

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, January 12, 2014

Passage: Romans 11:11-24

Memory Passage: Romans 11:11

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rom. 11:11-24.** (FYI: All application this week will come in Day 5.) To what does Paul refer in v. 11 when he says that the Jews did not “fall?”
- (b) How has salvation come to the Gentiles “through their trespass,” and how does this make Israel “jealous” (v. 11)?
- (c) Do the terms “world” & “Gentiles” refer to the same or different people, and how do you know? What are the “riches” that are received because of the trespass of the Jews?
- (d) To what does the phrase “full inclusion” mean, and why will it be “much more” than the riches provided to others?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rom. 11:11-24.** What does Paul mean by, “I magnify my ministry,” and how does this make the Jews jealous?
- (b) Who is doing the rejection in v. 14 (e.g. God rejecting the Jews or the Jews rejecting Christ), and how do you know?
- (c) What are the referents for each of the 4 parts of the 2 metaphors found in v. 16 (i.e. dough, lump, root, branches)?
- (d) How is each of these “holy?”

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rom. 11:11-24.** What are the referents for each of the parts of the olive tree metaphor (i.e. some branches who were broken off, the branches that remained, the wild olive shoot, the root)?
- (b) To whom is Paul speaking in these verses (v.13), and what is he warning this group to guard against (v. 18, 20)?
- (c) How is remembering that “it is not you who support the root, but the root that supports you” an antidote to Gentile pride?
- (d) What reasons are given in v. 20 for (1) some branches being broken off, and (2) the grafted-in branches standing fast, and why do these facts provide another antidote to Gentile pride?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Romans 11:11-24.** Explain the 2 aspects of God’s character (v. 22) & how they are exhibited toward both sets of branches.
- (b) What conditions are given for (1) the wild branches not being cut off, and (2) the natural branches being grafted back in?
- (c) Is Paul saying in vs. 21-22 that a Gentile believer (the wild branch grafted in) can lose his/her salvation (cf. “neither will he spare you” & “otherwise you too will be cut off”)? If not, what does this warning actually mean?
- (d) Explain verse 24 and its purpose in the flow of Paul’s argument.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Romans 11:11-24.** In what ways are you tempted to show (or actually do show) arrogance toward unbelievers, and how does this passage help you combat this tendency?
- (b) What is your initial personal response to warning passages such as this one (11:21-22)? What *should* your response be, and how do these kinds of passages strengthen your faith and deepen your love and thanksgiving toward God?
- (c) In what ways are you harboring spiritual pride toward others, whether believer or non-believer, Jew or Gentile?
- (d) How might you use this passage to encourage someone who is struggling with the idea of eternal security

DATE: January 12, 2014

PASSAGE: Romans 11:11-24

Gracious Grafting

In Romans 11:11-24 Paul provides 4 evidences that God intends to save His people by orchestrating a specific progression of events: (1st) hardening the Jews (2nd) saving the Gentiles (3rd) saving the Jews.