

# LIFE & MINISTRY OF *Christ*

## **“The Greatest Love Story Ever Told”**

### **John 3:16**

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that who-so-ever believes in Him should not perish but have ever lasting life”

### **“Four Gardens” That describe Christ love for God and for Us**

**L** – LOVE / LOST (Garden of Eden)

**O** – Overwhelmed (Garden of Gethsemane)

**V** – Victorious (Garden of Golgotha)

**E** – Eternal (Garden of Paradise)

**LOVE** – Our position in Christ Now – Forgiven

### **1st Lost “The Garden of Eden” – Garden of Paradise**

- a. The Garden of Eden (Garden of Paradise)
- b. Became the Garden of Sin “THE LOST GARDEN” – Disobedience
- c. Result - Hiding from Love (Seeking pleasure elsewhere)

“Reckless Love” Before I spoke a word, you were singing over me. You have been so, so good to me. Before I took a breath, you breathe your life in me. Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God. I couldn't earn it, and I don't deserve it, still, you give yourself away

## **2nd Overwhelmed: The Garden of Gethsemane**

Means Olive Press - “A Place of Sorrow” The Crushing Place

Christ will be crushed there / A place where we find ourselves

a. Place of Prayer / deeper into the garden experience  
Jesus began to be sorrowful and troubled. (This was His State of Mind)

38 Then he said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death; Yes Jesus admitted He was Depressed

He was separated from God (Imagine separating our body into two)

### **Forsaken**

The Fury and Wrath of God (The Cup)

Jesus suffered untold hurt (Broken in His heart)

His Nation that he came to save, rejected Him

Judas had betrayed Him

Peter would deny Him

His disciples would be scattered

He would be left all alone

b. Place of Solitude – Being alone

39 He went a little farther Luke said, Stone throw away and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me;

Is there any other way to accomplish man’s salvation?  
Please Lord, SURELY there is another way!!! Let’s Talk

nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.” (He had to resolve it in His mind)

c. Place of Surrendering Our will to His will

40 Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? 41 Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” 42 Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.” 43 And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy. 44 So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. 45 Then He came to His disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour [is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. 46 Rise, let us be going. See, My, betrayer is at hand.

d. Place of Preparation – gain strength to accomplish His Purpose.

For the greatest love of all is a love that sacrifices all. And this great love is demonstrated when a person sacrifices his life for his friends. “You show that you are my intimate friends when you obey all that I command you.

Agape "unconditional love with reverence,"

The faithful love of the LORD never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning” (**Lamentations 3:22-23**)

### **3rd Victory - The Garden of Golgotha**

41 Now in the place where He was crucified There was A Garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. He just Conquered Sin & Satan on the cross. Victorious by Resurrection

### **1 Cor 15:55**

For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height — to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with the fullness of God. (**Ephesians 3:14-19, NKJV.**)

## **The Love of the Cross: Is the instrument of our Salvation**

4 Dimensions of Christ Love is shown on the Cross: Let's measure

Width, Length, Depth & Height of Christ Love (Cross)

God's love extends and includes everyone he has created  
Christ Love (Cross)

- **Psalm 103:17** says, "But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting."
- **Agape (Greek Word)** - The Garden of Victory / A love that gives
- You may be the first to give this kinda love in your family.
- A love that gives
- **1 Corinthians 13:** "And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love."
- **Love:** The Superior Way

1 If I speak human or angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so that I can move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 And if I give away all my possessions, and if I give over my body in order to boast but do not have love, I gain nothing. 4 Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant, 5 is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. 6 Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never ends.

## **4th Eternal “The Garden of Paradise” – The Garden of Eternal Life**

20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,  
**Philippians 3:20**

## **5th Everlasting Love “Graves to Gardens”**

God's love is faithful and merciful.

The faithful love of the LORD never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning” (**Lamentations 3:22-23**).