

Gospel Partnership: 9
The Fragrance of Christ
2 Corinthians 2:12-3:11

TALK IT OVER

Parallel Scripture

¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

Romans 1:17 ESV

⁶But in fact the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, since the new covenant is established on better promises.

⁷For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another. ⁸But God found fault with the people and said: “The days are coming, declares the Lord,

when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah.

⁹It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they did not remain faithful to my covenant,

and I turned away from them, declares the Lord.

¹⁰This is the covenant I will establish with the people of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts.

I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Hebrews 8:6-10 NIV

Search for the “Renewal Church Denver” app or “St. John’s Denver” app in your app store. More of God’s truth all week long at renewaldenver.tv and sjdenver.tv

Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)

- What is your favorite smell and why?
- What is something you can’t stand smelling?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)

- As you reflect on last weekend’s sermon, what one principle or insight stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful or difficult to grasp.
- Read 2nd Corinthians 2:12-3:11. Why do you think Paul is using the comparison of a fragrance to the knowledge of Christ? Who enjoys the smell, and who does not?
- Read 2nd Corinthians 11:16-33. What qualifications do Paul and the other apostles have?
- What are some differences between the old covenant and the new? Read Hebrew 8:6-10 for more insight.

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)

- What do you say our message of the gospel is? What is it not? Why does Jesus make a difference?
- Why makes us different than “peddlers of God’s word?”
- In what ways do you give off an aroma in the way you live your life for Christ?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)

- How and where will you carry the fragrance of the knowledge of Christ?
- Do you know your neighbors? If not make it a goal to learn their names and get to know them.

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)

1. What’s a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
2. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
3. How’s your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (*3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection*)
4. Who is one non-believer that you need to reach out to this week?
5. What’s something you’d like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.