

## 2 Corinthians

### Lesson #5, Chapter 2:14-17

Read Chapter 2 and 7:6-16.

1. How do verses 14-17 relate to the preceding verses? What's the connection in Paul's thought? (Hint: It might help to remember that Paul finishes his thoughts on verses 12-13 in Ch. 7:6-16).
2. Define *aroma* [NIV, NKJV, ESV *fragrance* (Strong's #3744)]:
3. Define *fragrance* [NIV, ESV *aroma* (Strong's #2175)]:
4. Define *manifest* [ESV, NIV *spreads*, NKJV *diffuses* (Strong's #5319)]:
5. In verse 14 notice who leads us, how often, and whose triumph it is. Who does the manifesting? What kind of fragrance is it? What does the fragrance tell others about us?
6. From verse 14, what kind of God do we follow? Look up the following verses to add to your understanding: Zephaniah 3:17; Matt. 16:18; Rom. 8:37; Rev. 19:11-16.
7. How can those verses give you hope when you are facing discouraging, desperate, or even dangerous situations?

8. What do you learn about being a fragrance of Christ in verses 15-16?
  
9. What other things are a fragrant aroma in the Scriptures: Ex. 29:18; Ezek. 20:41; Eph. 5:2; Phil. 4:18?
  
10. Explain the terms *death to death* and *life to life*. What does Paul mean when he uses them?
  
11. Paul ends verse 16 remarking, “Who is adequate for these things?” Define *adequate* [ESV, NKJV *sufficient*; NIV *equal to* (Strong’s #2425)].
  
12. What “things” does the question, “who is adequate for these things?” refer to (verses 15-17)?
  
13. Paul rhetorically asks, “Who is adequate for these things?” What is the implied answer? Whether adequate or not, Paul had a ministry entrusted to him by God. How does he describe that ministry (verse 17)?
  
14. Look ahead to 3:5-6 to see how Paul answers the question, “Who is adequate for these things?” What do you learn?
  
15. Compare verse 17 with 1:12. What are the hallmarks of Paul’s ministry?

16. What does it mean to “peddle the word of God”? See also 1 Tim. 6:3-5; Titus 1:11; 2 Pet. 2:3. Why is that such a bad thing?
  
17. Notice the layers of authority and accountability that Paul heaps upon himself in verse 17. What 4 ways does Paul conduct his ministry?
  
18. Paul truly understood his calling to preach and teach, to give his life, and to live in holiness. How does the zeal and single-mindedness of Paul’s life encourage and motivate you to live more wholly for the Lord?
  
19. Read verses 14-17 again. Now consider 3 things you want to remember the next time you find yourself in a difficult situation.