

## FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN SELECTED WORSHIP SONGS

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### ABSTRAK

*Penelitian ini membahas bahasa kiasan dalam lagu ibadah. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui jenis bahasa kiasan yang digunakan dalam lagu-lagu pujian, untuk mengetahui jenis bahasa kiasan yang paling dominan digunakan dalam lagu pujian, serta untuk mengetahui alasan jenis bahasa kiasan yang paling dominan digunakan dalam lagu pujian. Skripsi ini menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif. Data dari penelitian ini adalah bahasa kiasan yang ditemukan dalam lagu pujian. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa terdapat enam jenis bahasa kiasan yang digunakan dalam lagu pujian terpilih, antara lain metafora, hiperbola, paradoks, personifikasi, metonimi dan simile, dimana total data berjumlah 80 data dengan persentase 100%. Dari keseluruhan data tersebut, metafora terdapat pada 32 lirik dengan persentase 40%, hiperbola terdapat pada 15 lirik dengan persentase 18,75%, personifikasi terdapat pada 14 lirik dengan persentase 17,5%, paradoks terdapat pada 10 lirik dengan persentase 12,5%, simile terdapat pada 5 lirik lagu dengan persentase 6,25%, dan metonimi terdapat pada 4 lirik lagu dengan persentase 5%. Setelah menganalisis lirik lagu pujian terpilih, penulis menyimpulkan bahwa jenis bahasa kiasan yang paling dominan adalah metafora. Alasan mengapa metafora merupakan jenis bahasa kiasan yang paling dominan digunakan dalam lagu-lagu pujian yang dipilih adalah karena bahasa kiasan ini mempunyai kesatuan yang dapat mewakili perasaan atau mengungkapkan pikiran, kesetiaan, keyakinan dan pengharapan kepada Tuhan secara kompleks sehingga lebih mudah dipahami. Selain itu, bahasa kiasan ini juga mampu menyampaikan isi hati dan pikiran seseorang kepada Tuhan secara mendalam, meski hanya melalui lagu ibadah.*

**Kata Kunci : Bahasa Kiasan, Lagu, lagu pujian**

### ABSTRACT

This thesis discusses figurative language in worship songs. The purpose of this research is to find out the types of figurative language used in selected worship songs, to find out the type of figurative language that is most dominantly used in praise songs, and to find out the reasons for the type of figurative language that is most dominantly used in praise songs. This thesis uses a qualitative descriptive approach. The data from this research is figurative language found in praise songs. The results of this research show that there are six types of figurative language used in selected worship songs, including metaphor, hyperbole, paradox, personification, metonymy and simile, where the total data is 80 data with a percentage of 100%. From the total data,

metaphor is found in 32 lyrics with a percentage of 40%, hyperbole is found in 15 lyrics with a percentage of 18.75%, personification is found in 14 lyrics with a percentage of 17.5%, paradox is found in 10 lyrics with a percentage of 12.5%, similes are found in 5 song lyrics with a percentage of 6.25%, and metonymy is found in 4 song lyrics with a percentage of 5%. After analyzing the lyrics of selected hymns, the author concludes that the most dominant type of figurative language is metaphor. The reason why metaphor is the most dominant type of figurative language used in the selected worship songs is because this figurative language has a unity that can represent feelings or express thoughts, loyalty, belief and hope in God in a complex way so that it is easier to understand. Apart from that, this figurative language is also able to convey the contents of a person's heart and thoughts to God in depth, even if only through worship songs.

**Keyword : Figurative Language, Song, Worship Song**

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Humans are generally recognized as beings created by God, endowed with reason and intelligence, who interact with their surroundings in everyday life. In social contexts, individuals must cultivate effective relationships with others to share opinions, viewpoints, ideas, thoughts, and feelings, which is facilitated through communication via language. This underscores the essential role of language as both a tool for communication and a means of connecting people socially. Language is fundamentally a system of conventional spoken or written symbols used by people to communicate with one another, making it crucial for both verbal and written interactions.

