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PRAYER

Loving Father, I praise you that you have shown yourself faithful to your people, throughout all generations. Help me to be strong in the Lord and to rely on you in all the problems of life that I may face, knowing that you are with me wherever I go. Thank you, Father, in Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

From <u>Prayer Knowing Jesus</u>



What single piece of advice would you give yourself 10 years ago?

WORD

¹¹ So I ask, did they stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather, through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous. ¹² Now if their trespass means riches for the world, and if their failure means riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their full inclusion mean!

¹³ Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry ¹⁴ in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. ¹⁵ For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? ¹⁶ If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches.

¹⁷ But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, although a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing root of the olive tree, ¹⁸ do not be arrogant toward the branches. If you are, remember it is not you who support the root, but the root that supports you. ¹⁹ Then you will say, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." ²⁰ That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast through faith. So do not become proud, but fear.

²¹ For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you. ²² Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God's kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you too will be cut off. ²³ And even they, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. ²⁴ For if you were cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, the natural branches, be grafted back into their own olive tree.

ROMANS 11:11-24

■ GUIDE QUESTIONS

DDAVED

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

- 1. On a scale from 1-10 (1 =not at all; 10 = completely), how would you rate your trust in God's plan for your life? Why have you rated yourself this way?
- What are some things that may hinder God's plan from being fulfilled in your life?
- 3. In Romans 11:1-2, what evidence does Paul give of Israel not being forgotten? What evidence or examples could you give of God's plan working in your own life?
- 4. Could you explain how salvation came to the Jews and then the Gentiles as Paul lays it out in Romans 11?
- 5. Paul gave a warning to the Gentiles through the illustration of the branches and the root. What was it? What does this warning mean for us, and how do we walk this out today?
- 6. Would you like to trust God for your future as his child through faith in him, and that you would begin to share your faith story with someone this week? Would you like to receive the gift of life forever in God, as you enter into a saving relationship with him through Jesus? Ask your Life Group leader to lead you in prayer to receive Christ. You can pray this prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow you as my Lord and Saviour. In Jesus' name, Amen.

PRATER								