

Biblical Images that Remind us of What God's Preferred Future Is....

- Peter's vision of inclusion, Acts 10-11, What has been called unclean is now clean
- We are to go to the highways and byways to call people in
- Great Commission
- Jeremiah 31: I am making a new covenant with you, the law will be written on our hearts. Maybe our denomination shouldn't be so legalistic.
- Revelation 21: New heaven and a new earth, we have to see creation and community in new ways.
- Luke 12: Jesus sending out the 70, hospitality
- Jesus and the Temple: Rituals had replaced true devotion
- Deuteronomy 6: The Shema, have God's word written on our hearts
- Train up a child....
- Psalm 119
- Proverbs 3: 5-6: Trust in the Lord your God with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding
- God has a plan, you meant it for harm but God used it for good (Genesis 39)
- Micah 6: 1-8 and Jesus. Call of the prophets to focus on communities that have no voice
- Jesus moving around, not rooted in one place
- Our image of church may be radically different than God's
- Joseph in the pit
- Jesus—parables of the kingdom, poor soil or healthy soil
- Ruth—she is foreign
- Jonah
- Laborers in the field
- Prodigal Son
- Behold I make all things New
- Earth Church, Acts 2
- Woman at the Well, honest conversations, meeting of cultures, different perspectives
- Acts 15: Earth Church, the first reformation, questions of openness and newness
- Job—With God's help and perseverance and overcoming hard times
- Psalm 23—Trust, prioritize the will and protection of God
- Sermon on the Mount and Beatitudes, roadmap of conduct
- Psalm 139—God's Wisdom
- Ruth and Naomi—What compels us? Trust, love, intergenerational?
- Ecclesiastes—a time for everything, what time is it?
- Themes of journey, wilderness, trial and teaching
- Prodigal Son—Shuffling of churches and congregations, forgiveness, grace and welcome possible return
- Good Samaritan, bad luck Jew story, how to we reach out for help?
- Parable of the Talents—Where are they? How do we invest?

Biblical Images that Remind us of What God's Preferred Future Is....

- Children of Israel—Wilderness. Leaving what you know. Seeming scarcity.
- Go out two by two and say peace (to all). Without many provisions
- Ruth gleaning, leaving things for those in need, making provisions for everyone.
- Jacob, Esau, Joseph and his family. Reconciliation, letting go of trust, fear. Unity.
- Body of Christ.
- Rehab—God can use anyone.
- Abrahamic Promise—No matter what I will be your God and you will be my people.
- Good Samaritan—help someone not like you, reaching out.
- Clearing the Pigs of demons—Go to the “other side” where it not always safe
- Loaves and Fishes—Wandering wilderness, manna provided, what you have will be enough, you give them something to eat—radical hospitality
- Can we feel fed?
- The Angel—Do not be Afraid!
- Acts—Functions of the church, community and caring
- Jesus and the Disciples—follow instructions, work out details as you go, one step at a time
- When community works together—everyone has enough
- Pentecost—transition to ministry, Jesus physically present
- Disciples acquiring donkey or colt for Jesus. They had a sense of purpose, willingness to focus, being sent outside the “group”
- John—So many people wanted to see Lazarus, intention of leaders to kill Lazarus as well as Jesus.
- We are not focused on Jesus, we are distracted.
- Jesus in the desert—looking for home and grumbling
- Gathering of children to Jesus
- Loaves and fishes for hospitality
- Noah and fresh start, rainbow colors and new community and confession
- Abraham and Sarah called to a new land (scary)
- Ezra and Nehemiah—prayer and rebuilding
- Acts—believers holding things in common
- Hagar and Ishmael—saved
- Book of Acts—sent into the world to do Jesus' work
- Time between Ascension and Pentecost
- Great Banquet and unfamiliar table
- Miriam's dance celebrating God's work
- Wilderness—Exodus
- Micah 6:8
- Jesus—yesterday, today, tomorrow
- Parables of the lost, mustard seeds, growing to a tree from something small
- Jesus going off to pray

Biblical Images that Remind us of What God's Preferred Future Is....

- Joshua—reminder of faith across the Jordan, conversation better than conflict
- Fool rebuilding barns and accumulating
- Phoenix—rising and dying
- Find the Risen Christ, where is Jesus?
- The Church preaches realism in a culture of fantasy, the battle is real
- Three days entombed, sitting in stuck times
- We have a priority of comfort, discomfort is avoided, instead of seeing this as a part of growth and change
- Commitment—are we willing to die, a daily question
- Dying and Resurrection, over and over
- Operating on Fear: A culture of fear
- Jesus spent three years in ministry to get welcomed on Palm Sunday and then by the Cross
- Ephesians 5 Callings, beyond deacons, elders