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2 Gardens

Summary

Imagine 2 gardens; one is beautiful, looked-after, pure, peaceful and restful. The other is trampled, colourless, dead and decaying. Sin tramples our lives; ruins our purity and our peace with God. Everyone is searching for God, looking to have the garden of their life restored and made whole. God wants to restore what was stolen from you (Luke 4.18-19). This is what Jesus came to do.

Jesus said, "I have not come to condemn you but to save you." He also said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." The purpose of his coming into the world was to seek people out and restore their lives.

We are restored, healed, made whole through the cross. He was cursed so that we could be blessed (Gal 3.13-14). His perfect garden (Life) was trampled so that ours could be restored. Jesus has the keys to your prison, and wants to set you free (Rev 1.17). If you have been trampled by sin and are crushed, imprisoned, ruined then Jesus has died so that your life can be healed, and restored to the beautiful, fruitful peaceful garden that it should be.

Questions for personal application

1. What did God say to you on Sunday and what are you going to do about it?
2. What has Jesus set you free from?
3. Are there any sins that still seem to have a hold on your life? How can you come free of those?
4. In what ways do you feel trampled or ruined?
5. Do you feel you have peace in your life?
6. How does the cross make us free?
7. In what ways are you reaching out to people who have been trampled or wounded? How as a cell group can we reach these people?