

Message Notes

"Life is like a cigarette. Smoke it to the butt."

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction – *"Life is like tofu..."*

A look at how to "smoke life to the butt" from someone who smoked it hard - the Apostle Paul:

1 Corinthians 4:1-5:21

1. No B.S.!! Be a person of radical integrity!
(1 Corinthians 4:1-2)
2. Make Much of God! Make Not So Much of You!
(1 Corinthians 4:3-6)
3. No Posing or Promoting a "Happy Jesus" Life!
(1 Corinthians 4:7-12)
4. Be a person of courage - a risk taker - in God!
(1 Corinthians 4:13-15)
5. E.P. (Eternal Perspective)
(1 Corinthians 4:16-18)
6. "Let Pain be Your Guide"
(1 Corinthians 5:1-4)
7. Live Life like a Golden Retriever
(1 Corinthians 5:5-10)
8. Live life on a mission (w/o crossing an ocean)
(1 Corinthians 5:11-13)
9. Does the Love of Jesus Christ compel you?
(1 Corinthians 5:14-17)
10. Choke every bit out of life by Ambassadoring!
(1 Corinthians 5:18-21)

Application – *"Living life Missionally..."*

2 Corinthians 4:1-5:21

¹Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. ⁷But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. ⁸We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. ¹⁰We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body. ¹²So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you. ¹³It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you in his presence. ¹⁵All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. ¹⁶Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. ¹⁹Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. ²⁰Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, ²¹because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. ²²For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ²³Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. ²⁴Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. ²⁵We live by faith, not by sight. ²⁶We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ²⁷So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. ²⁸For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due to him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. ²⁹Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience. ³⁰We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart. ³¹If we are out of our mind, it is for the sake of God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ³²For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ³³And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. ³⁴So from now on we regard no-one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ³⁵Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! ³⁶All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ³⁷that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ³⁸We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ³⁹God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.