

Community Group Discussion Questions

“The Aroma of the Church” 2 Corinthians 2:14-17

Sermon Series Title: “The Church of God”

Sermon Series Summary: The Church of God is the people of God throughout the ages, redeemed by Jesus Christ. We’re going to take a look at who we are and who we are called to be as the church of God. More specifically, we see that who we are is directly connected to whose we are in Christ.

Passage Setting: One of the themes of 2 Corinthians is how the Christian journey is marked by weakness and humility. There are people who doubt Paul’s apostleship because of his suffering, and therefore, they doubt his message. Paul is showing that God doesn’t work in spite of our weaknesses and suffering, but He works through them! Right before our passage, Paul confesses his weakness in ministry.

Summary: A theme of this letter is how the Christian journey is marked by weakness and humility. Paul talks about that in our passage today. We are captives in the procession of Christ, being led to our death. But this death will lead to our ultimate life and joy. And if we are captives unto life, we are empowered to be the aroma of Christ to those around us through our words and life.

Central Truth: “Through Christ who is the greatest aroma, let us be the aroma of Christ to those around us.”

Sermon Points:

1. The Sacrifice
2. The Smell
3. The Source

Opening Question

1. What is your favorite smell? Why is it your favorite?

(Answers may vary.)

Paul talks about smells today. He says that we are the aroma of Christ. Let’s discuss what that means for us.

Community Group Discussion Questions

Read 2 Corinthians 2:14-17

2. How do you feel that we are part of the procession of Christ as captives?

(Answers may vary.)

In the context of this letter, we see that we are captives, not captors/victors, in the procession of Christ. He is leading us to our death. Paul can thank God for this, because our death means life. We die to our old selves, our shame, our condemnation, and our sin, and we enter into freedom. We die to ourselves and live unto Christ, and this life will be eternal.)

3. In what ways, can we be the aroma of Christ?

(Answers will vary.)

This fragrance of Christ comes from our death, and it is rooted in the knowledge/Word of Christ. Therefore, we must be faithful to the Word and not water it down like "peddlers" back then for profit. We are to show the love, grace, mercy, and joy of Christ. We are called to be set apart from the world. We are called to go out into the world, share the gospel, and be instruments to bring life upon life and death upon death.)

Final Thoughts: *We are called to be the aroma of Christ, rooted in our death and the knowledge of Christ. We are to know Christ and show Christ to the world. We are able to do this, because Christ was the ultimate Aroma for our salvation. He died so we could live. He took on our sins, so that we may be righteous. He left the throne of heaven to draw us to Himself. Church, how do we smell?*