**Bible Metaphor Examples**Metaphor: A figure of speech that suggest a similarity

An image which suggests similarities between two different ideas, without implying that they are identical. Scripture uses metaphors extensively, as a way of illustrating aspects of its teaching.

**Examples of metaphors for God**

Father [Deut 32:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Deut+32.6&t=NKJV); [Isa 64:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isa+64.8&t=NKJV); [Mal 2:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mal+2.10&t=NKJV); [Eph 4:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Eph+4.6&t=NKJV)  
Rock [Deut 32:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Deut+32.4&t=NKJV) See also [1Sa 2:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Sa+2.2&t=NKJV); [2Sa 22:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Sa+22.2&t=NKJV); [Ps 62:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ps+62.2&t=NKJV); [Ps 78:35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ps+78.35&t=NKJV)  
Shepherd [Ps 23:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ps+23.1&t=NKJV) See also [Ps 28:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ps+28.9&t=NKJV); [Ps 80:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ps+80.1&t=NKJV); [Eze 34:11-16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Eze+34.11-16&t=NKJV)

**Examples of metaphors for Jesus Christ**

Bread of life [Jn 6:35-51](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jn+6.35-51&t=NKJV)  
Good shepherd [Jn 10:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jn+10.11&t=NKJV), [14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jn+10.14&t=NKJV)  
Light of the world [Jn 8:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jn+8.12&t=NKJV); [Jn 9:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jn+9.5&t=NKJV)

**Examples of metaphors for the Holy Spirit**

Counsellor [Jn 14:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jn+14.16&t=NKJV), [26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jn+14.26&t=NKJV); [Jn 15:26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jn+15.26&t=NKJV); [Jn 16:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jn+16.7&t=NKJV)  
Breath [Ge 2:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ge+2.7&t=NKJV); [Job 32:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Job+32.8&t=NKJV); [Job 33:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Job+33.4&t=NKJV); [Job 34:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Job+34.14&t=NKJV)  
Wind [Jn 3:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jn+3.8&t=NKJV)

**Examples of metaphors for the church**

Bride [Rev 19:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Rev+19.7&t=NKJV); [Rev 21:2-9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Rev+21.2-9&t=NKJV); [Rev 22:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Rev+22.17&t=NKJV)  
Household of God [Eph 2:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Eph+2.19&t=NKJV); [1Ti 3:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Ti+3.15&t=NKJV)  
Body of Christ [Ro 12:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ro+12.4&t=NKJV); [1Co 12:12-27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Co+12.12-27&t=NKJV); [Eph 1:22-23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Eph+1.22-23&t=NKJV); [Col 1:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Col+1.24&t=NKJV)

**Parables by Jesus Christ in His Ministry**

**Reasons** for Jesus Christ’s use of parables [Mt 13:10-15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mt+13.10-15&t=NKJV); [Mk 4:10-12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mk+4.10-12&t=NKJV); [Lk 8:9-10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Lk+8.9-10&t=NKJV). **See also** [Isa 6:9-10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isa+6.9-10&t=NKJV).

**Parables relating to Separation of the saved during the Kingdom, not to eternity:** Sower [[Mat. 13:1-9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mat.+13.1-9&t=NKJV)], Tares [[Mat. 13:24-30](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mat.+13.24-30&t=NKJV)], Mustard Seed [[Mat. 13:31-32](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mat.+13.31-32&t=NKJV)], Leaven [[Mat. 13:33](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mat.+13.33&t=NKJV)], Hidden Treasure [[Mat. 13:44](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mat.+13.44&t=NKJV)], Pearl of Great Price [[Mat. 13:45-46](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mat.+13.45-46&t=NKJV)].

**Parables showing the structure of the coming Kingdom:** Wedding Dinner/Guests [[Mat. 22:1-14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mat.+22.1-14&t=NKJV)], Fig Tree [[Mat. 24:32-35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mat.+24.32-35&t=NKJV)], Faithful and Wise Servant [[Mat. 24:45-51](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mat.+24.45-51&t=NKJV)], Virgins [[Mat. 25:1-13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mat.+25.1-13&t=NKJV)], Talents [[Mat. 25:14-30](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mat.+25.14-30&t=NKJV)], Pounds [[Lk. 19:12-27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Lk.+19.12-27&t=NKJV)].

**Interpretations** of parables given by Jesus Christ [Mk 4:33-34](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mk+4.33-34&t=NKJV).

**See also** [Mt 13:18-23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mt+13.18-23&t=NKJV); [Mk 4:14-20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mk+4.14-20&t=NKJV); [Lk 8:11-15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Lk+8.11-15&t=NKJV); [Mt 13:36-43](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mt+13.36-43&t=NKJV); [Mk 7:17-23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mk+7.17-23&t=NKJV).