

Picture This!

Guidesheet



Welcome

We cannot see God, but we can see God's work and presence in other persons, in our world, and nature. "Picture This!" will offer you the opportunity to keep an eye out for God's presence in all the places you already live, work and travel. After all, God is at work already in your life and community.

You don't have to be a great photographer to take photos that express something about the nature or work of God. Most cameras today take good photos, and in this case, it's more important to learn how taking these photos help you think about God than how well the photos turn out. So relax and see what develops!

Getting Started

To participate, you only need to do three things.

1. Have a camera. Use a digital camera, a film camera, or even a disposable camera.
2. Commit to carrying your camera around with you (where allowed) and taking photos that seem to express something about God or God's work in the world.
3. Agree to supply your photos on CD-ROM to the designated person at your church.

Ideas for Photos

- People: Close up photos of faces can be expressive, try not to always look for or ask for smiles.

Unexpected photos can be better than posed ones. Also, consider people doing various tasks or activities.

- Places: Some places seem to speak to us of God's presence, power or activities. Churches, crosses, cemeteries, hospitals, farms, etc. Try to take photos of one part of a building or place, rather than trying to get the entire place in a shot.
- Nature: Plants, animals, sunsets, clouds, storms, lightening, etc. can all express something of God. What's around you? Small details can sometimes be more interesting than large ones.

A Few Tips

- Zoom in. Fill the frame with your subject. Pay attention to lighting (shadows can sneak in). Remember that most flashes are ineffective beyond 15-25 feet.
- If using a digital camera, turn off digital zoom (optical is okay) and set your quality level to high.
- Remember that even professional photographers take many photos before they get one special one. It's okay if all your shots aren't perfect.

How to Submit Your Photos

Please submit your photos on CD-ROM. If you are using a film camera, most photo development vendors will gladly place your photos on a CD-ROM at the time of development. Most will also make CDs from your digital camera's memory card.