

KEY THOUGHTS

- God reveals Himself to us in very sensory-loaded ways. See *Exodus 19:16-19*.
- Like hearing, smell is a wonder-packed sense. Just how intricate God designed us to be able to smell things!
- Bad odors are repulsive! Dirty diapers, rotting food, toxic smells! But even in “bad smells”, God designed us to be able to steer clear of danger.
- **NOTE:** For many of us, our “default intuition” is that we are a “bad smell” to the Lord. That is one reason what we talk about this morning is critical!
- A pleasing aroma is an unexpected, delightful gift. How does the sense of smell connect in our spiritual life? NOT what God smells like to us, but much more what we smell like.
- 1. God is uplifted by the aromas of our sacrifices. 17 times in Leviticus, in describing sacrifices, we hear, “...an offering by fire of a soothing aroma to the Lord.” It’s mind-boggling that our sacrifices can be unexpected, delightful gifts to the Lord!
 - Romans 12:1 – how we live our lives, sacrificially unto the Lord, is our current sacrifice
 - Philippians 4:18 also highlights that our financial gifts are pleasing aromas to the Lord
 - The New Covenant model of giving is planned, priority, percentage, generous, sacrificial giving.
- 2. Our lives, lived in the way of Jesus, are also pleasing aromas to those around us. (See 2 Corinthians 2:15). Like pleasing aromas, our lives are to be pleasing invitations to other people to draw closer to Jesus.

SCRIPTURES

- Romans 12:1
- Philippians 4:16-20
- 2 Corinthians 2:15

PRACTICAL & REFLECT

Some practical things to do to take advantage of the aromas we are to give off:

- 1. What sacrifice is Jesus asking of you that needs to be offered?
- 2. In honest reflection, how does your lifestyle draw or repel others to the way of Jesus?