

## **SMALL GROUP LESSON**

NOVEMBER 26, 2017

### **BUT, WHAT ABOUT THE JEWS?**

ROMANS 9:1-16

In his letter to the Romans, Paul is addressing both Jews and Gentiles. Having just declared that there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God, it would only be natural for those who came out of the Jewish tradition to respond, "What about us? God hasn't been very loving towards us. Look at all of the hardships that we have faced down through the centuries." With that in mind, Paul addresses God's relationship with the Jewish people in chapters 9-11. This week's sermon begins to describe that relationship.

1. How did Paul feel about the people of Israel, his fellow Jewish brethren?
2. In verses 4 – 5 Paul lists the unique blessings that God has bestowed upon the Jewish people. How many are there and how would you describe them?
3. In verse 6 Paul says that "not all who are descended from Israel are Israel." In verses 7-13 he then describes why this declaration is true. He uses Abraham and Rebekah as examples. What is he saying in these verses?
4. Take a look at verses 14 -16. What do these verses tell us about God's sovereignty, our attempts to please Him, and His divine mercy?