

## BEHIND THE DOOR #4

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**KINGDOM OF GOD:** *the supernatural realm and reality where God's purposes, presence, and power are present, operating, and alongside the natural, material, and visible everywhere I am.*

***"I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."*** Matthew 16:18-19 NIV

I AM \_\_\_\_\_ BY GOD.

I AM \_\_\_\_\_ BY GOD.

TO \_\_\_\_\_ FOR GOD.

***"From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us."*** Acts 17:26-27 NIV

### YOU SMELL THAT?

***"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. This is a terrific responsibility. Is anyone competent to take it on? No—but at least we don't take God's Word, water it down, and then take it to the streets to sell it cheap. We stand in Christ's presence when we speak; God looks us in the face. We get what we say straight from God and say it as honestly as we can."*** 2 Cor. 2:14-17 MSG

### GOD SAYS:

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**WHEN YOU ARE BEHIND THE DOOR...OTHERS WILL CATCH A "WHIFF" OF YOU!**

GOD \_\_\_\_\_

***"Because of Christ, we give off a sweet scent rising to God."***

Romans 12:1 NIV

PEOPLE \_\_\_\_\_.

***"In the Messiah, in Christ, God leads us from place to place in one perpetual victory parade."***

1 John 5:3-5

PEOPLE \_\_\_\_\_.

***"Through us, he brings knowledge of Christ. Everywhere we go, people breathe in the exquisite fragrance."***

Romans 8:29

FELLOW FOLLOWERS \_\_\_\_\_.

***"We give off a sweet scent rising to God, which is recognized by those on the way of salvation—an aroma redolent with life."***

1 Thessalonians 5:11

## NON-FOLLOWERS

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*"But those on the way to destruction treat us more like the stench from a rotting corpse."*

Matthew 5:11-12

Matthew 13:24-30

## PEOPLE

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*"This is a terrific responsibility. Is anyone competent to take it on? No—but at least we don't take God's Word, water it down, and then take it to the streets to sell it cheap. We stand in Christ's presence when we speak; God looks us in the face. We get what we say straight from God and say it as honestly as we can."*

John 8:29

## A SWEET STENCH?

*"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cummin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel." Matthew 23:23-24 NIV*

Matthew 23:25-26

Matthew 23:27-28

## THE POWER TO CHANGE AND SMELL SWEET IS IN CHRIST!

*Holy Spirit...I want to be the aroma of Christ that people see and sense. Fill me and work in me to make me more and more like Jesus and less and less like the world. Help people to see and sense your leadership in my life as I simply follow your voice, your will, and your way. Help people see and sense your character as I boldly pursue change and the fruit of the Spirit. Help me see and intentionally encourage fellow followers of Christ, spreading the triumphant joy of the victorious, uniting our purpose and future as we march behind you in triumph. Help me share my story and spread the exquisite nature of Christ among those who even reject me leading some to belief and salvation. In every circle of influence you place me in, never let my faith be about me but about Christ and his victory. Search my motives. Cleanse my heart. Reveal impurity. Replace it with spiritual integrity. And because I know the Evil One desires to pollute my influence I accept and exercise my authority in you to bind any spirit of religion and loose the Holy Spirit aroma of life. I ask for more and more life to come from you to me so that I can be life-giving in your name. Amen*

## FOR DISCUSSION:

HOW DOES KNOWING YOU ARE PLACED BY GOD STRATEGICALLY CHANGE YOUR MINDSET?

HOW DO OTHERS IN OUR LIVES SENSE CHRIST'S LEADERSHIP IN OUR LIVES? GIVE EXAMPLES

WHO IN YOUR LIFE DO YOU WANT TO BOTH SEE AND SENSE CHRIST IN YOU MOST?

PEOPLE GENERALLY

SPOUSE

FAMILY

COWORKERS

NON-FOLLOWERS

OTHER

CAN YOU DESCRIBE A MOMENT WHEN SOMEONE SAW OR SENSED CHRIST IN YOU WHEN YOU WERE JUST BEING YOU?