

Scripture: Romans 9

OPEN:

1. What about your family background helped you toward faith in Christ? What hindered you?

DIG:

1. In vv 1-3, what phrases show Paul's deep concern for his people?
2. How should each of the benefits he mentions in vv 4-5 have drawn the Jewish people to Christ? How does he account for their unbelief in spite of these advantages? How does what he wrote in 4:12 fit in here? How does this explain who the "children of the promise" are?
3. In light of vv 10-13, how does Paul maintain God's justice? What does 3:9-20 imply would be just and fair for each of us to receive from God? According to 5:9-10, on what basis does God relate to us? How does this tie in with 9:15-16?
4. How does Paul respond to further questions about God's fairness in choosing some but not others? How do the Old Testament verses (25-29) relate to Paul's argument here?

REFLECT:

1. If you could ask Paul for clarification on this passage, what would you ask him? Why? How do you think he'd respond?

2. How do you feel about vs 16? Have you ever wondered about why God chose you to be a part of his plan for the universe? What have you concluded? What work do you think God created you for?