DECORATE ME: *(Summer Series)*

Do you remember your first place you moved into? Like, your first apartment or home, or perhaps it was on the day you returned from your honeymoon or when you arrived at college...do you remember? Remember when someone handed you the keys? When you signed your name on the dotted line? When you stepped across the threshold and took a deep breath as you looked around your new space, your pad, your crib? Remember how you planned for it? Maybe you bought some new furniture. Perhaps you painted the rooms different colors. You chose your blinds and curtains to match the carpeting, rearranged the furnishings a half-dozen times til it felt right. Maybe you hung pictures, placed plants, dropped throw rugs; you decorated with intentionality and purpose. You set up cupboards and closets and crawl spaces just so; you knew where everything and everyone would live in this new dwelling place.

I hear a Holy God say He wants to be the interior designer of my soul. In fact, He wants it so much, He sent the very Spirit of Himself to make me His dwelling place, to dwell inside of me and you. He moved right in, crossed over that threshold on the day I asked Him in, when I invited Him into my life, to come in and stay, to decorate my soul with intentionality and purpose.

I'm not gonna lie. He has upended some things. Some things had to go. Some things in my soul no longer fit, no longer had a place. He rearranged some stuff when He moved in. He made room for Himself. There were some unwanted guests in my spirit that He wouldn't—He couldn't—cohabitate with. I understood. I got it. I didn't really want to co-exist with them any longer either. He moved some things around, planted some seeds in the soil He was making fertile with His grace and love. He tore down some walls and decorated the new spaces with purposes only He could have known would be a perfect fit for it me. He planted, He plowed, He painted, He designed. He continues to decorate the interior of my life with the good plans He has for me. And I want Him to never move out or go away. So my desire is, to make sure my soul is consistently an invitation to His presence, to His purpose, to His ability to change me, to mold me, to inhabit my praises, to consume my life with Himself. He is now my personal Interior Designer. And He is here to stay.

John 1:14, 'The Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son; generous inside and out, true from start to finish.' (MSG)