



JESUS AS THE METAPHORICAL THEOLOGIAN

PARABLES IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE



PARABLE OF THE PRODIGAL SON

LUKE CHAPTER 15



Set the scene:

Three people in the scene –

Father = God

Older Son = Law Keeping Sinner

Younger Son = Law Breaking Sinner

Visio Divina for Evangelicals

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Using Art & Scripture

Art & Spiritual Formation

Evangelicals generally do not connect art and spiritual formation. They are often so “word-centered” that they look at other forms of spiritual expression as being too mystical in nature.

“Art helps us understand the complexities of theology and of life and awakens our spirits to the wonder of God’s Word and God’s world.”

Terry Glaspey – *Discovering God Through the Arts*

Visio Divina for Evangelicals

Evangelical Visio Divina
(Divine Image)

Evangelical Visio Divina is
experiencing the presence of God
through art and God's Word.

Visio Divina for Evangelicals

1. PREPARE:

- Quiet your mind before God.
- Ask the Father to draw you closer to him through this experience.
- Give him permission to speak to you in whatever way he desires.

Visio Divina for Evangelicals

2. MEDITATE:

- **Focus on the image:**

- First impressions – What is the first thing that catches your eye?
- Thoughts – What comes to mind as you view the image?
- Emotions – What emotions arise as you look deeper at the image?
- Details - Notice color, shape, contrast, lighting, etc.
- Scripture – What passage(s) from God's Word come to mind?

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MEDITATE:

- **Focus on Scripture:**

- Find and read aloud the Scripture passage(s) from above.
- How does the image capture the basic message of the scripture?
- How does the image capture the details and nuances of the Scripture?
- What attribute(s) of God does the image portray?
- What is God personally saying to you through the Scripture and the image?

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3. RESPOND:

- **Praise:**

- Praise God for what he has revealed to you about himself.
- Praise God for what he has revealed to you about yourself

- **Commit:**

- What actions are you being prompted by the Father to take?
- Commit to following through with those actions.

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Focus on Scripture:

- Find and read aloud the Scripture passage from Luke 15:11-32.
- How does the image capture the basic message of the scripture?
- How does the image capture the details and nuances of the scripture?
- What attribute(s) of God does the image portray?





RESPOND:

- **Praise**

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- **Commit**

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Repentance in 1st century Judaism :

You must do three things:

- 1. Confess sin**
- 2. Make compensation**
- 3. Demonstrate sincerity**

Parable of the Lost Younger Son:

Request – ANE to ask for inheritance is to say... “Drop Dead!”

**Man does not want God to have
dominion over him.**

Actions in the story:

Younger Son – What he asks

Older Son – What he doesn't do

Father – What he grants

Younger Son's Actions:

- 1. Turns property into cash quickly**
- 2. Wastes inheritance on expensive living**
- 3. Embarrassed / Afraid**
- 4. Broken relationship / No broken law**
 - a) I have sinned**
 - b) Make me a skilled craftsman**

Father's Actions:

- 1. Watching**
- 2. Running**
- 3. Costly demonstration of unexpected love**
- 4. Restores son**
 - a) Ring**
 - b) Robe / Shoes**