

# A Weighty Relief: God's Sovereignty Over Salvation

Romans 9

Scott Merriner – July 24, 2022 Small Group Discussion Questions

### **Getting Started**

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion. Expect God to move through your time together!

#### Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through "observation" leaving enough time for "reflection", "discussion", and "surrender."

#### Scripture Reading

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

## Observation: What does this scripture passage say?

Take some time to look up and read: Romans 9

1. Explain Paul's anguish and concern for the salvation of Israel?

#### Reflection and Discussion: What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures? Talk together about how the scriptures connect to everyday life

- 2. The Jews were proud of the fact that their lineage came from Isaac, whose mother was Sarah. Paul asserts that no one can claim to be chosen by God because of his or her heritage or good deeds. The doctrine of election teaches that it is God's sovereign choice to save us by his goodness and mercy, and not by our own merit.
- How is the doctrine of election difficult to embrace and understand?
- How would you explain the doctrine of election to someone considering the Christian faith, but struggling to understand the heart and ways of God?
- 3. Why is it difficult to trust God with people's salvation, and not second-guess God's purposes, plans, methods, timing, etc.? Romans 9-11 will help us answer the following questions, but what is your answer today:
- Why isn't God saving all his "chosen people" the Jews?
- Why isn't God saving everyone?
- What does this teach us about God?
- 4. What role do we play in partnership with God to help save people? What are some "best practices" of evangelism and discipleship?

#### Surrender: Responding to God's voice.

- 5. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?
  - \*\* Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today \*\*