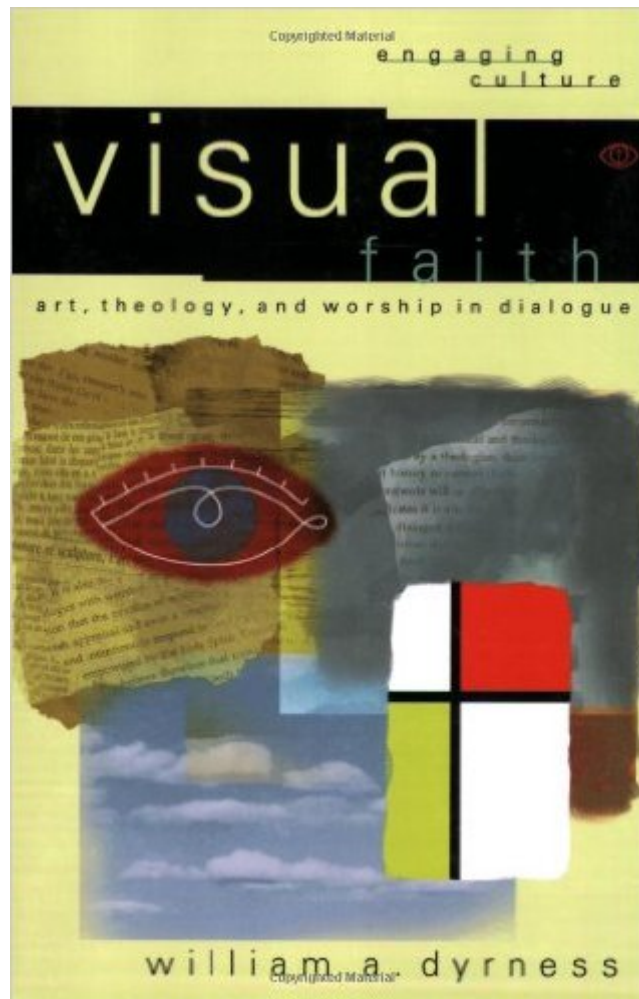


The book was found

# Visual Faith: Art, Theology, And Worship In Dialogue (Engaging Culture)



## Synopsis

How can art enhance and enrich the Christian faith? What is the basis for a relationship between the church and visual imagery? Can the art world and the Protestant church be reconciled? Is art idolatry and vanity, or can it be used to strengthen the church? Grounded in historical and biblical research, William Dyrness offers students and scholars an intriguing, substantive look into the relationship between the church and the world of art. Faith and art were not always discordant. According to Dyrness, Israel understood imagery and beauty as reflections of God's perfect order; likewise, early Christians used art to teach and inspire. However, the Protestant church abandoned visual arts and imagery during the Reformation in favor of the written word and has only recently begun to reexamine art's role in Christianity and worship. Dyrness affirms this renewal and argues that art, if reflecting the order and wholeness of the world God created, can and should play an important role in modern Christianity.

## Book Information

Series: Engaging Culture

Paperback: 190 pages

Publisher: Baker Academic; First Edition edition (November 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0801022975

ISBN-13: 978-0801022975

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #432,766 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #210 in [Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Themes > Religious](#) #631 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Worship & Devotion > Ritual](#) #2600 in [Books > History > World > Religious > Christianity](#)

## Customer Reviews

I really enjoyed how this book looked very practically at the arts and the evolution of them within the church. It gives not only a historical requirement to continue to press for more artistic use and involvement in the modern movement of the church, but also gives practical ways in which to do so. If you're involved in creative arts ministry in any capacity, you probably should read this book in order to get your bearings.

This book brings a whole new perspective to the table of Christianity and the arts. Dyrness is able to argue that such things are an essential part of Christian life, especially if we are to live holistically. I enjoyed it very much.

