

FEMALE METAPHORS FOR GOD

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Genesis 1:27 Women and Men created in God's image

"Humankind was created as God's reflection: in the divine image God created them; female and male, God made them."

Hosea 11:3-4 God described as a mother

God: "Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I who took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them."

Hosea 13:8 God described as a mother bear

"Like a bear robbed of her cubs, I will attack them and tear them asunder..."

Deuteronomy 32:11-12 God described as a mother eagle

"Like the eagle that stirs up its nest, and hovers over its young, God spreads wings to catch you, and carries you on pinions."

Deuteronomy 32:18 God who gives birth

"You were unmindful of the Rock that bore you; you forgot the God who gave you birth."

Isaiah 66:13 God as a comforting mother

God: "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem."

Isaiah 49:15 God compared to a nursing mother

God: "Can a woman forget her nursing child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you."

Isaiah 42:14 God as a woman in labor

God: "For a long time I have held my peace, I have kept myself still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor, I will gasp and pant."

Psalm 131:2 God as a Mother

"But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me."

Psalm 123:2-3 God compared to a woman

“As the eyes of a servant looks to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, YHWH, until you show us your mercy!”

Matthew 23:37 and Luke 13:34 God as a Mother Hen

Jesus: “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!”

Luke 15:8-10 God as a woman looking for her lost coin

Jesus: “Or what woman having ten silver coins, is she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”