

Visible
verse™

2 Corinthians 2:14-16



But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life. And who is equal to such a task?

Flower

Without Excuse

Many of the world's roughly 260,000 species of flowering plants are dependant on pollinators to survive. A pollinator is any insect, bird or animal that carries pollen from one flower to another to accomplish fertilization and the production of seed. Most pollinators, like the Banded Peacock Butterfly shown on the front of this Visible Verse™ card, are seeking the flower's nectar as a sugar-rich, liquid food source. Although nectar is what the butterfly is after, it is often the flower's fragrance that leads it there.

Just as a flower's beautiful fragrance attracts butterflies, the fragrance of our lives should attract and encourages others to follow Christ. What "fragrance" do people "smell" when they see our lives in the community, at work, at home or in the church? Do we leave behind the sweet fragrance of Christ wherever we go? The aroma of Christ is left behind in many ways: an offer of forgiveness, selfless assistance to a neighbor, or lovingly embracing a grieving family member. Although the fragrance of Christ comes in many forms, its source is singular: a heart totally surrendered to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

May you be encouraged to live surrendered to Christ with every flower you smell!

Photo: Banded Peacock Butterfly on Flowers; Chan Chich Lodge, Belize
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