Dyrness focuses on visual art. The book offers a history of the visual arts, an exploration of what the Bible says about art, and an overview of the contemporary art scene. Dyrness's book is in Baker's Engaging Culture series, which means it is a scholarly work and therefore more heavily nuanced and technical than most readers will want. Nevertheless, the book would be very helpful for those hoping to understand the visual arts better, particularly in conjunction with a Christian worldview. For my brief review on this book and most of the books out there on Christianity and the arts, see: [theologyforreallife.com/artsbooks](http://theologyforreallife.com/artsbooks)

William A Dyrness, *Visual Faith: Art, Theology and Worship in Dialogue* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2001) This book critiques the traditional Protestant prejudice against visual arts and aesthetics, and invites Christians to have new vision for the arts and a recovery of visual imagination. Until the Renaissance, art was made almost purely for devotional purposes, but Calvin and the Reformation distrusted images and elevated the word as primary. Recently, society's resurging interest in the visual arts (and the images of popular culture) has been paralleled by a renaissance of interest in the arts among Christians. Theologians like Paul Tillich and Francis Schaeffer paved the way, and Dyrness expounds the wealth of theological justification for celebrating the beauty, creativity and imagery of art. The art world can be confusing with its proliferation of forms and styles. It is a context that does not suit modern Christians who like convincing, rational presentations. Yet it is a rich context for exploring meaning, spirituality, and worship in interactive, collaborative and visual ways. Dyrness is Professor of Theology and Culture at Fuller Seminary and his love of art and its interaction with theology is contagious. Emerging churches that are seeking to enjoy and worship with beauty and creative arts will find helpful background here. Originally reviewed in Darren Cronshaw 'The Emerging Church: Spirituality and Worship Reading Guide.' Zadok Papers S159 (Autumn 2008).

Good content on a topic seldom treated well by Christian authors. It was occasionally "dry" and difficult for the reader to stay interested. I strongly recommend *Saving Leonardo* by Pearcey instead!

I bought the Kindle version of this book. All the photo's that are found in the paper copy are not in the kindle version due to "right restrictions." The book talks about these images, so it is difficult to learn when the photos are not included in the book. I would not get the kindle version. Overall it is a good book (so far) I haven't read through the entire book yet, but I like they talk about christian tradition. It is a good book for my theology and the arts class.

Even though there is an technical aspect to the book. The only regret is the e-book is not allowed to show the pictures it is referencing as they are copyright material.

Awesome deal and MEGA fast shipping!

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Visual Faith: Art, Theology, and Worship in Dialogue (Engaging Culture) Praise and Worship: The Essence of Hebrew Worship [Praise and Worship vol 1]: (Praise and Worship Series of books and audios on messianic music) Becoming A Nurse Educator: Dialogue For An Engaging Career Worship Musician! Presents The Worship Band Book: Training and Empowering Your Worship Band A More Profound Alleluia: Theology and Worship in Harmony (Calvin Institute of Christian Worship Liturgical Studies) The Feminism and Visual Culture Reader (In Sight: Visual Culture) Bonhoeffer and South Africa: Theology in Dialogue John Wesley's Theology Today: A Study of the Wesleyan Tradition in the Light of Current Theological Dialogue Black Theology in Dialogue Meaning of Christ: A Mahayana Theology (Faith Meets Faith) The Art of Worship: A Musician's Guide to Leading Modern Worship Harvesting the Fruits: Basic Aspects of Christian Faith in Ecumenical Dialogue Resounding Truth: Christian Wisdom in the World of Music (Engaging Culture) Eyewitness Visual Dictionaries: The Visual Dictionary of the Human Body (DK Visual Dictionaries) Visual Workplace/Visual Thinking: Creating Enterprise Excellence through the Technologies of the Visual Workplace Common Worship: Daily Prayer hardback (Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England) Open My Heart to Worship: 11 of the Most Popular Praise and Worship Songs Masterfully Arranged for Solo Piano (Sacred Performer Collections) The Praise & Worship Fake Book: An Essential Tool for Worship Leaders, Praise Bands and Singers! The Worship Pastor: A Call to Ministry for Worship Leaders and Teams Unceasing Worship: Biblical Perspectives on Worship and the Arts

[Dmca](#)