God's Sovereign Choice - Romans 9:1-29

Topics: Blessing, Burdens, Justice, Opportunities, Rejection, Sovereignty

Open It

- 1. When have you felt that you were judged unfairly in a contest?
- * 2. How do you react when someone brags that God is on his or her side?

Explore It

- 3. What strong emotion was Paul feeling? (9:2)
- 4. What situation made Paul feel sad and anguished? (9:2-3)
- 5. How far was Paul willing to go for his fellow Jews? (9:3)
- 6. What gifts and opportunities had God given to the Jewish people? (9:4-5)
- 7. How did Paul explain the difference between Jews who believe and Jews who do not believe? (9:6-8)
- 8. Whom did God bless as the parents of the nation of Israel? (9:7-9)
- * 9. What did Paul say to people who claim to be children of God merely because they are descendants of Abraham? (9:8-9)
 - 10. Who were the children of Isaac and Rebekah? (9:10-13)
 - 11. What decision did God make about Jacob and Esau before they were born? (9:12-13)
- * 12. How did Paul defend the accusation that God is unjust in His treatment of people? (9:14-15)
- * 13. What determines how God bestows favor on people? (9:16)
 - 14. What examples from history did Paul use to demonstrate God's choice of blessing? (9:17-18)
 - 15. What right do we have to question God? (9:19-21)
 - 16. Why does God show great patience with us even though we deserve His wrath? (9:22-24)
 - 17. What did the prophets Isaiah and Hosea tell us about God's patience and justice? (9:25-29)

Get It

- 18. What burdens do you carry for friends or relatives who do not know Christ?
- * 19. How could a person come from a very religious background and still not have a personal faith in God?
 - 20. In what ways do people depend on a religious heritage for their salvation?
 - 21. What's wrong with depending on a religious background or heritage for favor with God?
 - 22. What sacrifices would you be willing to make to give others a chance to know Christ?
 - 23. Why do we tend to question God's actions toward us or anyone else?
 - 24. According to this passage, why are Jewish people often resistant to the message of peace with God through Jesus Christ?
 - 25. What does this passage teach us about God's character?
 - 26. What implications does Paul's burden for Israel have for our lives today?
- * 27. On what basis does God choose people to inherit His promises?
 - 28. How have you experienced God's mercy and patience in your life?

Apply It

- * 29. What sacrifices or efforts can you make this week to help a friend come to faith in Christ?
 - 30. When can you take time this week to thank God for His acts of mercy and love to you?