

GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE

TODAY'S TEXT  [Romans 9:1-24](#)

NOTES 

👁 God won't _____ you if you don't want to be _____!

👁 _____ God today and you will discover God already _____ you.

👁 God's plan _____ you, but does your plan _____ God?

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: ROMANS: Best News Ever

Message: Part 16 – God’s Chosen People – Romans 9:1-24

Speaker: Shawn Vandop

Date: February 5, 2022



Connect (30min)


1. **CHECK IN:** (Break into groups of 2-3 or Men/Women)
 - a. What comes to mind when you hear the word “**BOLD**”?
 - b. Our 2023 Prayer Goal theme for February is “**BE BOLD IN COMMUNITY**”.
 - i. How have Life Groups provided community for you?
 - ii. What are some other areas of community for you at MSC?
 - iii. What are some ways that we can be BOLDER in Community this year?


Out of 114 times that the “church” is mentioned in the New Testament, at least ninety of them refer to specific local gatherings of believers who have banded together for fellowship and mission.


The Spirit desires to use us when our hearts are aligned with (His) vision, when we are filled with genuine love for the church, and when we desire to see the church grow in love for God and others.

– Francis Chan

2. **2023 PRAYER GOALS – BE BOLD**

 **February: BE BOLD IN COMMUNITY.** Pick up a copy of this month’s brochure at church.

 **Read [Philippians 2:3-16](#).** Have one person read for this scripture for the group & use this as a guide for prayer.

 **Pray** – Let’s take 10min to P.R.A.Y. together. Leader – time & transition to each component.

-- Pause (be still & listen. 2min)

-- Rejoice & Reflect (praise & thanks. 2min.),

-- Ask (invite & request 4min.)

-- Yield (surrender & trust. 2min)

Message Discussion (45min)

1. **VIEW THROUGH THE JEWS**

- a. From 1-10 (Rookie-Expert) How would you rate your knowledge & understanding of Jewish history and culture?
- b. What have been the sources of your education, information and experience on this topic?
(News, TV, YouTube, School, Books, Bible, Church, Travel, Family/Friends...)
- c. When you read the Biblical Scriptures do you ever consider that it is almost completely written by Jewish authors, about a Jewish Messiah? How would this help you think more about Israel, understand the Bible and Jesus?

2. **MESSAGE RECAP:** What did you learn from Sunday’s message? What encouraged or challenged you?

3. **WORD - Read** [Romans 9:1-24](#)

- a. What you do learn about God?
- b. What do you learn about Israel?
- c. What do you learn about the Gospel?

4. Read  [Romans 9:1-3](#)

a. In **verses 1-3** we read that Paul feels a deep sorrow for the nation of Israel. What is the basis of this deep sorrow Paul feels? What would Paul be willing to do for his Jewish brothers and sisters if he could?

b. On a scale of 1-10 (**1 being I never think about it and 10 it is always on my mind**) what is the state of your heart towards those who don't know Jesus? How often do you pray for people in your life who don't know Jesus? Why do you think most Christians don't share their faith? Discuss.

5. Read  [Romans 9:4-5](#)

a. Paul lists several privileges that Israel has been given by God. These were special privileges which no other nation had been given. Take a moment and list them. Now, which is the greatest privilege? (Jesus – v.5).

*Notice that v.5 highlights the Humanity & Divinity of Jesus.

b. Privilege always brings about responsibility. Israel was responsible to use her privileges properly. The nation was expected to know God, serve God, and to do so more effectively than any other nation. Israel was given this privilege and was to use it to be a light to all other nations, pointing the way to the one true God.

i. How did Israel treat these privileges?

(They abused them. They did not always worship and serve God, they failed to obey the Law and they did not welcome God's Son and instead killed him).

ii. God has also given us privileges as Children of God. How do we use or abuse the privileges He gives us today?

6. Read  [Romans 9:6-18](#) and [Acts 2:22-23](#)

a. God had a predetermined plan for saving the world. Everything that happened to Jesus was under God's control. Israel's failure to believe has not caused God's plan to fail; it is all part of God's plan. Never was this made clearer than in **Acts 2:22-23**. Did Israel reject Jesus? Yes! Did this cause God's plan to fail? NO! In fact, it caused God's predetermined plan to succeed – to be fulfilled. Nothing man does can change the plan of God.

God knows exactly what He is doing and everything proceeds according to His choice.

b. What has been your understanding of the Doctrine of Election or Pred-destination? Discuss.

c. How do you reconcile the tension between God choosing us followed up by God telling us that we must choose Him?

i. Shawn stated that ***“God won't save you if you don't want to be saved.”***

That statement implies then that ***“God will save you if you want to be saved.”***

Have you ever thought about election this way?

ii. How do you respond to the illustration Shawn shared of walking down a hallway with multiple doors and picking the one that has written on the door, ***“whosoever will, let him come.”*** As you enter you see a table setting with your name on it. Then the door closes behind you and on the inside of the door is a sign that reads, ***“chosen in Christ before the foundations of the world.”*** As you made your choice you discovered that you had been chosen!

> **Does this explanation of election comfort and encourage you?** Discuss.

Prayer (15min)

"I think our prayer lives are at their best, not when we talk to God about big things occasionally, but when we talk to Him about little things continually. We are made for conversation with God, to walk and talk with Him intimately in life. And since the Bible consists of many different types of literature it can lead us into many different types of conversation with God. Simply take whatever you're reading (in the Bible) and try turn that into conversation. For example, a psalm might move me very naturally into worship or repentance; a promise my provoke me to pray for its fulfillment in my life or the life of someone that I love. Some bits might make me pray, Lord help me make sense of this." – [Pete Grieg](#)

1. What parts of **Romans 9:1-24** fit with how you have viewed God and how He brings salvation to people?
2. What parts of this passage are surprising or new or difficult?
3. Is there anything that you need to change in your worldview based on these verses?

☆ Take some time to pray for the Nation of Israel.

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem and for many Jews & Muslims to come to salvation and believe in Jesus, the Messiah.

Resources

☆ ONEforISRAEL: www.oneforisrael.org

☆ JEWSforJESUS: www.jewsforjesus.org

☆ TREEofLIFE: www.treeoflifeisrael.org

📖 The Bible Project:

(Article) www.bibleproject.com/blog/pharaohs-heart-grew-harder

(YouTube) [Overview Romans 5-16](#), [How to Read the Bible Playlist](#), [Biblical Themes Playlist](#)

Project 3:15

Our annual Apologetics Conference is coming up on **Sat. February 18th**, with guest speaker [Dr. Sean McDowell](#).

Registration is filling up fast so visit www.mainstreetchurch.ca/project315 for more info & registration this week!