**What Artists See**

Have you heard the expression “looking but not seeing?” We all do this every day… during meals, watching TV, working, shopping or driving. Our brains take in enormous amounts of visual information but don’t necessarily do anything with that information.

Colin Harbison wrote: “Art at its best always invites us to see things in fresh ways and is able to move us to the truth about things.” The artist must not simply *look* but *see ­*– objects, shapes, colors, as well as connections.

Artists who follow the Lord Jesus require more than*artists’ eyes.*Their sight needs to be clothed with insight. Jesus had quite a lot to say about the relationship between looking and seeing... feeling and believing. His stories on this are rooted in the Great Commandment, “You shall love the Lord your God will all of you heart, soul, mind and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself.” If we see what Jesus sees, how will our art be transformed?

**Charles David Kelley** is Latvian-American, a citizen of both countries. Born in Los Angeles, he has lived in Oregon since 1980. His professional training is in Bible, theology, and missiology. Before founding Bridge Builders International, an Oregon based mission that focuses on Latvia, in 1994, Charles served in pastoral ministry in California, Texas, and Oregon for 21 years. He is chairman of BBI’s Latvian affiliate, “Partners.” Charles is founder of the Imago Dei Artists Network which ministers to artists and musicians in Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. He is a member of the Arts Plus Roundtable, Arts Centre Group in London and serves as the LausanneARTS Coordinator for Europe. Charles is an author, pianist, and painter. He lives in Latvia 4-5 months per year. He has been married to Nancy for 42 years and has four grown children and nine grandchildren.

Shall we begin with Shakespeare?

1. **HUMAN EYES –How people see**
	1. By looking
	2. By observing
	3. By seeing
	4. By feeling
	5. By learning
2. **DIVINE EYES – How Jesus sees (Luke 10)**
	1. Through the lens of goodness
	2. Through the lens of beauty
	3. Through the lens of reality
	4. Through the lens of the big picture
3. **CHURCH EYES – How congregations see**
	1. With cultural bias?
	2. With suspicion?
	3. With appreciation?
	4. With openness?
4. **ARTIST’S EYES – How do you see?**
	1. Through the lens of faith (Prov. 29:18)?
	2. Through the lens of human need (Phil. 2)?
	3. Through the lens of vision (Prov. 29:18)?