

Parable: The King's Garden and the Three Gates

There was once a great King who had a beautiful garden. At the center of the garden was a fountain that gave life to everything around it. But the King protected the garden with three gates.

One day, a young traveler asked, "Why so many gates? Why not let anyone walk in whenever they want?"

The King replied:

"Because this garden is the heart.

The first gate is Love.

Only those who come with good intentions may enter."

"The second gate is Faith.

Only those who trust the King will walk through it, even when the path is hard."

"The third gate is Purity.

Only those who respect the garden, and their own dignity, may come close to the fountain."

The traveler said, "Isn't that too much to ask?"

The King smiled and answered:

"Anything precious must be protected. Your heart is my garden. Love opens it, Faith strengthens it, and Purity keeps it beautiful."

And the traveler understood that the King wasn't hiding the garden—He was guarding it, so that one day the traveler could give it as a gift worthy of real love.

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, help me to know Your love more deeply, strengthen my faith, and keep my heart pure. Guide me through Your sacraments, protect my dignity, and teach me to love others as You love me. Amen.