

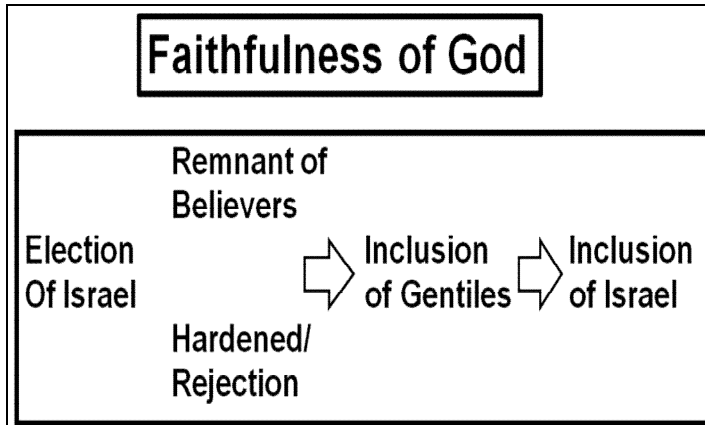
Belonging to Jesus: “Joining in God’s Plans”
Romans 10:5-21 and 11:25-32

Several weeks ago I introduced a plan to help us become more like Jesus. This plan is an important guide to focus our thinking and our living. The plan looks like this:

- Look at the cross
 - Look to the Kingdom
 - Be empowered by the Spirit
 - Follow Jesus, arm in arm with each other
 - Reach the World

Most of us are dealing with some type of trial—physical pain, financial burdens, emotional hurt or trauma, relational walls, or spiritual dryness, among other things. Paul is challenging us to focus on the fact that “God fulfills His promises.” God has a plan. He’s working His plan out. His plans will be accomplished. You and I can trust Him in the midst of all that is happening.

1. Rest in the _____.



2. Make plans _____.

Day by Day in the Word

“Day by Day in the Word” is a tool we use to help us in the process of becoming more and more like Jesus and ultimately to bring glory to God. The biblical principle is: The Spirit of God uses the Word of God to bring about Christlikeness.

Monday-Tuesday

- Read Romans 11:25-32 (for background, read Romans 11:1-24). Let’s study the word “mystery.” It refers to something which has been formerly hidden or obscure and now is revealed by God for everyone. Take the following verses and identify what the mystery refers to: Romans 11:25-32; 16:25-26; 1 Corinthians 2:7; 4:1; 15:51; Ephesians 1:9; 3:3-4, 9; 5:32; 6:19; Colossians 1:26-27; 2:2; 4:3; 2 Thessalonians 2:7; 1 Timothy 3:9, 16. What is content of this mystery?
- Why did Paul give the mystery in Romans 11:25? In what way would this mystery humble the readers and help them overcome any arrogance?
- How will this study help you in your worship of God? How will it help you in your walk with God? Share what you’ve learned with another individual and begin practicing what you’ve shared.

Wednesday-Thursday

- Read Romans 10:5-21. The context is obviously the fact that the Jews had heard and had an opportunity to respond to the Gospel, but most of them didn’t. Paul uses questions to establish those things that need to happen for someone to call on Christ and be saved. What are they?
- If you were sharing the Gospel with another individual, what would you share? See 1 Corinthians 15:1-8.
- What do you need to do to become more comfortable in sharing in the Good News about Jesus? What do you need to do to develop relationships with individuals who need to hear about Jesus? Make plans on doing both of these. Share with someone what is happening.

Friday-Saturday

- Read Romans 11:33-36. This is called a “doxology.” In verse 33, identify three exclamations about God’s wise plan. The first one is “riches,” which refers to the infinite kindness of God displayed in His plan of salvation. What are the other two and what do they tell us about God? What do you learn from the rest of the verse?
- In verses 34-35, identify the three questions that remind us how far above us are God’s thoughts and ways. See Isaiah 40:13 and Job 41:3. By the way, these three questions correspond with the three attributes found in verse 33. What is the obvious answer to these questions? In verse 36, why are we to give glory and honor to God? What do you find out about Him?
- Spend time with another individual or in a group worshipping our Lord and use this biblical text as a guide in your worship. Focus on who God is and what He has done to bring about salvation of both Jews and Gentiles in His great plan.