

BVI Illustrator Style Guide

Bible Visuals International hires freelance illustrators on a per-project basis. Before beginning any illustration work, each artist must sign a contract outlining the agreed-upon scope of work, with compensation based on an agreed-upon rate per finalized illustration. If you are interested in being considered for future projects, please review the guidelines below. If, after reviewing the guidelines, you believe your skills may be a good fit for our work, please send a resume and samples of your work to info@biblevisuals.org.

General Skills & Expectations

- **Technical Skills:** Artists must be comfortable providing the final, approved illustration as a digital .PSD file with appropriate layers. This should include clean B/W line-art appropriate for a coloring book on its own layer, colors and textures for individual figures/objects on their own layers, etc., allowing BVI to easily isolate individual elements as needed for our uses.
- **Illustration Process:** Though allowances are made for creativity and stylistic choices, artists will be provided with rough sketches or reference photos, and should be prepared for multiple rounds of feedback and revisions before finalizing any elements of an illustration.
- **Communication & Timeliness:** Artists should be prepared to work efficiently, strive to meet target dates for completion, and communicate in a clear and timely manner. We understand many of our artists have other jobs, projects, and obligations vying for their time, and the nature of the creative process can lead to unanticipated delays. Target completion dates will be established at the time of signing the contract, and artists will be expected to communicate any anticipated (or unanticipated) delays as they arise.

Stylistic Expectations

- **Realistic Representation:** BVI strives for a realistic and dynamic style in our illustrations, as opposed to cartoonish, caricature, flat, or other similar styles. By this, we expect human figures to be correctly proportioned and represented in realistic environments, with appropriate colors, shading, and texture. See below for examples from some of our current published materials, representing the work of multiple artists.
- **Historical & Cultural Accuracy:** Many of our resources take place in different cultures and times in history. It is always our goal to represent these differences accurately, to the best of our ability. This can require some research! When able, BVI will offer reference photos and information from our own research on things like clothing styles, architecture, flora/fauna, etc., as appropriate to the illustrations in question. Similarly, when stories are about real, historical figures, we will provide photos (if available) to ensure an accurate likeness.
- **Appropriate for Children:** As a publisher for children's ministries, the audience of our resources is primarily elementary-aged children. Artists should keep this in mind! For example, our stories and Bible lessons occasionally involve moments of violence (war, injuries, persecution, etc.). These illustrations require extra care to accurately represent these parts of a story in a way that is still appropriate for a classroom setting.

Sample Illustrations

