, you may think. For me it is, because putting out chairs and setting up tables is a ministry for those who come to church. Without it, people would be sitting on the floor and the sound equipment would not be there and so many other things that we take for granted when we get to church and expect them to be done.

So am I saying you should be doing these things? No, not at all, but rather you may feel that what you do really doesn't matter. The reason you feel that way is because you are not looking at the big picture.

If you think about it, a beautiful painting requires many, many colors to paint that picture. What you do is just one of many colors that paints the picture of what God is doing and the beauty of what He is creating.

What color are you? It doesn't really matter, because the important thing is that without your color being in the mix, the picture just won't be complete.

† **Hebrews 13:20-21** *Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.*