

“God Planted A Garden”
Sermon Notes

➤ **God cultivated the perfect Paradise**

** The Garden was a living home overflowing with riches:*

1. Good food (9)
2. Fresh water (10-14)
3. Rich resources (11-12)
4. Beauty (9, 11-12)

** Even though that Paradise was closed up, you can still:*

1. Admire The Master Gardener (2:8)
2. Delight in the things of the earth (2:9)
3. Follow the signs (2:8-14)
4. Thirst for Paradise Restored (2:8)

Next Week: Genesis 2:15-17 “Man In The Image of God”

MEFC Study Guide

For the week of August 17th - 23rd

Context — let's get our bearings in Genesis

1. Historical background: Moses wrote this history for Israel as they wandered in the Wilderness. God was redeeming them out of Egypt (from the lush land of Goshen) and taking them to the Promised Land, another lush and fertile land. What significance does this have for Moses calling to mind the creation account of the garden?
2. Biblical context: Before planting the garden, what did God do (see Genesis 2:5-7)? Why the man before the garden?

Observation — let's be curious and ask questions

3. Key ideas: Consider these important or repeated words, phrases, ideas. What do they contribute to the scene?
 - a. Garden: planted, ground, trees, good food
 - b. Eden (this word can also mean, “delight”; delight to the eyes)
 - c. Tree of Life, Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil
 - d. Rivers
 - e. Natural resources (gold, onyx, bdellium)
 - f. Territories like Havilah, Cush, Asshur/Assyria
4. Imagery: What kind of a garden is Moses describing? What descriptives would be fitting?

Meaning — let's make sense of what Moses communicated

5. What does the passage reveal about who God is and what he does in the world?

6. What does this passage reveal about who God's people are and how they can walk with God (think of Psalm 1)?
7. How do Ezekiel's visions fill in details about the Garden (see Ezekiel 28:11-19; ch. 31)?
8. What is the main point or theme of Genesis 2:8-14? Summarize the meaning in one sentence:
9. How does this passage bridge to Jesus and the gospel?
10. Given the themes in this origin story, where is the story of history headed? Consider texts like Isaiah 32:13-17; 35:1-2; ch. 51; 58:11-12; Ezekiel 47:1-12; Revelation 2:7; 21:-9-22:14;

Application — let's connect God's ancient word to our modern walk with God

11. How is your life similar or different from the realities of this passage? What has been lost from Paradise? What remnants of Paradise are still around?
12. Head: How does this passage challenge (or confirm) what I believe: what I understand about God, his world, and myself?
13. Heart: Is there some attitude I need to change? How does this passage shape my desires and affections?
14. Hands: How does this passage exhort me to change the way I live, especially in relationship to God as the Master Gardener and to his creation?