



IN GOD'S HANDS

Let God Be God (Romans 9) Talk-it-Over Notes | July 18-19, 2026

REVIEW IT

Romans 9 - 11 illustrate how God's plan for Israel demonstrates His character. Throughout history God has been electing people for his purpose. For instance, God elected Israel to bring us Christ. God's choice illustrates 4 principles of salvation:

1. Salvation is based on God's grace not our race
2. Salvation is based on God's promise not our preference
3. Salvation is based on God's providence not our performance
4. Salvation is based on God's mercy not our merit

The nation of Israel was zealous to be right with God, but they were doing it in the wrong way. They pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works. They ended up rejecting the messiah God promised to give them. "They stumbled over the stumbling stone."

Christ is either your stumbling block or He's your solid rock.

Spend some time in the word: Read Romans chapter 9

TALK ABOUT IT

1. What is one thing that stood out to you from this message?
2. Romans 9 discusses God's sovereignty in choosing whom He will use for His purposes. How does understanding that God chooses based on His grace, promise, providence, and mercy (not our merit or preference) affect the way you view your own faith journey and the people God uses?
3. Paul wrestles with the heartbreak of Israel's rejection of Jesus, even as he affirms God's faithfulness to His promises. How do you hold both the mystery of God's choices and the call to personal responsibility in your own spiritual life?
4. Romans 9 presents the concept of God choosing people according to His own purposes, not human works or expectations. How does this challenge or affirm your understanding of God's character and how He interacts with humanity?
5. Reflecting on the idea that God uses both good and bad experiences to shape us, how have you seen God's sovereignty at work in your own life story, especially in times of uncertainty or difficulty?

ACT ON IT

Identify one way you can intentionally be a blessing to someone who is an outsider to Christianity this week—whether through a kind word, an act of service, or a note of encouragement. Just as Israel was blessed to be a blessing, look for an opportunity to extend God's love to others and reflect His grace in a tangible way.

PRAY ABOUT IT

Take time to ask how you can pray for and support one another in prayer. Then, close in prayer.