

Digital Storytellers: The Art of Communicating the Gospel in Worship

Chapter 8

From digital church leaders Len Wilson and Jason Moore, Digital Storytellers assists churches in moving past a dated multimedia or audio-visual mentality when producing media for worship. The digital culture values story and experience, which means that producers of worship in congregations will learn how to represent the Word as image and art in the production of digital worship media. New models for worship are offered, and tactics for change are proposed so that timid congregations, as well as small and medium sized congregations can become digital storytellers. The following functions as Chapter 8 for the book. It provides specific techniques and resources for becoming effective storytellers in the digital age. For a more complete understanding of what a digital storyteller is and why it matters to the church, buy the book/DVD. Further resources, articles, a message board and much more may be found at the web site of the authors, <http://www.midnightoilproductions.com/>.

Graphic Tutorials

The Midnight Oil website has 6 online tutorials. These training resources require a one-time, free sign up on the site. Each tutorial contains a fully illustrated PDF document and all necessary source material to create the final product.

- <http://www.midnightoilproductions.com/training/tutorials.php>
For additional information on building images and the design process, please see Design Matters: Creating Powerful Imagery for Worship by the same authors (Abingdon, 2006).
- https://www.midnightoilproductions.com/store/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=218

Resources for Digital Storytelling

These sites provide free and inexpensive digital art source material for worship. While the US copyright act of 1976 says that any image may be used in the context of worship without violating copyright, you will need to secure permission to republish most of these in any other form. We're not assuming responsibility for any content on any of these or other recommended sites. If you have additional sites that you'd like to add to the list, please contact us here via the message board.

- <http://www.photolib.noaa.gov>. This National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration site contains over 25,000 public domain photos of various nature scenes. The site instructs that while they are free, credit must be given to the NOAA.
- <http://terra.nasa.gov>. A collection of public domain satellite and space images available from the National Aeronautic and Space Administration.
- <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/graphics/photos/gallery.htm>. A collection of various farm and nature images from the Agricultural Research Service Information Staff.
- <http://www.usda.gov/oc/photo/opclibra.htm>. Another incredible collection of images from a government agency. This one has a variety of photos from wildlife to firefighters.
- <http://www.freeimages.co.uk>. A free collection of stock photography from a British service.
- <http://www.morguefile.com>. More free images.
- <http://www.sxc.hu>. Yet more free images.
- <http://desktoppub.about.com/cs/freephotos>. A collection of links to various free photo sites from the helpful staff of About.com.
- <http://www.freefoto.com>. You will be amazed at the amount of free stock photos that are available for non-commercial (i.e., worship) use out there.
- <http://www.free-clip-images.com>. A frequently used collection of photos, including some classic image.