According to Wibowo (2001:3), language consists of a system of meaningful and articulated sound symbols that are both arbitrary and conventional. This system is employed by groups of people to express feelings, ideas, and thoughts. Hence, language serves as the most effective medium for conveying these elements through communication. Verbal communication, which involves using clear and precise words, is a primary method of expressing one's feelings and thoughts. Additionally, language can be conveyed through songs, where the lyrics allow the author to articulate their emotions and ideas.

Songs are structured sequences of musical notes combined with rhythm and poetic elements to create a harmonious and meaningful composition. They are often used to deliver messages to others and are characterized by their ability to express emotions and ideas. To captivate listeners, songwriters must craft lyrics that are both aesthetically pleasing and engaging. These lyrics frequently employ various language styles, including figurative language, which enhances their impact.

Figurative language involves using words in non-literal ways to convey meanings indirectly, providing aesthetic and emphatic value to the message. It enriches expressions by offering deeper and more nuanced meanings, making the text more engaging and enjoyable for readers. Understanding figurative language is crucial because it provides a more vivid and precise depiction of meaning beyond the literal interpretation of words. By using figurative language, one can offer a broader perspective and enhance the listener's or reader's engagement with the content.

Figurative language encompasses various types, such as simile, metaphor, allegory, personification, metonymy, hyperbole, paradox, allusion, irony, and litotes, and can be found in diverse sources

like song lyrics, poetry, novels, and speeches. Its use adds vibrancy and clarity to the text. In particular, analyzing figurative language in song lyrics can reveal deeper, often hidden meanings, which is why worship songs, known for their rich spiritual content, are a significant focus of study. These songs often include figurative language that conveys moral values, faith, and spiritual insights, making them an intriguing subject for examining how such language affects listener comprehension and engagement.

## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **a. Semantics**

The term "semantics" originates from Greek, where the noun *sema* means "sign" or "symbol," and the verb *semaino* means "to mark" or "to symbolize." Semantics is a branch of linguistics that focuses on studying meaning, encompassing various aspects such as types of meaning, how meaning is formed, and how it changes over time. The process of meaning formation and change is influenced by multiple factors, both internal and external to the language.

According to Patada (2010:2), semantics involves understanding various aspects of meaning, including its forms, types, and components, as well as the causes behind words having multiple meanings. This field provides insights into how meanings are comprehended and how changes in meaning occur. Additionally, Sudaryat (2009:3) defines semantics as the study of the relationship between signs or symbols and their meanings. This perspective suggests that meaning emerges from the user's experience, which then guides the interpretation of referents.

The study of word meanings is a fundamental part of linguistics, which aims to describe and analyze languages in depth. Understanding semantics involves examining how meanings are constructed

and how they relate to other meanings and societal influences. Thus, semantics serves as a theoretical framework for investigating language meanings, focusing on the aspects and components that convey specific interpretations within a language.

### **b. Figurative Language**

Figurative language is a style of expression where words are used in a non-literal way to convey messages creatively and imaginatively. This approach aims to produce a specific effect on the reader or listener, often by using language in a way that deviates from its conventional meaning. By distorting the usual meanings of words, figurative language helps to create vivid images and convey abstract ideas more effectively, making them easier for the audience to visualize.

According to Pradopo (2012:61), figurative language is described as a linguistic unit with an indirect meaning and intent, which is often embedded within the explicit text through the use of poetry and other expressive techniques. This style of language serves to attract attention, clarify abstract concepts, and evoke imagery, allowing readers to experience a range of meanings and emotions beyond the literal interpretation. In literary works, figurative language functions as a prism, revealing multiple layers of meaning.

Waluyo (2003:83) similarly notes that figurative language is employed by writers to convey ideas in a distinctive manner, often indirectly. This technique enables authors to express particular meanings in a non-traditional way, enhancing the richness and depth of their communication. By utilizing indirect expressions, figurative language adds nuance and complexity to the text, engaging readers in a more profound way.

Keraf (2010:136) adds that figurative language involves describing or comparing one thing with another to make the description clearer, more engaging, and more dynamic. This use of imagery is a technique for enhancing the expressiveness of language. Figurative language thus plays a crucial role in shaping how ideas are perceived and appreciated, making the text more vibrant and memorable.

