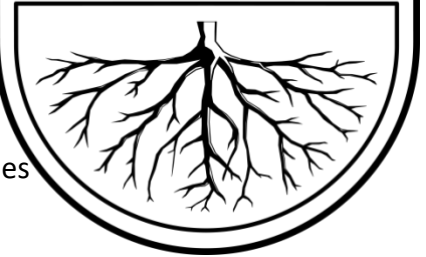




## CONTEXT AND CLARIFICATION

**ROMANS 11:25-32**

# LIFE GROUPS



2. There is a theological term known as “Type of Christ” these types are seen in Old Testament feasts, people or events. There are also Christophanies which are appearances of Jesus throughout the Old Testament. There are numerous examples so remind your group that the Old Testament is filled with such examples because the entire Bible points to Jesus Christ.
  
3. We often quote Matthew 6:34 which says “<sup>34</sup>Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” Yet is worry the only emotion that comes when we think about the future? We can be hopeful and excited as we long and wait for the coming of the Lord. I by default am an optimist, yet, when it comes to looking towards the future, there should be more than a blind-kind of optimism. There should be a trust in God and His Word.
  
4. Remind your group that the only “mysteries” that God has revealed to us are found in His word. The moment we begin straying away or adding things that God may have “revealed” to you other than Scripture, it may become dangerous at best and heretical at worst. Although your group may disagree on each other’s eschatology (theology of the end times), you can all come to agreement on the descriptions in the two given passages.
  
5. Someone who mocks Christ, rejects God’s holiness, or loves/promotes/encourages sin could be seen as someone who has been hardened by God. We MUST remember that we willingly choose sin in our depravity and are held responsible for our sin, but God can harden our hearts and yet we are still held responsible for our sin. ALSO, when someone is cold towards the Gospel, we should continue to pray for them, that God may open their eyes and that they may be saved. Remember that you once were an enemy of God (and so was Paul).
  
6. This may be different for each person. Their story may sound like Isaiah 6. It may sound like Acts 9. Be sure to give an example from your walk with the Lord if the group is having difficulty answering.



## LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

**ICE BREAKER:** What Old Testament book are you most familiar with?

1. Read Romans 11:25-32. What was your biggest takeaway from Sunday’s sermon?
2. What examples from the Old Testament could you use to show others the person or divinity of Jesus Christ?
3. When you think of the future, do you tend to be more anxious, excited, or both? Why?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 15:51-57 & Ephesians 3:1-7. What mysteries has God made known to us?
5. What could be signs of someone’s heart being hardened to the gospel? How would you respond?
6. What were some of your first thought when you noticed your heart was being circumcised?



## FURTHER STUDY

### **Romans 9:6-8 (NIV)**

<sup>6</sup>It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. <sup>7</sup>Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." <sup>8</sup>In other words, it is not the children by physical descent who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring.

### **Romans 9:18 (NIV)**

<sup>18</sup>Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden.

### **Romans 12:16 (NIV)**

<sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

### **John 10:16 (NIV)**

<sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.

### **2 Corinthians 4:3-4 (NIV)**

<sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

### **Ephesians 2:1 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup>As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,

### **Colossians 2:13 (NIV)**

<sup>13</sup>When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins,

### **Luke 16:31 (NIV)**

<sup>31</sup>"He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

### **Isaiah 27:9 (NIV)**

<sup>9</sup>By this, then, will Jacob's guilt be atoned for, and this will be the full fruit of the removal of his sin: When he makes all the altar stones to be like limestone crushed to pieces, no Asherah poles or incense altars will be left standing.

### **Isaiah 27:9 (NIV)**

<sup>21</sup>"As for me, this is my covenant with them," says the Lord. "My Spirit, who is on you, will not depart from you, and my words that I have put in your mouth will always be on your lips, on the lips of your children and on the lips of their descendants—from this time on and forever," says the Lord.

### **Genesis 17:3-8 (NIV)**

<sup>3</sup>Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. <sup>8</sup>The whole land of Canaan, where you now reside as a foreigner, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God."

