

Uncertain **TIMES**

03/12/17

Following Christ in Uncertain Times

Introduction

The Aroma of Christ

¹² When I came to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ, even though a door was opened for me in the Lord, ¹³ my spirit was not at rest because I did not find my brother Titus there. So I took leave of them and went on to Macedonia. ¹⁴ But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. ¹⁵ For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, ¹⁶ to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? (2 Corinthians 2:12-16, ESV)

Speak the Truth in Love

¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ... (Ephesians 4:15, ESV)

(See also Leviticus 19:13, Deuteronomy 24:15, and James 5:1-6)

Embrace Humility

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:5-11, ESV)

Prioritize Advancing God's Kingdom

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" (Matthew 4:8-10, ESV)

Digging Deeper into Work

This week's passages:

Monday: 2 Corinthians 2

Tuesday: Ephesians 4

Wednesday: Philippians 2

Thursday: Matthew 4

Friday: Matthew 6

Weekend: Review the most meaningful passages of the week.

Each day this week you are invited to read the day's passage and then respond to the following questions. You might find it beneficial to use a journal or notebook to record insights.

1. **Read** the passage prayerfully, listening for the voice of God and asking him to speak to you.
2. **Record** or write down the word, phrase, or verse that God impresses upon you.
3. **Reflect** and write down what it is about this word, phrase or verse that is meaningful to you.
4. **Respond** by writing a prayer or recording what it is that you think the Lord wants you to do in response to his word ("*Be doers of the word and not hearers only*" James 1:22).