In summary, figurative language is a method of conveying meaning through creative comparisons and indirect expressions. It broadens the scope of interpretation and enriches the reader's experience by presenting concepts in imaginative ways. This approach not only attracts interest but also helps readers to grasp and appreciate the deeper, often abstract, elements of the text without relying on direct statements. Keraf (2009: 138), there are several types of figurative language, including: *Personification, Metaphor, Simile, Hyperbole, Metonymy, and Paradox.*

#### 1. Personification

Personification is a rhetorical device that attributes human traits, emotions, or actions to non-human entities, such as inanimate objects or abstract concepts. This figurative language technique is used to make these entities appear as if they possess human-like qualities, enabling a more vivid and relatable description. For example, consider the sentence: "The angry roaring sea washes over the shore with its fury." This is a case of personification because it describes the sea as being "angry" and "roaring," and as possessing "fury," which are human emotions and actions. In reality, the sea does not have feelings or emotions; it cannot experience anger or fury. The personification here creates a dramatic and evocative image, helping readers to imagine the sea's powerful and turbulent nature in a more human-like way.

In summary, personification is used to imbue non-human elements with human characteristics to enhance description and emotional impact. By attributing human-like attributes to objects or concepts, personification allows for a more engaging and imaginative portrayal.

#### 2. Metaphor

Metaphors are a literary device used to describe abstract concepts such as emotions, relationships, or other elements by comparing them directly to something else, effectively blending two different ideas into one. This technique allows for a more vivid and imaginative explanation by equating one thing with another in a straightforward manner. According to Keraf (2009:139), a metaphor involves making a direct comparison between two different things, treating them as if they were the same.

For instance, consider the metaphor: "Reading is a storehouse of knowledge." This comparison equates reading with a "storehouse," implying that just as a storehouse is a place full of valuable items, reading is a source rich in knowledge. This metaphor emphasizes the idea that reading provides extensive and valuable information, much like a storehouse contains a wealth of goods. It highlights the significant role that reading plays in acquiring and storing knowledge.

In summary, metaphors are used to convey complex ideas and emotions by likening them to something more familiar and concrete. This technique not only enriches the description but also helps the audience understand and visualize abstract concepts more effectively.

#### 3. Simile

A simile is a figure of speech that makes a direct comparison between two different things using comparative words such as "like," "as," "than," or "seems." Unlike a metaphor, which implies the

comparison more subtly, a simile explicitly states the similarities between the items being compared through specific words or phrases. According to Keraf (2009:138), a simile involves an explicit comparison that clearly identifies the connection between the two compared elements using terms such as "like" or "as." For example, the simile "His hopes were high like a mountain" compares the man's hopes directly to the height of a mountain. This comparison is made using the word "like," which indicates that the man's hopes are as lofty and ambitious as a towering mountain. This simile effectively conveys that the person's expectations or aspirations are extremely high and almost limitless, emphasizing a sense of strong optimism.

In summary, similes are used to make clear and explicit comparisons between two different things to enhance understanding and create vivid imagery. By using comparative words, similes provide a direct and relatable way to describe qualities or states, making abstract ideas more tangible and comprehensible.

#### 4. Hiperbole

Hyperbole is a rhetorical device used to make exaggerated statements that are not meant to be taken literally. This figure of speech amplifies the description of an object or situation to emphasize its qualities, often to the point of absurdity. According to Keraf (2009:139), hyperbole involves exaggerating details to an extreme degree to highlight or draw attention to a particular characteristic or effect. For example, the statement "Her voice is so beautiful that it can shake the heart" is a hyperbole. This description exaggerates the impact of the person's voice, suggesting it has such a profound effect on listeners that it can physically "shake" their hearts. This exaggeration emphasizes the extraordinary beauty and emotional power of the voice, conveying a sense of

overwhelming admiration and impact that goes beyond the literal capability of a voice.

In summary, hyperbole is used to create a strong impression or emotional response by presenting an exaggerated view of an object or situation. It draws attention and adds emphasis through overstatement, making the described quality or effect more dramatic and memorable.

