

# TEACHING CHILDREN

## Variety of Visuals

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Using a variety of visuals is a key to maintaining the attention of any audience young or old. Any visual is better than no visual. Visuals can be used in every aspect of preaching and teaching. From the pulpit in the auditorium to the memory verse in the preschool class, visuals can be used anywhere. However, the constant use of any one visual over time will produce predictability and more often than not will cause a loss of interest. Variety in visuals is the key.

**WHAT IS A VISUAL AID?** - It is a device or means for aiding the learning process through the sense of sight. *Rom. 1:20, For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:*

### 1. VISUALS – WHY?

#### A. REVEALS THE \_\_\_\_\_ –

People remember more of what they see than what they hear. It is said that people remember 15% of what they hear but 55% of what they see and hear. The eye gate is the key that unlocks the ears.

**Example:** Jesus was the perfect example of how to use visuals to apply a truth.



#### **WHY THEY ARE NOT?**

B. REQUIRES WORK - *Prov. 14:23a "In all labour there is profit...."* Many teachers do not use enough visuals. The usual excuse given is that they lack talent; the real reason that visuals are not used is that teachers are not willing to give the time and effort to utilize them properly.

TIME + EFFORT = \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. VISUALS – WHAT?

A. POPULAR VISUALS – These are tried and true methods used in most churches today that have stood the test of time. These visuals can be used by any teacher and don't require skill or talent. They may require limited time and practice.

1. Flannels – Betty Lukens
2. Power-Point
3. Overhead
4. Dry Erase board
5. Visualized songs
6. Visualized Sunday school Lessons
7. Missionary stories
8. Living stories
9. Bible review games
10. Props – (Offering scale, Memory verse take home handouts, etc.)
11. Prizes – Best behavior
12. Object lessons – common household items
13. Object lessons – homemade props

B. PERSONALIZED VISUALS– These are visual methods that are not used as often because they require not only work as in popular visuals but a level of skill or talent.

1. Chalk Art
2. Ventriloquism
3. Gospel Magic or Illusions
4. Costumed Bible Characters
5. Clowning or Mime
6. Juggling
7. Living Visuals (Live animals, plants, etc)
8. Precision Artist (Karate, Bull Whip Cracking, Blowgun, Knife Throwing)
9. Balloon Animals
10. Puppets
11. Banners



### **III. VISUALS – WHEN?**

A. USE - Remember visuals can be used in every aspect of teaching and preaching.

B. \_\_\_\_\_ – Most teachers have access to several different kinds of visuals in their local church but choose not to use them. Don't limit yourself to a single visual, expand your battery of skills and use a variety of visuals to enhance every part of your class time.

C. \_\_\_\_\_ – Do not make the mistake of using the same visual each time every week in class. This will lead to boredom. No visual, no matter how good, should be overused. When using visuals, variety is the key.

### **CONCLUSION:**

To apply truth in a message or lesson, we must do more than say it, we must show it. God did not just say that He loved us. He showed us. Visuals illustrate a message by entering the eye gate, opening the ears, and affecting the heart.

ANSWER KEY: A. REVEALS THE POINT

TIME + EFFORT = WORK

B. UNDERUSE

C. OVERUSE