

Sweet Aroma of Christ
September Fully AliveNotes

2 Corinthians 2:14

Underline any reference to Christ and what He is doing.

- But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere. (NIV)
- ¹⁴⁻¹⁶ In the Messiah, in Christ, God leads us from place to place in one perpetual victory parade. Through us, he brings knowledge of Christ. Everywhere we go, people breathe in the exquisite fragrance. Because of Christ, we give off a sweet scent rising to God, which is recognized by those on the way of salvation—an aroma redolent with life. But those on the way to destruction treat us more like the stench from a rotting corpse. (the Message)
- Now thanks *be* to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. (NKJV)
- We thank God for the power Christ has given us. He leads us and makes us win in everything. He speaks through us wherever we go. The Good News is like a sweet smell to those who hear it. (NLV)
- But thanks be to God, Who in Christ always leads us in triumph [as trophies of Christ's victory] and through us spreads *and* makes evident the fragrance of the knowledge of God everywhere, (AMP)
- Bible commentary: it was like a box of ointment shut, but now opened by the preaching of the word, which diffuses a fragrant smell; and therefore he is said to make it manifest "by us": the ministers of the Gospel, who openly, boldly, and faithfully preach it; "by the manifestation of the truth"; spread the savour of it (bible study tools.com)

What is your take away from this talk? Did God use any part of this talk to reveal himself to you?

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September Fully Alive Small Group Questions

With only 20 minutes and the first time your group is meeting....Use this time to get acquainted with one another. Answer the following questions about yourself. Depending on time – your group leader will either have you answer all the questions or just a few of them.

- Name
- Husband? Kids? Grandkids? Pets?
- Job?
- Your dream vacation.
- Best part of your summer.
- Something you value in your life.
- Share your take away from tonight's talk.
- What are you looking forward to this year as you are part of the Fully Alive Ministry?

Sweet Aroma of Christ Homework

1. Listen to the Song: Oceans (Where Feet May Fail) by Hillsong United (google or look on you tube)

"Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)"

You call me out upon the waters
The great unknown where feet may fail
And there I find You in the mystery
In oceans deep
My faith will stand

And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

Your grace abounds in deepest waters
Your sovereign hand
Will be my guide
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me
You've never failed and You won't start now

So I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

[6x]
Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders
Let me walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call me
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander
And my faith will be made stronger
In the presence of my Savior

Oh, Jesus, you're my God!

I will call upon Your name
Keep my eyes above the waves
My soul will rest in Your embrace
I am Yours and You are mine

Journal your experience.

2. Meditate on 2 Corinthians 2:14.

- a. Look at different translations of this verse, Biblegateway.com is a great resource for looking up different translations.
- b. Look at any cross reference verses.
- c. Read what was written before verse 14 and what was written after the verse. Read the entire chapter of 2 Corinthians 2.
- d. Record your thoughts:

Write a prayer back to God based on this verse.

3. A.W. Tozer Devotional to Ponder and Meditate On:

A Heavenly Fragrance

To the end he may establish your hearts unblameable in holiness . . . at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 3:13

I have been affected in my own heart and life by reading the testimonies and commentaries of humble men of God whom I consider to be among the great souls of Christian church history. From them I have learned that the word and idea of *holiness* as originally used in the Hebrew did not have, first of all, the moral connotation.

The original root of the word *holy* was of something beyond, something strange and mysterious and awe inspiring. When we consider the holiness of God, we talk about something heavenly, full of awe, mysterious and fear inspiring. This is supreme when it relates to God, but it is also marked in men of God and deepens as men become more like God.

It is a sense of awareness of the other world, a mysterious quality and difference that has come to rest upon some men and women—that is a holiness. When those persons with this special quality and mysterious Presence are morally right and walking in all the holy ways of God, and carrying without even knowing it the fragrance of a kingdom that is supreme above the kingdoms of this world, I am ready to accept that as being of God and from God!

Prayer: Heavenly Father, You are full of awe and wonder. Yet You are the majestic Creator of the universe who wants to connect with His creation in an intimate manner. Why would anyone choose not to worship You as the supreme Giver of life?

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