#### 5. Metonymy

Metonymy is a figurative language technique where a word or phrase is used to represent something closely related to it, often through association. This method involves substituting one term with another that is connected in some way, whether through a part-whole relationship or a broader association. According to Keraf (2009:142), metonymy involves using a word to stand for another thing that is closely linked to it. For instance, the phrase "Dad always enjoyed a cup of Fireboat every morning" uses metonymy. Here, "Fireboat" refers to a specific brand of coffee, but it is used to represent the coffee itself. This substitution works because "Fireboat" is strongly associated with the type of coffee the speaker is referring to, making it a metonymic expression. The use of the brand name in place of the general product emphasizes the familiarity and preference for that particular brand.

In summary, metonymy is a way of describing something by using a related term, making it a useful tool for creating vivid and relatable descriptions through associative connections. This technique highlights relationships between words and their meanings, enriching the language and communication.

#### 6. Paradox

A paradox is a rhetorical device that presents a statement or situation that seems contradictory or illogical but reveals an underlying truth or insight. The term "paradox" originates from the Greek word

"paradoxon," meaning something that goes against conventional expectations or beliefs. According to Keraf (2009:140), a paradox involves a combination of contradictory elements that, despite their apparent conflict, convey a meaningful truth or reality. For example, consider the phrase: "Even though the weather is very hot, our minds must remain calm." This is a paradox because it juxtaposes the physical discomfort of hot weather with the need to maintain mental composure. On the surface, it seems contradictory to stay calm in extreme heat, yet the statement underscores the idea that internal peace and clarity are necessary despite external conditions. The paradox highlights how one can strive for emotional stability even when external circumstances are challenging.

In summary, paradoxes use apparent contradictions to illustrate deeper truths, offering insights that challenge our understanding and provoke thought. By presenting conflicting elements together, paradoxes reveal complex realities and encourage a more nuanced perspective on seemingly contradictory situations.

### 3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study employed qualitative descriptive research methods, as outlined by Gay (2006), who defines qualitative research as the process of gathering, analyzing, and interpreting detailed narrative and visual data to understand a specific phenomenon. According to Moleong (2009:11), a descriptive qualitative approach involves providing detailed descriptions and explanations of subjects. The research aims to analyze various types of figurative language, their meanings, and identify the most frequently used figurative language in worship songs. This method involves utilizing theoretical frameworks related to figurative language and drawing on relevant texts, journals, and books to support the

analysis. The data is derived from the figurative language present in selected worship songs.

In collecting data, the researcher did some steps as follows:

1. Searching for the worship songs selected for the research.
2. Listening to the chosen worship songs.
3. Identifying words or phrases related to figurative language within the selected songs.
4. Coding the data to facilitate organization and analysis.
5. Reviewing the codes, which include Personification, Hyperbole, Metaphor, Simile, Metonymy, and Paradox.
6. Analyzing and documenting the findings based on the concluded data.

The technique of data analysis as follows:

1. Examining the lyrics to determine the types of figurative language used in the selected worship songs.
2. Identifying the various types of figurative language present in the chosen worship songs.
3. Calculating the frequency of each figurative language type in the lyrics to determine which is most prevalent, using the formula:  $X = (F/N) \times 100\%$  where X represents the percentage of each figurative language type, F is the frequency of that type, and N is the total number of figurative language instances.
4. Investigating the reasons behind the predominance of certain types of figurative language in worship songs.
5. Drawing conclusions from the analysis results.

### 4. DATA, DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

After data identification, data analysis was grouped into three groups. The first group analyzed the types of figurative language found in the selected praise songs, namely personification, metaphor, simile, hyperbole, metonymy and paradox. The second group analyzed the types of figurative language that were most dominantly used in these praise songs. The final group analyzed the reasons behind the predominance of the types of figurative language found in the selected hymns.

### 1. The Type of Figurative Language In Selected Worship Song.

In analyzing the data, the study classified the types of figurative language found in the lyrics of selected praise songs according to the categories outlined by Keraf (2009:138). These categories include Personification, Metaphor, Simile, Hyperbole, Metonymy, and Paradox. The analysis revealed the presence of these six figurative language types in the selected worship songs, as detailed in the following analysis.

