



ROMANS

CHAPTERS 9-11

DEVOTIONAL GUIDE



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ROMANS (CHAPTERS 9-11)

This is the third booklet (in a series of four) helping us to journey through the book of Romans together. I love the picture of us journeying together in this because the visual has movement with a destination. So as we do these devotionals together, the goal isn't religious activity or duty, the vision is a people banding together following Jesus and listening to His word together, with the goal of us **Knowing** Jesus more intimately, **Being** transformed by the Holy Spirit, compelled to **Do** mission with God... **Together**.

The shared journey we have together through these devotionals aids in that process!

So far through Romans we've learned:

- God had a plan for one large, multi-ethnic family following Him when He created the world and humanity.
- Yet, humanity, WE, have walked away and rejected God.
- But God pursues us and offers us His righteousness.
- We have inherited a sinful, stubborn heart from Adam.
- The law, intended to show us God's good path, showed us that we could not obey.
- But, like Abraham, our faith allows us to receive God's righteousness and justification.
- He is about redeeming a multi-ethnic family of faith, aka, God still has the same plan!
- The Holy Spirit now allows us to be conformed into His image and turn away from our old nature.

Of course, 8 bullet points really can't summarize the amazing journey and deep things we seen thus far through the first 8 chapters of Romans, and this devotional which covers chapters 9-11 will continue in the deep amazing things of God.

Let's journey together!

Keith

Pastor/elder



WEEK 1

SUNDAY (11/8/20) SERMON NOTES

MONDAY (11/9/20)

We will begin by checking out the great work at the **Bible Project**. This is the summary of chapters 5-16. Enjoy!

We watched this last month as well, but pay special attention to the section on chapters 9-11, which are the chapters that we will be focusing on the next few weeks. These three chapters are challenging to be sure and we will walk together through them!

 <https://youtu.be/0SVTl4Xa5fY>



TUESDAY (11/10/20)

Read Romans 9:1-5

We are going to travel through these 3 chapters kind of slowly. Paul assumes that we know a fair amount of history about Israel, the Patriarchs, and His promises to them. So we will be popping back and forth doing a bit of reading in the Old Testament to enrich our history.

It's challenging, so try to not get discouraged. We are learning together.

- ② How does Paul describe the way that he is feeling and why is he so distraught?

- ② How does Paul describe the Israelites? What was unique about them?

- ② Is there anyone that you know or are related to that does not walk with Jesus that you feel as strongly as Paul about? Who comes to mind for you to pray for?

THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL: ADOPTED AS SONS

Each day we are going to read through some of the passages and verses Paul may be thinking of as he lists these descriptors you will see them in a history box.

Jeremiah 31:9 They will come with weeping; they will pray as I bring them back. I will lead them beside streams of water on a level path where they will not stumble, because I am Israel's father, and Ephraim is my firstborn son.

Hosea 11:1 "When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son."



WEDNESDAY (11/11/20)

Read Romans 9:6-9


Verse 5 told us that Israel had the Patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac and Jacob), and these verses begin with Abraham. You can find Abraham's story in Genesis chapters 12-25.

If you want a video refresher of the Genesis story, check out the Bible Project below:

 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4isSyennFo>



God promised Abraham a natural born son through Sarah. It was through this family that God intended to bless the whole world. We read in chapter 4 earlier this fall that Abraham was declared righteous because of his faith. But Abraham had a first, natural born son with his servant, Hagar. Impatient for the fulfillment of the promise, Abraham and Sarah took having a descendant into their own hands and Ishmael was born.

 When have you lacked faith to wait on the Lord to work, but devised your own plan? Share this story:

② How can you tell in your own life, when you are functioning with faith or functioning in your own efforts?

③ Spend some time praying and asking the Holy Spirit to show you areas of your life not built on faith.

THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL: THE GLORY OF THE LORD

Leviticus 9: 6, 23 Then Moses said, “This is what the Lord has commanded you to do, so that the glory of the Lord may appear to you.”; Moses and Aaron then went into the tent of meeting. When they came out, they blessed the people; and the glory of the Lord appeared to all the people.



THURSDAY (11/12/20)

Read Romans 9:10-16

Remember to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to shed light as you read.

We continue on with the Patriarch's to Isaac (Abraham's son through whom the promise was carried on) and Jacob. Isaac has twin sons (Esau & Jacob), and God chooses the younger of the twins (Jacob) to carry the promise through. You can read this story in Genesis 25 and on.

② In your thinking, what is good about how God chose between the twins (verse 11)?

② What is hard about that?

❓ How does Paul answer the accusation that God is unjust? (v 14)

❓ What do you learn about God's character from this passage?

THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL: THE COVENANTS

Abraham's covenant:

Genesis 15:18-21: ¹⁸On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram and said, "To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates— ¹⁹ the land of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, ²⁰ Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites, ²¹ Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites and Jebusites."

