

ROMANS 11:11-24

ABIDE

Big Idea: God's grace is a gift. We are not entitled to it. We must ABIDE in Christ by remaining grateful and guarded against apathy and arrogance.

What is something in your life you once appreciated deeply but now tend to take for granted?

This text is both a WARNING and INVITATION. Beware of the drift into entitlement, arrogance, or empty religiosity. Abide in Jesus and allow Him to cultivate your life.

THE WARNING

1. The Danger of Entitlement:
Blessing can lead to entitlement. Familiarity with God can lead to indifference.
2. The Problem of Religion over Relationship
Proximity to Christianity is not the same as belonging to Jesus.
You can be close to the things of God but far from God.

THE INVITATION

1. Abide in Jesus: Pursue + Honor God First Above All Else
Pruning = Bearing Fruit | Pruning is not punishment; it's preparation for greater fruitfulness.
2. Persevere: True followers of Jesus may wander, but they repent and return.

OBSERVATION QUESTIONS | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

- According to Romans 11, what happened to many of the Jewish people regarding Jesus?
- What does Paul say is God's purpose in bringing salvation to the Gentiles?
- What warning does Paul give to Gentile believers?

INTERPRETATION QUESTIONS | WHAT DOES THE TEXT MEAN?

- How did religious tradition become a barrier to recognizing Jesus?
What are modern examples of "adding to" what God has said?
- Why is self-righteousness just as dangerous as open sin?
- Why does God "prune" believers? What are examples of pruning in real life?
(habits, relationships, attitudes)
- Why do people resist being cultivated?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS | HOW DO I LIVE THIS TEXT OUT IN MY LIFE?

- Are there areas where you are resisting God's pruning?
- Have you substituted religion or routine for real relationship with Jesus?
- Do you see evidence of gratitude or entitlement in your life?
- Are you actively abiding in Christ, or just associating with Christianity?
- How can we avoid becoming spiritually complacent over time?
(habits, relationships, attitudes)