

Wednesday November 19th

Good Choices - Romans 9-11

Opening

Tell of a time you received (or were able to give) some really great news. What was it like? If you were the one who shared the news, did those who heard it react like you thought they would?

Digging Deeper

Message Review: In chapters 9-11 the apostle Paul explains how God will be faithful to complete the redemption of the nation Israel and to fulfill all His promises to them. He says that “The gifts and calling of God are irrevocable” (Romans 11:29), and details how God’s choices are all about His wisdom and His mercy. But Paul also exhorts us as believers to do our part in God’s plan of redemption. In chapter 10 especially we are called to be faithful to share the good news of Jesus with the Jewish people, and of course, with all those who need it. **READ** Romans 10:13-15

1. It is clear from the questions in verses 13-14 (not to mention the whole of the Gospels and Acts!) that God has chosen to send the good news of salvation into the world through the act of preaching. To “preach” is to “proclaim as a herald.” What does that mean? How is it distinct from “teaching?” What qualities make for an effective preacher? Who is qualified to do it?

2. Read the first sentence of verse 15. What does it mean to be sent? Who does the sending? What’s the blessing of being sent? Who is sent?

3. In the rest of verse 15 Paul quotes from Isaiah 52, which says those who bring good news have beautiful feet, yet few (if any!) people’s feet are really pretty—especially in the ancient world! Feet are always in contact with a rough and dirty world. What does this picture tell us about what it means to share the gospel with others? In what ways can sharing the gospel be “ugly?” In what ways is it “beautiful?”

Application

1. If you’ve ever experienced sharing about Jesus with another person, can you tell us what it was like? What would you do again? Is there anything you would want to do differently?

2. What scriptures can you think of that would encourage us to share the gospel with others?

Prayer

1. What is something from this passage that we can pray for?

2. Pray for personal needs.