Abraham's covenant: (continued):

Genesis 17: 4-8: ⁴“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. ⁵No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. ⁶I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. ⁸The whole land of Canaan, where you now reside as a foreigner, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God.”

Moses' Covenant:

Exodus 19:5: ⁵Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession.

Deuteronomy 29 1-15: ¹These are the terms of the covenant the Lord commanded Moses to make with the Israelites in Moab, in addition to the covenant he had made with them at Horeb. ²Moses summoned all the Israelites and said to them: Your eyes have seen all that the Lord did in Egypt to Pharaoh, to all his officials and to all his land. ³With your own eyes you saw those great trials, those signs and great wonders. ⁴But to this day the Lord has not given you a mind that understands or eyes that see or ears that hear. ⁵Yet the Lord says, “During the forty years that I led you through the wilderness, your clothes did not wear out, nor did the sandals on your feet. ⁶You ate no bread and drank no wine or other fermented drink. I did this so that you might know that I am the Lord your God.”⁷ When you reached this place, Sihon king of Heshbon and Og king of Bashan came out to fight against us, but we defeated them. ⁸We took their land and gave it as an inheritance to the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh.

⁹ Carefully follow the terms of this covenant, so that you may prosper in everything you do. ¹⁰ All of you are standing today in the presence of the Lord your God—your leaders and chief men, your elders and officials, and all the other men of Israel, ¹¹ together with your children and your wives, and the foreigners living in your camps who chop your wood and carry your water. ¹² You are standing here in order to enter into a covenant with the Lord your God, a covenant the Lord is making with you this day and sealing with an oath, ¹³ to confirm you this day as his people, that he may be your God as he promised you and as he swore to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. ¹⁴ I am making this covenant, with its oath, not only with you ¹⁵ who are standing here with us today in the presence of the Lord our God but also with those who are not here today.



FRIDAY (11/13/20)


Read Romans 9:17-21


For background related to Pharaoh Israel, and Moses, you can read the beginning of Exodus. You can also watch our friends at the **Bible Project**:

 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0uf-PgW7rqE>



We've had a ton of history this week! This background of how Israel came to be will help us understand not only this chapter, but the next two chapters.

 Define the word mercy:

 What gives God the right to choose who receives mercy?

❓ Do any of us deserve His mercy? Why or why not?

🕒 Spend some time praying and sharing with God any questions that have come up for you as you've read this chapter.

THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL: THE RECEIVING OF THE LAW

Exodus 24: 1-4 ¹ Then the Lord said to Moses, “Come up to the Lord, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel. You are to worship at a distance, ² but Moses alone is to approach the Lord; the others must not come near. And the people may not come up with him.”

³ When Moses went and told the people all the Lord's words and laws, they responded with one voice, “Everything the Lord has said we will do.”

⁴ Moses then wrote down everything the Lord had said. He got up early the next morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain and set up twelve stone pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel.



SATURDAY (11/14/20)

Read Romans 9:22-29

We see in all three of these Old Testament quotes, the idea that God is wanting a family of faith that includes all the peoples- not just the Israelites. His heart was for the Israelites to witness to His saving power. Instead they rebelled, disobeyed, and flagrantly disrespected God.

And yet the scriptures tell us that he has great patience - which, if you read through the Old Testament (we won't do that today!), we see how He is constantly pursuing His people.

Even as we listen to Keith's sermons in Revelation, we will see how God demonstrates His glory and the people refuse to bow in worship.

 Why do you think God is patient with us?

 How do Hosea and Isaiah explain God's patience and love for us?

❓ How have you seen God’s patience in your life and the lives of those that you love?

✍ Spend some time writing out ways that you’ve seen God’s patience in your own life:

THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL: THE TEMPLE WORSHIP

1 Kings 8:22-30 ²² Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in front of the whole assembly of Israel, spread out his hands toward heaven ²³ and said: “Lord, the God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below—you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way. ²⁴ You have kept your promise to your servant David my father; with your mouth you have promised and with your hand you have fulfilled it—as it is today. ²⁵ “Now Lord, the God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father the promises you made to him when you said, ‘You shall never fail to have a successor to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your descendants are careful in all they do to walk before me faithfully as you have done.’ ²⁶ And now, God of Israel, let your word that you promised your servant David my father come true. ²⁷ “But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built! ²⁸ Yet give attention to your servant’s prayer and his plea for mercy, Lord my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day. ²⁹ May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said, ‘My Name shall be there,’ so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place. ³⁰ Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.

SUNDAY (11/15/20)

We made it!

The day to relax in God's presence or catch up on videos or reading that has been hard during the week.

Spend some time enjoying just being with the Father, knowing that He delights in spending time with you.

THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL AND THEIR PROMISES

Genesis 13: 14-17 ¹⁴ The Lord said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, “Look around from where you are, to the north and south, to the east and west. ¹⁵ All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. ¹⁶ I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. ¹⁷ Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you.”

Isaiah 9: 6-7 ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Jeremiah 31:33-36 ³³ “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. ³⁴ No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the Lord. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.” ³⁵ This is what the Lord says, he who appoints the sun to shine by day, who decrees the moon and stars to shine by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar— the Lord Almighty is his name: ³⁶ “Only if these decrees vanish from my sight,” declares the Lord, “will Israel ever cease being a nation before me.”



WEEK 2

SUNDAY (11/15/20) - SERMON NOTES

WEEK 2 • MEMORY VERSE • ROMANS 10:9-10

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

MONDAY (11/16/20)

📖 Read Romans 9:30-33 and Matthew 11:1-6

Paul started this chapter out deeply sad that his Israelite brothers had rejected Jesus, and thus been rejected by Him.


- ② From verse 32, what was their real issue?


- ② Why do you think faith is so important to God?


- ② How does Jesus respond to the honest questions from John the Baptist’s disciples? John was surely struggling to believe that Jesus was indeed the Messiah as he (John) sat in prison.

- ② What do you think that it means when Paul says “the one who trusts in Him will not be put to shame?”


TUESDAY (11/17/20)

 **Read all of Romans 9** and do the Know, Be, Do method of study through the chapter

 KNOW - What does the text say about God?

 BE - What does the text say about us?

 DO - What is the text calling me to do?

 Write out the whole verse that you want to stick with you throughout the day today:

WEEK 2 • MEMORY VERSE • ROMANS 10:9-10

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

WEDNESDAY (11/18/20)

 **Read Romans 10:1-4**

② How does a person seek to establish their own righteousness?

② In what ways do you “perform” to earn God’s favor?

② How does Jesus bring an end to the idea that we can work and earn God’s favor?

Several times in this journey through Romans, the question has been asked, “have you had faith in Jesus to pay the penalty for your sins and transferred your allegiance to Him as King- thereby receiving His righteousness in return?” This is crucial as it allows the Holy Spirit to have access into our lives and to transform us.


If you have questions, please reach out to Keith, Benji, Andrew or Susan.

You may have noticed that we did not have a memory verse last week. We had so much history to wade through, it seemed better to wait! This week we are back to memorizing.




THURSDAY (11/19/20)

 Read Romans 10:5-10

 What does it mean to you that “Jesus is Lord?”

 What are we “saved” from?

 Remember again what it means to be justified (look it up if you need to!). What is the difference between justification and salvation (or being saved)?

It can seem sometimes like Paul just loves big words. But I so appreciate the way that he nuances out all the amazing things that God offers us when we choose to submit to Him as our King.

WEEK 2 • MEMORY VERSE • ROMANS 10:9-10

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.


FRIDAY (11/20/20)

 **Read Romans 10:11-13**

② Where does shame come up in your story? How has Satan used shame in your life?

② Paul repeats the verse he quoted at the end of chapter 9 to reinforce that God will never put to shame those who trust in Him.

② Have you seen God work to remove the shame that sneaks up? The shame that can feel like a heavy covering over you? The shame that holds you captive and keeps you from running to your heavenly Father?

 **Read Ephesians 1:3-14** and list some of the blessings we receive when we “call on Him”:

 Write out a prayer of thankfulness for the blessings you listed above.

SATURDAY (11/21/20)

Read Romans 10:14-15

Paul quotes Isaiah 52 here. The Israelites had been exiled to Assyria and Babylon as a result of their stubborn disobedience. The good news here is that those in Babylon are going to be able to return home.

② What “good news” is Paul referring to here?

② Think through what you know of the scriptural history. How does Jesus being the Messiah offer “good news” to all of these generations, from Abraham to David to the Israelites returning from captivity to John the Baptist?

② Who is someone the Lord has for you to share the “good news” with? Stop and pray for those people right now.

SUNDAY (11/22/20)

Again, a day to sit and connect with the Father. To spend time in thanksgiving and praise. Enjoy the rest.

WEEK 2 • MEMORY VERSE • ROMANS 10:9-10

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.



WEEK 3

SUNDAY (11/22/20) - SERMON NOTES

WEEK 3 • MEMORY VERSE • ROMANS 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

MONDAY (11/23/20)

Romans 10:16-21

So it is clear from these verses that Israel heard the good news, but many did not believe.


- ② Why do you think?


- ② How does God use the Gentiles (us) to make Israel envious?


- ② Why does He do this?

- ② What do you learn about God's character from these verses?


TUESDAY (11/24/20)

 **Read all of Romans 10** and do the Know, Be, Do method of study through the chapter

 KNOW - What does the text say about God?

 BE - What does the text say about us?

 DO - What is the text calling me to do?

