

“Do You Smell?”

Share Faith Message Series Week 1

2 Corinthians 2:14-3:6

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A. Starting point:

- 1. You have been saved from work, and you have been saved to work. (Ephesians 2:8-10)**
- 2. The 2020Vision: God wants to use each person of the CBC family to reach out to the local community.**

B. Problem:

- 1. Many believers feel inadequate to serve Christ.**
- 2. Many believers become discouraged serving Christ.**

C. Four tips for serving Christ:

- 1. You will smell—don’t take personally people’s response to the aroma of Christ. (2 Corinthians 2:14-16)**

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18, NIV

2. Your motive should be to please Christ, not people.

(2 Corinthians 2:17)

For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Galatians 1:10

But just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts.

1 Thessalonians 2:4

3. The goal is to see hearts transformed by the gospel and the Holy Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3:1-3)

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

Titus 3:4-6

4. Remember our sufficiency comes from God.

(2 Corinthians 3:4-6, 10:10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5)

- God doesn't call the qualified, he qualifies the called.

Take a good look, friends, at who you were when you got called into this life. I don't see many of "the brightest and the best" among you, not many influential, not many from high-society families. Isn't it obvious that God deliberately chose men and women that the culture overlooks and exploits and abuses, chose these "nobodies" to expose the hollow pretensions of the "somebodies"? That makes it quite clear that none of you can get by with blowing your own horn before God. Everything that we have—right thinking and right living, a clean slate and a fresh start—comes from God by way of Jesus Christ. That's why we have the saying, "If you're going to blow a horn, blow a trumpet for God."

1 Corinthians 1:26-31, The Message