#### Personification

Personification is a literary device that attributes human qualities to inanimate objects, allowing them to feel, think, and act as humans do. In the analysis of fifteen song lyrics, fourteen instances of personification were identified. These lyrics describe non-human elements with human traits, creating a vivid and relatable portrayal. Here's a closer look at how personification is applied in two examples from the selected worship songs:

1. "For Your mercy never fails me" (Goodness of God) In these lyrics, the word "mercy" is personified by referring to it as something that "never fails". Compassion, as an abstract concept, has no literal ability to fail or succeed. However, by regarding mercy as having such a property, these lyrics highlight the

constant and unwavering quality of God's mercy. This personification helps the listener feel the stability and reliability of God's mercy, making it feel more personal and reliable in the context of everyday life experiences that are often filled with feelings of failure or feeling forgotten.

2. "Your goodness is running after me" (Goodness of God). In these lyrics, "goodness" is personified by human action attributes such as "running" which appears to be chasing someone. True goodness is not a physical entity that can run or chase; this is an abstract concept. By associating goodness with active, dynamic action, these lyrics paint the picture that God's goodness moves with intensity and desire to approach individuals. This personification makes the concept of goodness feel more alive and personal, as if God's goodness actively seeks out and involves individuals directly in their lives, thereby adding emotional depth and connection to the listener.

#### Metaphor

Metaphor involves comparing two distinct things as if they were the same. Keraf (2009:139) defines metaphor as a figurative expression that directly equates two things in a straightforward manner. In the analysis of selected worship song lyrics, thirty-two (32) instances of metaphor were identified. These lyrics are categorized as metaphors because they draw a direct comparison between two concepts.

1. "You have led me through the fire" (Goodness of God) In these lyrics, a metaphor is used by describing "fire" to symbolize difficulties or challenges in life. Literally, "fire" does not exist in this context; on the contrary, it is a symbol of the severe trials and struggles that a person experiences. By using this metaphor, the songwriter conveys that

God has guided him through difficult times, with "fire" as a representation of experiences that test a person's strength and endurance. This metaphor provides a strong visual and emotional impression, illustrating the depth and severity of the trials that have been faced, as well as showing gratitude and admiration for God's support and guidance that helped overcome these difficulties.

2. "Hope be my anthem" (Jesus I Need You). This lyric uses a metaphor by equating "hope" with "anthem" (national anthem). In this context, "hope" is not something literal, but is described as something very important and central to a person's life, just like an "anthem" or national song which is a symbol of the identity and spirit of a community. By using this metaphor, the songwriter implies that hope has a vital power and role in an individual's life, similar to how national anthems play an important role in uniting and motivating a group. This metaphor emphasizes the importance of hope in providing direction and meaning, as if hope is a song that lifts the spirit and gives identity to the person who feels it.

### **Simile**

Simile is a language style that uses direct comparative words to convey another meaning. Although similar to a metaphor in comparing two different things, a simile typically uses words such as "like," "than," "as," "apparently," "so," and the like to convey a comparison. According to Keraf (2009:138), a simile is an explicit comparison that directly compares two things through words or phrases such as "like" or "as". In the analysis of song lyrics, of the fifteen (15) worship song lyrics analyzed, the author found five (5) lines that used similes in the selected worship songs.

1. "In darkest night You are close like no other" (Goodness of God). The lyrics of

this song employ a simile by comparing the closeness of God during the darkest nights to a unique and unparalleled closeness. This comparison illustrates that God's presence is especially significant and comforting in times of difficulty or darkness. By using the word "like," the lyrics emphasize that God's closeness surpasses any other, highlighting the profound support and companionship He offers even in the most challenging moments.

2. "Seeking you as a precious jewel" (You Are My All in All). This line uses a simile to compare the pursuit of God to the search for a precious jewel. By describing the search for God as one would search for a valuable gem, the lyrics convey the immense value and importance of God's presence in one's life. This comparison underscores the idea that seeking God is as valuable and cherished as finding a rare and precious treasure, thereby enhancing the expression of devotion and reverence toward Him.

### **Hyperbole**

This figure of speech involves expressing a desire or hope that results in presenting an object in a manner that is exaggerated beyond its true nature. Keraf (2009:139) defines hyperbole as a figure of speech characterized by statements that significantly amplify reality. Typically, hyperbole involves overstating facts. From the analysis of the song lyrics, it was found that fifteen (15) lines in the selected worship songs employ hyperbole, as these lines contain exaggerated descriptions that amplify the characteristics of objects beyond their actual state.

