

Your Heart Is God's Garden Part 1

By Pastor Larry Folson — Sunday, 11/16/25

Introduction

“Let’s go ahead and get started. I’m excited, as always, for all the wonderful things that God is doing in our lives, in us, through us, and around us. His Word is working mightily. Glory be to God.”

“So, I’ve got a great word for us today. We’re going to continue the Kingdom Resurgence series. Today, we’re going to talk about how **your heart is the garden of God**. Particularly, I’m going to emphasize preparing your heart to receive seed. You know, the seed is the Word of God.”

Scriptural Foundation

- **Mark 4:26–29** *“The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”*
- **Isaiah 55:8–9** *“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord.*

“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

- **Proverbs 23:7** *“For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.”*
- **Ephesians 4:23** *“And be renewed in the spirit of your mind.”*
- **Romans 8:6** *“For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”*

(Illustration) “Whatever is in our heart is what comes out of our heart. Outward appearances can deceive. People can say all the right things, but God looks at the inward heart. That’s why you can’t just assume someone is genuine because they sound good. The devil knows what you like to hear, and he’ll send people who say all the right things to manipulate you. That’s why we must guard the heart diligently.”

Section 1: God Has Hid the Treasure of Faith in Him in the Heart

- **Ecclesiastes 3:11** *“He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end.”*
- **Matthew 13:44** *“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid;*

and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”

(Illustration) “Think of a junky field filled with debris. That’s how our heart looks when we first come to Christ — full of worldly junk. But hidden in that field is treasure. God has placed eternity in every heart. Everyone has the ability to believe in Him. The problem is missing information. People believe in God but don’t know what Jesus has already done for them.”

- **2 Corinthians 1:20** *“For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.”*

(Explanation) “Prayer moves the junk out of people’s hearts. Christ-centered prayers reveal who we are in Christ and what we have in Christ. Without faith in Jesus, it’s impossible to please God. Faith must be rooted in what Jesus has already accomplished.”

- **Ephesians 1:15–17** *“Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him.”*

(Illustration) “Faith without substance is like counterfeit money. You don’t realize it’s fake until you try to spend it. Many believers are trying to spend counterfeit faith — faith not rooted in Jesus — and wonder why it doesn’t produce results.”

- **Psalm 51:1–3, 10–13** *“Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me... Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You.”*
- **Psalm 37:4** *“Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.”*
- **Matthew 5:6** *“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.”*

(Illustration) “Desire is like a hinge that swings the door open. Jesus said, ‘I stand at the door and knock.’ You must swing the door open with desire. If the heart does not desire God, His Word cannot take root.”

Section 2: How to Prepare the Ground of the Heart

(Illustration) “No farmer plants seed unless the ground is prepared. Soil must be cleared, tilled, and made ready. Weeds, stones, and debris must be removed. Likewise, our hearts must be cleared of worldly junk before God’s Word can grow.”

- **Jeremiah 1:10** *“See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out and to pull down, to destroy and to throw down, to build and to plant.”*

(Explanation) “Preparation is the hardest stage because it means dealing with issues in your heart. Strongholds from the world and even religious systems must be uprooted. You can’t build on a dilapidated foundation. God must clear the land before planting.”

- **Ezekiel 36:23–30** *“And I will sanctify My great name, which has been profaned among the nations... Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to*

your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God. I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. I will call for the grain and multiply it, and bring no famine upon you. And I will multiply the fruit of your trees and the increase of your fields, so that you need never again bear the reproach of famine among the nations.”

(Illustration) “God says, ‘I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you.’ Only God can change a man’s heart. He takes out the stony heart and gives a heart of flesh. That’s transformation. That’s living out of the born-again spirit.”

(Application) “Scripture itself should make us rejoice, not entertainment. If you need a preacher to tune up and make you shout, you’re in a trap. The Word of God should be enough to make you leap for joy.”

(Explanation) “God promises deliverance and prosperity. He says, ‘I will multiply the fruit of your trees and the increase of your fields.’ Prosperity is part of your godliness package. Stop despising the people God chooses to deliver His Word. Pride keeps many from receiving.”

Closing Prayer

“Father God, I thank You for this opportunity to share Your Word today with Your people. I thank You for revelation

knowledge flowing freely, unhindered, unrestricted by satanic forces. Lord, let this Word get to the people. I bind the enemy that would try to stop them from hearing or distract them. Let them hear what the Spirit is saying. In Jesus' name, Amen."