

"When Jesus had spoken these words, He went forth with His disciples over the brook Cedron, where was a garden, into the which He entered, and His disciples. And Judas also, which betrayed him, knew the place: for Jesus oftentimes resorted thither with His disciples." John 18:1-2 KJV



How often do we go to the *ōgardenö* with Jesus? It was a place where He prayed. A place of solitude, away from the clamor of the crowd and cacophony of life. A place for time alone with the Master, learning at His feet and listening to His Voice. A place of quiet beauty engulfing the senses with subtle fragrances and the whisper of the *ōstill small*

Voicē of God. Jesus loves to fellowship with His friends, but so often the garden is deserted when He visits! We're too busy to come or some distraction has pulled us away. We bustle and scurry about with never a thought for our Friend who waits patiently in the garden day after day. He brings gems and jewels of blessings to give to us, or good advice about problems we're having. He wants to reassure our troubled soul that all is well, and that He knows all that is taking place. His soothing Words and gentle touch refresh our faith and encourage our heart. He infuses us with the strength of His Joy to enable us to endure the onslaught of wickedness that surrounds us. We need to often resort thither to the *ōgardenö* and quietly gather armor for our battles and strength for our pilgrimage. Do you feel weak and faithless? There is a *ōbalm* in Gileadö that will heal our sin-bruised souls and soothe our troubled minds. Do not forsake the Saviour in the *ōgardenö* where He patiently waits for you. Spend some time in the Everlasting embrace of your Heavenly Father. Tell Him all that troubles you and let His gentle caress soothe your soul. There is no limit to the number of visits you may pay to the garden of His presence or the amount of time you spend there. He is always delighted to see you and always says just the right Words to comfort you and gladden your countenance. Jesus is the Word of God! *ōIn the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and Truth.* Jesus said, *ōI am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. Sanctify them through Thy Truth: Thy Word is Truth.* God's Word is the *ōgardenö* where God meets with you! Leave your burdens there and come away with the jewels of blessed promises! Take them with you wherever you go and spend them to clear doubt and despair from the corners of your heart! *ōAbove all, taking the shield of faith (faith cometh by the Word of God), wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts (evil thoughts) of the wicked.* Let their Voice drown out the whispers of evil from Satan.

We walk about with loads of pain,
That we could lose in garden's glen,
If only we would go again,
And spend some precious time with Him. -CGP

God's Word is all that you ever need for this life if you but listen!

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30 KJV