

THE GARDENER AND THE KING



Message Date: September 19, 2021 (Week 1)

CONNECT

Spend a few minutes getting to know the people in your group. Share about your background. Say what you hope to receive from your time together.

DISCUSS

Paradise Lost

The Bible opens with the story of Adam and Eve leaving paradise behind. Their departure from the garden means loss of relationship and a dislocation. They find themselves in a world that is not as it was meant to be.

- What are the most obvious signs to you that our world is not right?
- Where do you most pointedly feel our separation from God's intentions?

Empty Promises

In the message, we learned about the legend of Prester John. The king of an earthy paradise who turned out to be a fraud. The abiding appeal of his story reveals the depth of our desire to recover what was lost.

- What are some empty promises you've chased, which failed to deliver?
- Where are you looking for paradise right now?

Made to Be Gardeners

In the story of creation, God invites Adam to be a gardener—a royal position with the responsibility of cultivating life in God's garden.

- What is God inviting you to cultivate in this season?
- Where are the thorns and weeds that need to be removed in your life?
- What are you hoping to see grow in the days ahead?

PRAY

End your time by praying that God would help each of you grow as he wants you to. Ask him to guide your group and to build you up through your experience together. Thank God for the time you've been able to share.