



NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

“No person has ever seen God, so He needs your life to be His visual aid.”

Visual Aids

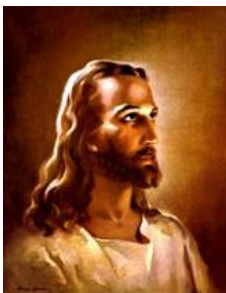
I remember in elementary school the black boards on which the teachers would use chalk as visual aids for learning. I would love when it was my turn to clean the easers. We would go outside and hit the easers together and chalk dust would go everywhere. I also remember in Sunday School seeing flannel graphs to illustrate stories. Then in high school, I was in the AV club and we would take overhead projects, TVs and even film projects to show visual aids in different class rooms. Then in college (before PCs), they used slide projects to project images. (I remember that for a senior project, we borrowed the Science Department’s project and it got lost.) About 20 years later, I then helped with the beginnings of PowerPoint in church announcements. The church, I belong to now, uses 15 projects to give visual aid during each Sunday worship and the pastor is shown on the screen at the satellite locations.

A visual aid that has been used to help lead and encourage many to Christ are the paintings by Warner Sallman. “The Head of Christ, is a 1940 portrait painting of Jesus of Nazareth by American artist Warner Sallman. As an extraordinarily successful work of Christian popular devotional art, it had been reproduced over half a billion times worldwide by the end of the 20th century. Enlarged copies of the work have been made for churches and small pocket or wallet-sized prayer cards, bearing the image, have been mass-produced for private devotional use. The painting is said to have “become the basis for the visualization of Jesus” for “hundreds of millions” of people. The Salvation Army and the YMCA, as members of the USO, handed out pocket-sized versions of the painting to American servicemen heading overseas during World War II. After the war, groups in Oklahoma and Indiana conducted campaigns to distribute the image into private and public spaces. Sallman is also well known for his rendition of the popular image Christ at Heart’s Door. Other popular images produced from 1942 to 1950 include Christ in Gethsemane, The Lord is My Shepherd, and Christ Our Pilot.” Also see [Wikipedia](#) & [Warner Sallman](#) Here is a video :[“Many Grew Up With This Portrait Of Jesus In Their Home But Never Knew It’s Mysterious Story.”](#)

In developing these devotions, I spend a lot of time looking for the right visual image to go with the subject. I believe they are a great aid and they help make them interest. It is said that a picture is worth a thousand words. I do not develop my own images. I am careful not to use copyright images, images of persons’ faces, images that I have to pay for, or brand logos. I have used Sallman’s pictures.

Jesus did not have the means to used visual aids but He did describe images to illustrate many of God’s principles. Example: “I am the vine and you are the branches. You are the light of the world. You should know them by their fruit. Kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed.”

Today, we have the means to share not only the written and spoken word but also visual aids. With the model technology, the message of God can be sent instantly with very little effort and cost to everyone in world. However, with all the mass media online, the presentation has to be attractive, interesting and appropriate to gain and keep someone’s attention. The biggest visual aid of God is us. People are watching us at work, home and at play. If they see that our actions match our message they are more likely to believe.



Charles L Stambaugh

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What type of AV RU?

“Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.” I Cor 11:1



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