

HOLY WONDER: INTEGRATING ART INTO BIBLE STUDY

I. PURPOSE: FOSTER CONTEMPLATIVE READING

A. Cultural Reading Practices

B. Sacred Reading Practices

II. METHOD:

A. Explanation

B. Exploration

III. EXAMPLE: LUKE 22:39-46

A. Engage the Imagination through Discussion

B. Explore Contemplative Reading through Art

WEB RESOURCES FOR ART AND FAITH

General Databases:

The following websites enable you to do key word searches among collections of art for images that relate to a Scriptural text:

<http://americanart.si.edu/>

<https://fineartamerica.com>

<https://www.gettyimages.com/>

<https://www.metmuseum.org>

<https://www.nga.gov/>

<https://www.wga.hu>

These websites offer recent photojournalism with often excellent and provocative photos.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/photo/>

<http://www.csmonitor.com/Photo-Galleries>

Art and Faith:

<http://artandfaithmatters.blogspot.com>

“Art and Faith Matters” provides meditations upon pieces of art that are linked to the texts of Scripture and the liturgical year.

<https://artandtheology.org/category/visual-art/>

“Art and Theology” is a blog created by Victoria Emily Jones that seeks to rediscover the tradition of the arts in the church and to introduce the church to contemporary Christian artists. The site is expansive in terms of the arts that are addressed and the educational resources that consider them.

<https://www.artway.eu>

“Artway” is an interdenominational and global resource that seeks to equip laity to explore the arts and their intersection with faith. In addition to a comprehensive list of artists and art, the website provides sample bible studies that incorporate art.

<http://ccca.biola.edu/resources>

“Center for Christianity, Culture, and the Arts” is an initiative of Biola University that provides devotional resources, lectures, meditations, and conference presentations exploring the intersection of Christianity and the arts. Each year, they provide a calendar of art and devotional resources for the seasons of Advent and Lent.

<https://civa.org>

“Christians in the Visual Arts” is a non-profit established in 1979 to help build community and shared resources and events among Christians in the arts. They have a listing of exhibitions and monthly featured artists.

<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-search.pl>

“Art in the Christian Tradition” offers a searchable database of religious images within the public domain. The ACT database is also linked with the Revised Common Lectionary for an easier way of finding images related to the liturgical date.

<http://imagejournal.org/>

The website of Image, a quarterly journal of religion and the arts, offers reflections on works of contemporary Christian art in various media.

<http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>

“The Revised Common Lectionary” is a service of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library that offers art images for each set of readings in the three-year Revised Common Lectionary.

<https://scriptoriumdaily.com/category/blog/art/page/6/>

“The Scriptorium Daily” publishes posts by the faculty of Torrey Honors College at Biola University. The essays on art offer close readings of a variety of visual artifacts and how art relates to faith.

<https://repository.library.georgetown.edu/handle/10822/549431>

“Envision Church: Art, Architecture, Liturgy, and Spirituality in the Catholic Tradition” was The Georgetown Center for Liturgy’s interactive resource providing a wide selection of articles on and exhibits of the integration of aesthetics and spiritual formation in the Christian tradition.

<http://smecsundaymorningforum.org>

“Hear What the Spirit Is Saying” is the blog of St. Margaret’s Episcopal Church in Palm Desert CA. It offers posts of visual images and meditations related to the liturgical year.

<http://www.textweek.com/art/art.htm>

“The Text This Week: Art Index” offers a database of religious art linked to Scriptural texts and topics.

<http://www.theworkofthepeople.com>

“The Work of the People” offers multimedia projects exploring Christianity, liturgy, and the arts.

<https://www.thrivent.com/art-collection/>

The Thrivent Art collection offers a database of religious images with commentary on both the artist and the technical aspects of the art.

<https://visualfeast.csl.edu>

“A Visual Feast” is a fledgling collaborative website, with contributions from pastors, poets, writers, and artists, seeking to compile an image and devotional meditation for every lesson of the liturgical year.

Selected Christian Artists:

The following Christian artists offer original artwork and meditations on selected readings of the three-year lectionary.

<http://matthewdrosebrock.blogspot.com/>

<https://paintedprayerbook.com/>

<http://visualtheology.blogspot.com/>

In addition, here are a few websites of Christian artists.

<http://agnusdeiarts.com>

<https://gracecarolbomer.com/home.html>

<http://revdraw.art/>

<https://www.saranordling.com/>

<https://fairuse.stanford.edu/>

The “Copyright and Fair Use” website of Stanford Libraries offers materials for determining fair use and honoring the complicated laws of copyright.