

Sacred texts

Christians

- The parables are found in the Bible, in the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
- Jesus used parables to teach his followers about important values, often challenging their existing beliefs and prejudices. This made him unpopular with the Jewish elders.
- He used parables or stories so that normal, uneducated people could understand his teaching by relating what he taught to the world around them.
- Although the parables are set in the world of 2000 years ago, the values being taught through them are just as important and relevant today.
- They are commonly used in church ceremonies, in school assemblies and in Bible study groups at home.



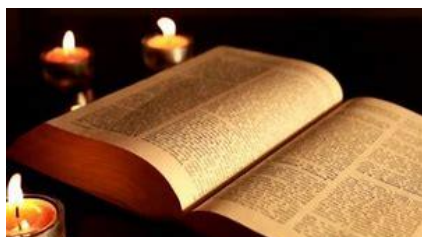
The parable of the Good Samaritan

Hindus

- Hinduism does not have one holy book but many ancient texts and scriptures.
- The Vedas are a collection of four books written in Sanskrit, around 1500BC, although before then, they were passed down orally through the generations.
- They have stories about the Hindu gods, instructions for rituals, hymns, poetry and prayers. Inside them are mantras, which are phrases chanted at religious ceremonies.
- One of the main values taught in the Vedas is Satya (truth). Without truth, the universe and reality cannot function; lying is a type of sin.
- They state that Krishna is the Supreme Person, the god of all gods.



The Bible



The Vedas



Key Vocabulary

parable	Simple story used to explain a moral lesson
Gospel	The teachings of Jesus Christ
interpretation	Explaining the meaning of something
Veda	Means "knowledge"
scripture	Sacred writings of a religion
Sanskrit	A very ancient Indian language
mantra	A phrase chanted in religious ceremonies