

Art analysis

Girl with a pearl earring

Introduction

1. What does the study of this topic show us about God Himself?

God's work is perfect.

God's kingdom - the pearl of great value.

God is light.

2. Which scripture passages illustrate this aspect of God?

Genesis 1:27 "And God made man in his own image...."

Romans 1:20 "...God's invisible qualities...."

Genesis 1:31 "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."

Matthew 13:45-6 "The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls...."

Psalms 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

3. How does understanding God in this way change our lives, or make us more like Jesus?

God has made each one of us uniquely beautiful.

By spending time with God in prayer and meditating on his word we are transformed – inwardly and outwardly.



1. Are any of these the original Dutch masterpiece of *Girl With A Pearl Earring*?
2. When was it painted? Where was it painted? Who was the painter? Who was the girl?
3. Why is it so valuable and iconic?
4. What was underpainting and why was it practiced?
5. Why would the young woman be wearing Turkish turban in Holland?
6. What is meant by *oeuvre*?
7. Pearls were linked with status and virginity, this drop earring may have been something the artist simply invented and added. See what you can find out about this peculiarly shaped pearl.
8. What is the attraction of having the model look over her shoulder rather than face front on?
9. When was the modern novel written? Who was the author?
10. When was the movie made and who were the main stars?
11. Can you suggest some other ways to modify or parody the famous painting for effect?
12. What is the story Jesus tells in Matthew 13:45-46?
13. Cut and paste a photo of a pearl onto your page and find out what the price the best ones command.

14. Homework

15. Choose a famous painting that is iconic, cut it out and develop an activity sheet in the style of this one
16. State where the painting is hung, and its size.
17. Ask 10 questions about it. Next week you will swap sheets with a colleague who will find these answers.
18. Include any Christian or Bible references that the art work raises.