

# GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

## God's Strategy in Human History

### Week 4: God's Strategy Regarding Blessing

Romans 9:22-23

Week of August 23, 2020

(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

God was very devoted to all of Israel even though not all of Israel were reconciled to Him. In this sermon we studied the reason God graciously blessed all the nation of Israel. We discovered that His devotion to the Jews had a lot to do with His love for Gentiles.

**Kicking it off:** In the introduction to his sermon, Jeff shared that his teenage hangout was the Barrington Square Mall. Where did you and your friends hang out during your teenage years?

#### Discussion:

1. Reread *Romans 9:22* What if God, choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath—prepared for destruction?

How do you feel about God's "wrath?" Why should we be glad that God has wrath?

2. In *Romans 9:22* Paul indicates that God was gracious to the Jews who were "objects of his wrath." Can you think of any ways that God was good to faithless Jews?

3. Reread *Romans 9:23* He did this to make the riches of his glory known to the objects of his mercy.

God blessed Israel in order to show us how He treats His own...even though not all of them were technically His. How does the history of Israel show us God's glory?

4. *Romans 9:23* indicates that knowledge of God's glory is like "riches!" In what ways does our knowledge of God's beauty make us "rich?"

5. Why do many Christians fail to realize all that they have in Christ?

6. Reread God's description of the Israel's rescue found in *Exodus 9:4-5* "You have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession."

What does this description tell us of God's heart toward us?

7. Jeff said that Christians are living a "Cinderella Story." In what ways is that true?

**Wrapping It Up:** *Ephesians 1:18* says, "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance." Spend some time praying the prayer in that verse.