

## Media Centers: Graphic Arts Studio

This activity is designed to help children, youth and adults grow in their understanding and desire to share the Good News as they explore the role of visual arts in defining and shaping our culture. Participants will recognize the significance of symbols and visual arts in proclaiming and imprinting a message upon our hearts and minds. They will celebrate the gift of belonging to God's global family as they honor the work of artists of La Palma, EL Salvador. They will make a cross to proclaim the wonders of God's creation.

Other resources have been designed to integrate the content of each learning center with the overall theme. The FPBN Gathering activities will introduce and distribute them for participants to use as they move through the "Go -Tell" Media Centers. FPBN I.D. Cards will recognize each participant as a member of the Faith Public Broadcasting Network and "Go-Tell" megaphones will be utilized to celebrate Jesus' invitation (Matthew 28:19) to go tell God's Story. "Go-Tell" stickers have been designed to distribute and display key learnings from the "Go-Tell" Media Centers on the megaphones for future reference.

The Leader's Notes for this activity, along with any needed preparations and supplies, are outlined below. A Program Planning Grid (PDF file) is available to assist you in coordinating the details and tasks involved. You may wish to display a sign to identify each learning center. A Media Center sign design (PDF file) is provided for this purpose.

**Approximate time:** 15 minutes ( with additional time to complete and return the coloring sheets)

### Equipment and Supplies:

- ["Go -Tell" reference sheet #5](#) (PDF file)
- ["Go -Tell" sticker sheet E](#) (PDF file)
- [Cross Instruction Sheet](#) (PDF file)
- ["Go -Tell" table tents](#) (PDF file)
- [Planning Grid](#) (PDF file)
- AVERY #5366 file labels (2/3" x 3 – 7/16")
- Cardboard boxes
- A packet of art designs or coloring sheets (See Cross instruction sheet)
- Bright or neon markers
- Strapping tape
- Staple gun
- 50 sheets of 11" x 17" paper

### Leaders Notes:

Assemble the structure of the cross prior to your event. Refer to the [Cross Instruction sheet](#) for necessary supplies and complete the tasks involved. Complete a sample coloring sheet to display as an easy reference.

Allow time for ordering and shipping the packet of special art designs or coloring sheets. Call Mia Cortez in the ELCA Division for Global Mission to order a packet of templates. (800) 638-3522, ext. 2642. There is no charge for this resource.

Make a copy of the “Go -Tell” reference sheet #5 and use the file labels to print “Go -Tell” sticker sheet E. Place a sticker on a megaphone for easy reference. See [Proclamation Station: Now & Then](#) to download the pattern and instructions for making a megaphone.

Make a “Go-Tell” table tent to identify the location of this activity. Fold the sheet lengthwise and cut along the solid line of the megaphone above the fold to set it apart from the rest of the table tent. Designate a number to identify this activity in the space provided.

Display the “Possibilities for Proclamation” sheet that identifies some of the ads, billboards and other visual arts people have seen. It was used in the Proclamation Station: Now & Then Gathering Activity.

### **Activity:**

Display the Possibilities for Proclamation sheet that focuses on ads, signs or billboards and other visual arts. Identify some of the signs that include symbols most people associate with a product, store or rule of the road. (Include the golden arches, the red bullet or the big red “K”, “a red hexagon road sign, a yellow circle with a smile face and a heart) Point out that the church has visual arts and imagery that characterize our faith and leave an imprint on our hearts and minds. Refer to the cross, the baptismal font used in the rite of Holy Baptism and the plate and the cup used for the Rite of Holy Communion. They all proclaim powerful images of faith and affirm God’s presence and activity in our lives.

Refer to the ‘Go-Tell” reference sheet #6 as you recognize that all of creation can be a reflection of God’s amazing power and creativity.

Mention that every culture and country has unique traditions that shape the images of faith they share. Learning about them expands our own understanding of faith and inspires our desire to find creative ways to share it.

Introduce the El Salvador Cross craft. Explain that the village of La Palma, El Salvador is known for its unique style of art and design. They have a passion for bright and lively colors to celebrate God’s gift of life and creation. It has become a significant way to proclaim God’s story. If you’d like to share other information about El Salvador and its culture, check out [http://www.elca.org/dgm/country\\_packet/index.html](http://www.elca.org/dgm/country_packet/index.html)

Display “Go-Tell” reference sheet #5 and distribute the “Go-Tell” stickers as you celebrate the visual arts God displays to reveal God’s handiwork. Encourage participants to adhere the stickers to their megaphone for future reference.