

Series: Back to the Future
Message: A Glimpse of Heaven
Text: Genesis 2:8-25 (AM 7/20/08)

Man's first home was in a garden. According to Revelation 22 the final home of the redeemed will center in a garden. While the differences are acknowledged the likenesses abound. Redemptive history in reality is man's journey from the first Garden to the last. Our only hope is that by faith we travel through Calvary. Genesis chapter two reveals how our Heavenly Father related to our grandparents and how He wishes to relate to us.

I. The Garden's Place – Creation. (8-15)

Though tainted by sin creation still bears the wonder of God's fingerprint.

- God gave an ideal design (8)
- God gave an ideal place to dwell (9-14)
- God gave us ideal duty (15)

II. The Garden's Purpose – Communion. (16-17)

We are created for a relationship with the Father.

- The Father provides a safe place (16-17)
- The Father provides a satisfying pleasure (16)
- The Father predicts a severe penalty (17)

III. The Garden's Process – Community. (18-25)

Participation with family and God's Fellowship provides life's classroom.

- Our desire is foreseen by God (18)
- Our desire is fostered by God (19-20)
- Our desire is fulfilled by God (21-25)
 - *In the context of our family and His Fellowship (Heb 10:23-25)*

Application to Life: Our loving Heavenly Father has given us a *picture* of how He desires that we relate *vertically and horizontally*.

Are you enjoying unhindered *communion* with Him? Are you immersed in unbridled *community* with your family and in the Body of Christ? The Father is passionately pursuing you. *Are you willing to respond to His advances?*