 Write out the whole verse that you want to stick with you throughout the day today:

WEEK 3 • MEMORY VERSE • ROMANS 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

WEDNESDAY (11/25/20)

We continue in some hard passages! Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to teach you as you read.

Read Romans 11:1-6

② What is Paul's answer to those who were saying that God had rejected Israel?

② How do works nullify grace?

Paul references a story about Elijah the Prophet. He was discouraged and being hunted to be killed. He cries out to the Lord feeling that he was the only one left worshiping the One True God. God reassures him in such a sweet way.

② How does Paul use this story to encourage his readers?

② When has God responded in sweetness to an exasperated and frustrated cry from you?



THURSDAY (11/26/20)

Happy Thanksgiving!

 **Read Romans 11:7-11**

② What do you think is Paul's main point in these verses?

② Israel earnestly thought that obedience to the law was the only way to be pleasing to God, and thus they missed recognizing Jesus as their promised Messiah. Why do you think this brought the consequence of God darkening their eyes?

② What does this tell us about God's character?

WEEK 3 • MEMORY VERSE • ROMANS 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

FRIDAY (11/27/20)

 **Read Romans 11:12-16**

② What is Paul hoping to be the result of his focusing on sharing the good news with the Gentiles?

② How does Paul explain the good that is coming from Israel's stubbornness?

② How is this pertinent to our lives today? Is it pertinent?



SATURDAY (11/28/20)

Read Romans 11:17-24

Verse 18 explains that we should not boast about our position in God's family. We did nothing to deserve it.

Verse 20 reminds us of where we have come from in the early chapters- it all boils down to faith versus unbelief. God desires faith and rewards faith with righteousness.

 Explain Paul's visual aid:

 How is God both kind and stern?

Kind:

Stern:

I was doing some reading about grafting branches together. This sentence caught my eye: "In grafting, the injured tissue of one vine heals to the injured tissue of another."

I love the picture of God taking us who were injured from our separation from Him and our living in a fallen world, and grafts us into a vine injured by disbelief. Many times grafting is used to produce better fruit or a stronger vine. God is after showing His glory throughout the generations and we are a part of that. Ultimately we should be grateful to be grafted into this family of faith started by Abraham. Neither the Israelites, or us, deserve the righteousness, the peace, the riches that we have been given. Blessed we are.

SUNDAY (11/29/20)

I love the predictable routine of worship and rest on these mornings. Spend some time praying for all those involved in the worship service this morning.

WEEK 3 • MEMORY VERSE • ROMANS 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!



WEEK 4

SUNDAY (11/29/20) - SERMON NOTES

WEEK 4 • MEMORY VERSE • ROMANS 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!


MONDAY (11/30/20)

 Read Romans 11:25-32

② How does verse 28 demonstrate God's faithfulness to His promises?

② Look back to the first week in this booklet to the history section on the Promises of Israel. In the blessing of our hindsight, how has God been faithful to these promises also?

② How have you seen God's faithfulness in your own life?

 Is there a promise in scripture that you are clinging to right now? Share the story and pray again about this.

TUESDAY (12/1/20)

 Read Romans 11:33-36

② What do we learn about God from these verses?

② What do we learn about man/ ourselves from these verses?

② What action can I take as a result of these verses?

WEEK 4 • MEMORY VERSE • ROMANS 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

WEDNESDAY (12/2/20)

We are going to watch one last video. It's actually not from the Bible Project! It is a simple explanation of the last three chapters that I thought would be good to end with!


 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l4Jcgzg0U90>





I like how they use the past (chapter 9), present (chapter 10), and future (chapter 11) explanation of this really challenging part in Romans.

My prayer has been that all of us will walk away with a broad understanding of how we in the church today are connected to the Israelites in the Old Testament, how their good news of a Savior was also our good news in Jesus, and how God has a plan larger than all of us.


THURSDAY (12/3/20)

 **Read all of Romans 11** and do the Know, Be, Do method of study through the chapter


 KNOW - What does the text say about God?


 BE - What does the text say about us?

 DO - What is the text calling me to do?

 Write out the whole verse that you want to stick with you throughout the day today:

FRIDAY (12/4/20)

 Just like we did at the end of the last booklet, we are going to do some listening. Today, listen to chapters 1-6.


 Jot things on this page that stand out to you from these chapters.


WEEK 4 • MEMORY VERSE • ROMANS 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!



SATURDAY (12/5/20)

 Just like we did at the end of the last booklet, we are going to do some listening. Today, listen to chapters 7-11.

 Jot things on this page that stand out to you from these chapters.

SUNDAY (12/6/20)

We did it! We made it through some really hard chapters in Romans- treat yourself this morning with your favorite hot beverage and spend some time worshiping and praising God, who has granted us access into his family!

WEEK 4 • MEMORY VERSE • ROMANS 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!





Know. Be. Do... *Together*

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