

SERMON SERIES

# meeting GOD

10-24 OCTOBER

Sunday, 24.10.2010. Luke Brough

## Meeting God in the Garden

**Genesis 3:8-10** When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the LORD God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the LORD God among the trees. Then the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" He replied, "I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked."

**John 18:1-2** When Jesus had spoken these words, He went out with His disciples over the Brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered. And Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples.

**John 19: 41-42** Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.

**Luke 13:6-9** Then Jesus told this story: "A man planted a fig tree in his garden and came again and again to see if there was any fruit on it, but he was always disappointed. Finally, he said to his gardener, 'I've waited three years, and there hasn't been a single fig! Cut it down. It's just taking up space in the garden.'

"The gardener answered, 'Sir, give it one more chance. Leave it another year, and I'll give it special attention and plenty of fertilizer. If we get figs next year, fine. If not, then you can cut it down.'"

**Song of Songs 4:12, 15-16** You are my private garden, my treasure, my bride, a secluded spring, a hidden fountain.

You are a garden fountain, a well of fresh water streaming down from Lebanon's mountains. Awake, north wind! Rise up, south wind! Blow on my garden and spread its fragrance all around. Come into your garden, my love; taste its finest fruits.

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## 1. We are a garden for God's \_\_\_\_\_

*John 15:1* "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener."

*Ephesians 1:5 NLT* God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.

*Song of Solomon 6:2* My lover has gone down to his garden, to his spice beds, to browse in the gardens and gather the lilies.

## 2. We are a garden that He has \_\_\_\_\_

*Song of Solomon 4:15* You are a garden fountain, a well of fresh water streaming down from Lebanon's mountains.

*Job 8:16-19* The godless seem like a lush plant growing in the sunshine, its branches spreading across the garden.

## 3. We are a garden for \_\_\_\_\_

*Song of Solomon 4:16* Awake, north wind! Rise up, south wind! Blow on my garden and spread its fragrance all around. Come into your garden, my love; taste its finest fruits.

## How do we develop the Garden of our Life?

*Matthew 26:36* Then Jesus went with them to a garden called Gethsemane and told his disciples, "Stay here while I go over there and pray."

### a. We make it a place of \_\_\_\_\_

*v39a* Going a little ahead, he fell on his face, praying, "My Father, if there is any way, get me out of this."

### b. We make it a place of \_\_\_\_\_

*v39b* But please, not what I want. You, what do you want?"

### c. We make it a place to encourage \_\_\_\_\_

*v41a* When he came back to his disciples, he found them sound asleep. He said to Peter, "Can't you stick it out with me a single hour?"

*v41b* Stay alert; be in prayer so you don't wander into temptation without even knowing you're in danger. There is a part of you that is eager, ready for anything in God. But there's another part that's as lazy as an old dog sleeping by the fire."

### d. Make it a place of \_\_\_\_\_

*v42* He then left them a second time. Again he prayed, "My Father, if there is no other way than this, drinking this cup to the dregs, I'm ready. Do it your way."

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