



2 Corinthians 2:1-17 Yo, Smell Ya Later: How to be Fragrant in a World Perishing

The context of chapter 2 is a restoration of a broken ministry relationship.

1. **Foundation** (V.1:24; 2:4): The key to tough ministry, whether correction or sharing Jesus, is the foundation of love and concern. Homework: How can I be more aromatic for Jesus to the people I interact with?
2. **Evaluation** (V.1:23-2:3): The key to smelling good in difficult ministry/relationships is to step back from reacting out of emotions.
3. **Calibration** How do I calibrate my ministry to love?
 - a. **Lead, not Lord people into correction (V.1:24)**
 - b. **With the future goal of joy** and not guilt induced conformity (**V.24; 2:3**) Ministry is never manipulative, it must always be truth out of a heart of love for the other's ultimate **joy**.

V.5-10 A mini case study on how the Corinthians applied truth without this base note of love in ministry.

4. **Diffusion** V14 - **How? He leads us:** we follow the lead of General Jesus so closely that His aroma clings to us.

V.15 We are God's diffusers. Do people smell Jesus on me? Do my kids smell Jesus through my interaction with them? My coworkers, employees, the neighbor I disagree with?

V.16 Your fragrance is to accurately reflect Jesus. How people receive it is not your worry.

V.17 We speak (diffuse) with sincerity.

Questions for Grow Groups:

1. How am I prone to "smell" in my interactions with unlovable or difficult people?
2. What did Jesus do and say that made him so "aromatic". How did Jesus interact differently with the religious elite, the adulterous woman, the woman at the well, children, the lame and blind?
3. When I give "tough love in truth" do people at least sense God's love through me? Do my children (or friends/family) feel more manipulated into conformity to my will or loved in truth?
4. Do swing towards liberal (all love, no truth) or legalism (all truth, no love)?
5. Give an example of how you saw someone diffuse the aroma of Christ that lingered in a hard situation.

Announcements 10/1



Grow Groups Start This Week! Sign up here or at the display in the lobby.



Harvest Dinner Volunteer Meeting: Oct. 8th after each service in the Fellowship Hall. Register to volunteer here!



CHROME Retreat Pre-Trip Final Meeting: Oct. 15th after 2nd service - Mandatory for all going on the October 18th-22nd Mission Trip.



Baptisms: Oct. 15th during the 11am service. Sign up here!