1. "Lord, I need You, oh, I need You Every hour, I need You" (Lord I Need You). This lyric is an example of hyperbole because it uses exaggeration to express an intense and continuous need for



divine support. The phrase "every hour, I need You" is not meant to be taken literally; it is an overstated way to convey the speaker's profound dependence on God. In reality, it is impractical for someone to need assistance on an hourly basis, but the hyperbolic expression serves to highlight the speaker's deep and unceasing reliance on God's presence and guidance. By using such exaggerated language, the song effectively communicates the idea that the speaker feels a constant and overwhelming need for spiritual support, emphasizing the centrality of God in their life and underscoring the emotional intensity of their plea for divine help.

2. "Your loving kindness, Has never failed me" (Jesus I Need You). This lyric exemplifies hyperbole by using an exaggerated assertion to emphasize the speaker's unwavering belief in God's constant love and support. The statement "has never failed me" is an overstatement that underscores the idea that God's love is consistently reliable and ever-present. Although it is unlikely that anyone experiences a love that is literally flawless or without any moments of doubt or struggle, the hyperbole is used to stress the speaker's deep conviction that God's love is unfailing and enduring. By exaggerating the notion of God's kindness as never failing, the lyric powerfully conveys a sense of absolute trust and security in divine love, highlighting the speaker's profound appreciation for the constant and steadfast nature of God's care.

### **Metonymy**

Metonymy involves substituting one term for another with which it is closely associated, effectively using a related concept or term to represent the original idea. Keraf (2009:142) defines metonymy as a figure of speech where one word is used to

represent something closely linked to it. In the analysis of the song lyrics, four instances of metonymy were identified in the selected worship songs.

1. "I love your voice" (Goodness of God). In this lyric, "voice" is used metonymically to represent more than just the literal sound produced when speaking. The term "voice" in this context symbolizes God's communication and guidance. When the lyricist says, "I love Your voice," they are not merely expressing affection for the physical sound of God speaking. Instead, they are referring to the entire experience of how God communicates, provides guidance, and interacts with them. The "voice" stands for the broader concept of divine instruction, presence, and the comfort and direction that God's words bring to the individual. This usage highlights the deep connection between the divine guidance and the personal relationship the singer feels with God. By focusing on "voice," the lyric encapsulates the essence of God's influence and support in a way that conveys a profound emotional and spiritual resonance.
2. "What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus" (What a Beautiful Name). In this lyric, the phrase "Name of Jesus" functions as a metonymy because it represents much more than just the name itself. Rather than simply referring to the verbal label "Jesus," the lyric uses "Name" to encapsulate the entire essence, character, and divine nature associated with Jesus. The name "Jesus" is emblematic of His attributes, His role as the Savior, and the strength and majesty of His presence. By calling it "beautiful," the lyric emphasizes that the name signifies something profoundly significant and sacred, reflecting the divine power, grace, and holiness that

Jesus embodies. Thus, "Name" serves as a stand-in for the whole spectrum of qualities and the spiritual impact of Jesus, providing a way to convey reverence and admiration for His overall nature and influence in a succinct and powerful manner.

### **Paradox**

According to Keraf (2009:140), a paradox is a rhetorical device that presents two seemingly contradictory statements that, despite their apparent conflict, reveal a truth or reality. A paradox involves juxtaposing contradictory elements to convey a meaningful truth, even though the language used may seem illogical or contradictory at first glance.

1. "With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now, I give You everything" (Goodness of God). This line from the song "Goodness of God" employs a paradoxical expression to convey a deep spiritual truth. At first glance, phrases like "with my life laid down" and "surrendered now" might seem to imply a sense of loss or defeat. To "lay down one's life" typically suggests giving up or sacrificing something valuable, which can appear as a form of relinquishing power or control. However, within the context of the song, these actions are not actually about losing but rather about gaining something profound. In a spiritual or religious context, surrendering one's life to God symbolizes a profound act of trust and submission. This act of surrender is paradoxical because it involves giving up personal control and independence, which might seem like a loss, but it actually leads to a deeper sense of freedom and empowerment. By laying down one's life, the individual is opening themselves up to receiving divine guidance, strength, and goodness that transcend personal limitations. Thus,

while the act of surrendering appears to be a relinquishment of personal power, it actually results in gaining spiritual strength and fulfillment. This paradox highlights how surrendering to a higher power can lead to a more profound sense of freedom and empowerment than one might experience through self-reliance alone.

