Help Wanted: A Gardener

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I. Introduction.
   A. Text: John 20:11
   B. Jesus Christ is a gardener.

II. The Garden of Eden where sin entered. (Genesis 3)
   A. A garden speaks of life, beauty, fragrance and fruitfulness.
   B. The first gardener is compared to the last gardener. One was obedient, and one was not. One sinned by a tree, and the other took on sin through a tree. One brought life, and the other brought death. (Romans 5)
   C. We were born outside the Garden.

III. The Garden of Gethsemane where sin was conquered.
   A. Jesus taught the disciples here that he was submissive to death.
   B. Joseph of Arimathea built a tomb by Jesus’ cross for Jesus. (John 19:41, Psalm 22)
   C. Jesus came forth from the tomb to undo what Adam had done.

IV. The Garden of Christ's church where grace is cultivated. (1 Corinthians 3)
   A. A garden that is let go grows weeds.
   B. Christ must be active in the garden of the church for it to be healthy.

V. The Garden of heaven where the glory of God is manifest. (Revelation 21-22)
   A. We are looking forward to a future city.
   B. The curse of Genesis will be completely reversed as Revelation 21-22 tells us.
Application questions:

1. What was significant about the Garden of Gethsemane?

2. What does it look like to cultivate grace in the church? Explain.

3. Compare and contrast the Garden of Eden to the Garden of heaven.