Research Week Submission

Photography

Inquire - Laura Hart

Research Problem Statement:

I wrestled with the way I wanted to show doubt taking over. I decided to do a portrait with half the face covered somehow to show how doubt can creep in but then take over fully so easily if we let it. This picture depicts the taking over affect that doubt can have on you and make you feel like you’re constantly hiding behind either the doubt itself, or trying to hide the doubt behind other things.

Communication Objective:

The goal of this photo was to communicate the lyrics: “Doubt comes in on sticks but then kicks like a horse.”

Visual Solution:

For the photo, I took a dramatic portrait of a girl hiding half of her face behind two leaves that she is holding up. I used dying leaves to show the way doubt can make you feel inside and then edited in black and white to add depth to the emotions behind this idea.

Production:

The photo was taken of my sister on a cold and rainy day and I just positioned her to fit the emotions I wanted to portray. I used a Canon camera and then edited to black and white in Lightroom and adjusted the contrast slightly.
While brainstorming this project, I wanted to not only convey doubt, but also show a little hope. God has given us a great capacity for emotion, but that doesn’t mean that we have to sink into all the sad emotions and dwell in them. There is a time and a season for all kinds of emotions: happiness, grief, hope, doubt. In the photo, I didn’t want to cover the subject’s whole face because I wanted to show that while she is doubting, God has given us each hope.