2. "Without You, I fall apart, You're the one that guides my heart" (Lord I Need You). The lyrics of "Lord I Need You" present a clear example of a paradox through the statements "Without You, I fall apart" and "You're the one that guides my heart." On the surface, the phrase "Without You, I fall apart" suggests a state of incompleteness or brokenness without the presence of God. This implies that the individual feels vulnerable and disintegrated in the absence of divine support. In contrast, the following statement, "You're the one that guides my heart," indicates that despite feeling incomplete without God's presence, it is through reliance on God that the individual finds direction and strength. The paradox here lies in the juxtaposition of vulnerability and guidance. The sense of falling apart without God underscores human fragility, while acknowledging that divine guidance provides the necessary support and direction. This paradox illustrates the idea that personal weakness or incompleteness can be addressed and transformed through reliance on a higher power. It emphasizes that feeling broken without divine help is balanced by the profound support and clarity one receives through faith. The paradox in these lyrics underscores a deeper truth: that one's greatest strength and guidance come from acknowledging and embracing one's dependence on a higher power,

which might seem contradictory but ultimately offers true support and direction.

## **2. The Most Dominant Figurative Language In Selected Worship Song**

In the selected worship songs, six distinct types of figurative language have been identified. The table provided outlines the representation of each type of figurative language within the lyrics. Specifically, personification appears in 14 lines of lyrics, accounting for 17.5% of the total, while metaphors are present in 32 lines, making up 40% of the total. Similes are found in 5 lines of lyrics, representing 6.25%, and hyperbole is noted in 15 lines, constituting 18.75%. Metonymy appears in 4 lines, which is 5%, and paradox is found in 10 lines, equating to 12.5%.

From the data analysis, it is evident that metaphors are the most prevalent type of figurative language in the selected worship songs, comprising 40% of the total. This percentage highlights metaphors as the dominant figure of speech used in these songs, surpassing all other types in frequency and prominence.

## **3. The Reasons Of The Most Dominant Type Of Figurative Language In Selected Worship Song**

After analyzing and discussing the types of figurative language present in the selected worship songs, it was determined that metaphor emerged as the most prevalent figure of speech. To better understand why metaphor is the leading figurative language used in these worship songs, the following points provide insight:

1. The analysis of the song lyrics reveals that metaphor stands out as the most frequently used figurative language because it effectively conveys emotions

and relationships that are difficult to express with straightforward language. Metaphors create a unified representation of complex feelings and spiritual connections, making them particularly effective in worship contexts.

2. The use of metaphors in these lyrics serves as a sophisticated means of articulating thoughts, devotion, belief, and hope in God. This figurative language provides a nuanced way to express deep spiritual sentiments in a manner that is more accessible and comprehensible.
3. Additionally, metaphors are favored as the dominant figurative language in worship songs because they adeptly capture and communicate the profound contents of a person's heart and mind towards God. This depth of expression is achieved even within the context of worship, where metaphors help to convey intricate spiritual experiences and insights.

## **5. CONCLUSIONS**

After reviewing the use of figurative language in the selected worship songs, the author concludes the following:

1. Six types of figurative language are present in these worship songs: personification, hyperbole, metaphor, simile, metonymy, and paradox.
2. Among these, metaphor is the most prevalent, appearing in 32 song lyrics and accounting for 40% of the total. Hyperbole follows with 15 song lyrics, representing 18.75%, while personification is found in 14 song lyrics, making up 17.5%. Paradox is present in 10 song lyrics, constituting 12.5%, simile appears in 5 song lyrics at 6.25%, and metonymy is found in 4 song lyrics, equating to 5%.

3. The predominance of metaphor in these worship songs can be attributed to its ability to unify complex emotions and articulate thoughts, devotion, belief, and hope in a manner that is easier to grasp. Additionally, metaphors effectively convey deep personal and spiritual insights to God, enriching the worship experience even within the context of song lyrics.

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