



Discussion Guide

May 20, 2018

Contrast: Sweet Aroma

II Corinthians 2:14-17

Introduction: Read II Corinthians 2: 14-17 together.

Paul is reminding and encouraging the church of Corinth that God is always leading us into triumph in Christ, which manifests a "Sweet Aroma" as believers. The fragrance of Christ should radiate from us in such a way that it captivates people into a life of Christ. To unbelievers, this may not be the case. They may not find our fragrance to be so sweet. This should not deter us from fulfilling the spiritual mandate to be a "Sweet Aroma" for Christ.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it look like to you for a believer to have a "Sweet Aroma" that captivates those who they come in contact with?
2. In your journey I'm sure you have moments where you feel discouraged or defeated. Can you see through the eyes of faith how God is leading you into triumph in Christ? Please explain.
3. Because we live in a fallen world, some people who may not have yet come into the light of Christ may be repelled by our "Sweet Aroma". Can you share a time where you experienced a negative encounter from an unbeliever?
4. During Sunday's message, Lynn discussed some aspects of how perfume is made. One being the "extraction method" where the oils are being extracted. This process is like an olive press, and how oil is extracted from olives. Can you share a moment in your life where you felt that type of *squeeze* and pressure and what you learned from it?
5. Lynn also discussed the "aging process" where the perfume is set aside in a dark place for several months giving time for the alcohol and oils to blend before the perfume is thoroughly tested. Discuss if you have ever been in a season of darkness, where you felt like you were being tested and what God showed you in that season.



Moving Forward: Read Ephesians 5:1-2

Lynn gave us 3 points from these verses in Ephesians: be imitators of God, walk in love, give yourself up/deny yourself. If time permits, go around the room and discuss how you are personally doing in these 3 areas and maybe, how you could do better.