



## Sermon Discussion Questions

"Mercy On All"

Romans 11

February 5, 2017

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Openers:

What item has a friend or relative ever possessed that made you jealous?

Who was someone you were envious of in school and why?

What have been the benefits of healthy competition in your life?

Group Interaction: *[The following content is meant to supplement the sermon, to offer further points of interaction with the sermon texts. Also, feel free to facilitate your own discussion regarding the sermon or texts.]*

1. Has God rejected the Jews (v 1)? On what basis are Paul and others of the remnant chosen (vv 5-6)?

2. What good thing came to the Gentiles from the Jews' transgression (v 11)?

What hope does Paul have from this for the Jews (v 14)?

What are the grafted branches warned against (v 20) and why?

3. From verses 17-21, who are the following: The broken branches? The other branches?

The wild olive shoot? The root? What is the point of this illustration?

4. Why does Paul want his gentile readers to be aware of God's plan (v 25)? Why would pride become a danger for them?

5. What do both the Jews and the Gentiles share in common (vv 29-32)?

6. How does the doxology in verses 33-36 relate to, (a) Paul's argument in verses 25-32? (b)

Any questions that may have been raised by chapters 9-11?

Application:

7. How is it possible for someone to try so hard to please God that they actually resist his love for them? When (if ever) have you experienced this?

8. How do members of your small group struggle with works versus grace? In what ways are works important?

9. When someone else receives God's blessing and grace in his or her life, does that spur you on to seek God all the more, or does it leave you feeling another way? Why?

10. In what ways has God shown his mercy to you or someone close to you?

For your prayer time, begin it at least by reading aloud together the doxology that is verses 33-36. Take your time and read it slowly, meditating on it along the way. You may like to reread it together a time or two. Go forth into your week thinking on a word or phrase that really spoke to you.

\*These questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).