

Scripture: Romans 11:1-11

OPEN:

1. As a child, when did your desire to be like one of your heroes help you to change and grow?

DIG:

1. How does Paul's question in vs 11 relate to the question in vs 1? What hope does he give in his answer?
2. In what ways would God's grace toward Gentiles break through the walls of presumption which the Jews had built toward God?
3. Up to now Paul has been dealing with the tendency of Jewish believers to feel superior to Gentiles: How does this image of an olive tree deal with the other side of the coin in vv 13-24?
4. What phrases indicate what the Gentiles were thinking? What attitude ought they have toward their acceptance by God? How does this section emphasize the point Paul has been trying to make all along (that there is no difference between Jew and Gentile before God?)
5. How would you reconcile v 22 with Rom 8:38-39?

REFLECT:

1. Has arrogance between types of Christians hurt your church experience? If so, how?
2. When someone else receives God's blessing does it spur you on to seek God all the more or does it make you upset? Why?