

## color 4 relax 4 journal

Sanctuary Toolkit



## Coloring colms the broin + helps the body relax. Color me

## Journaling + Coloring Reduces Stress and Unleashes Creativity

In the realm of mental health, clinical psychologists have discovered that engaging in creative activities, such as coloring + journaling, can have a profound impact on our nervous system. These practices help alleviate anxiety, reduce stress levels, enhance cognitive functions like memory and IQ, and serve as generative tools for healing trauma and promoting overall wellbeing.

## Didya know the state of play in your nervous system is the biochemical opposite of trauma?

Dare to breathe in shalom, stimulate your imagination + encourage neural pathways associated with coloring as a creative, healing state of play and rhythmic ARTvocacy, personally + collectively.

Coloring calms the brain and helps the body relax by focusing awareness on the present moment. Moreover, it can increase the production of dopamine, a neurotransmitter associated with feelings of pleasure + reward. This can improve sleep, and enhance mood while decreasing fatigue, body aches, heart rate, respiration, and feelings of depression and anxiety.

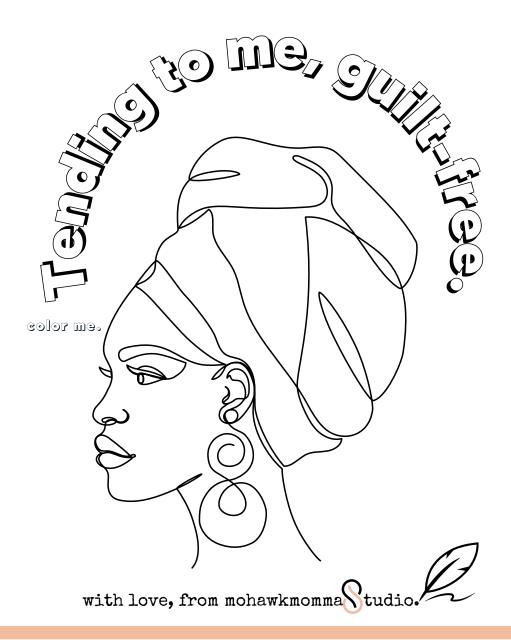
**Perimenopause, Menopause, and Beyond**: As we navigate our soulful transitions, research emphasizes the importance of creative and relaxing practices for managing stress + mood changes. While coloring may not directly alleviate menopause symptoms, embracing activities that amplify peace and play is essential. No matter where you are on your soulful transitions, engage in coloring as a therapeutic tool, granting yourself moments of childlike wonder amid life's ebbs + flows.

May this meditative journaling + coloring guide support you in nurturing your peace. Feel free to pass it along to another sistah who might also benefit from its calming soothe.

Shalom, Pastor Angie

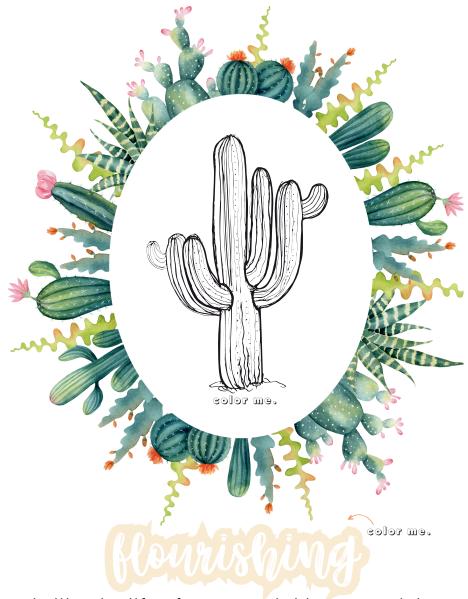






In this moment, tending to me looks like...

Journal your response



...is like the life of a cactus, it blooms at night to conserve water + energy. This is a soul care reminder that blooming is about peace, not performance.

In what way(s) can you nourish a mindset of conserving your energy + inner resources, allowing yourself to bloom with peace rather than striving for constant performance?

Journal your response



