



visual faith

WELCOME!

You've just connected with what we hope will become your new favorite ministry tool...

The one that is SO easy to use.

- The one that you can hand to ANYONE to lead.
- The one that feels like cheating when you use it, because this simple tool so consistently invites the Spirit to “live and breathe and move” in your midst.

Vibrant Faith has been exploring the power of images for spiritual conversation and growth for five years. From the start, we created ministry tools, including our massive image database, to help ministry leaders and families create their own image-based faith experiences. And for years, leaders have asked us, “Where’s the curriculum for this?” Well, HERE it is...

YOU CAN....

You just purchased 52 Visual Faith Experiences—you could dive into one every week for a year with a variety of groups at your church or in homes. Use these simple-but-profound experiences for...

- Small-groups.
- People of all ages (you’ll need to do some adapting for very young children, but you’ll be surprised by the rich conversations these everyday images invite).
- ANY ministry gathering or setting, including team meetings, retreats, Bible studies, faith-formation gatherings or events, and more
- Added “horsepower” for your Sunday School curriculum, or as the curriculum itself.
- GREAT family devotions or conversation-starters (yes, we’ve tested these ideas in homes with real families!) Just text them out to your families so they have them on their devices and can pull them up ON THEIR TIME.
- Individual personal devotions or group devotion experiences.
- On-the-go spiritual conversations—the editable pdf format allows you to easily distribute them electronically, project them on a screen for gatherings, OR (yes!) EVEN print out copies.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW...

At Vibrant Faith our team has invested years of time, passion, and creativity into uncovering the power of images for the formation of faith. Along the way we've shared our many insights, and why we're convinced that the Visual Faith Process is so important for people who want to follow Jesus today.

As practitioners ourselves, we've always known that some people are more "visual" than others as we seek to disciple them toward a vibrant faith. What the church as a whole has not accounted for in our practices is how profoundly visual our world has become. At the same time, we know that people have become less engaged with Scripture, despite many more opportunities to explore it.

Here are a couple of BRAIN insights to encourage you...

- Did you know that looking at pictures, images, and photographs connects with the emotional center of your brain? That is where we actually "see." So processing pictures helps people make immediate internal and emotional connections to their own experiences.
- In author and theologian Dr. Patrick Manning's recent book *Converting the Imagination*, he explores important insights into cognition—our God-given brain functioning: "1. Thought first emerges from *sense experiences as mental images*. 2. Our thoughts are then refined by reasoning and conceptualization. 3. Thoughts return to MENTAL IMAGES that guide subsequent actions."

For the Leader...

As we were developing these 52 Visual Faith experiences, we followed some clear priorities for these experiences that we kept front and center, including...

1. Simple

- Simple to lead.
- Simple to use—at church or at home!
- Simple to share through your devices.
- Simple to experience, as the concise structure of each experience encourages people to dive deep into spiritual conversations and Scripture engagement.

2. Choices

We don't bring the same life experiences to formation and discipleship. So we've created 52 spiritual experiences with choices of overarching Themes, targeted Topics, Image choices, and a Menu of Questions that allows you to flex in the moment according to your context and time constraints. You can shorten or lengthen each experience based on your needs. And you choose to use and deliver them!

3. Topics and Texts

Visual Faith Digital uses Scripture to as the basis for topic-explorations that generate natural, vigorous conversations about what it means to follow Jesus today. Our Contents Page gives you an overview of the Themes, Topics, and Texts so you can plug these experiences into teaching series, mix-and-match to add extra "flavor" to your ideas, or follow your own devotional path. You'll notice a wide diversity of topics designed to engage people at a variety of levels.