

1. As God's people, we desire to see people saved. (Romans 9:1-5)
2. As God's people, we trust in the faithfulness of God.

**Romans 9:6 (ESV)** But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel,

- **We cannot deny God's election.**

**Romans 8:33 (ESV)** Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

**Romans 9:11 (ESV)** though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls—

**Romans 11:7 (ESV)** What then? Israel failed to obtain what it was seeking. The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened,

**1 Corinthians 1:20-31 (ESV)** <sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. <sup>26</sup> For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

**Romans 8:28 (ESV)** And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

**Romans 9:25-26 (ESV)** <sup>25</sup> As indeed he says in Hosea, "Those who were not my people I will call 'my people,' and her who was not beloved I will call 'beloved.'" <sup>26</sup> "And in the very place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' there they will be called 'sons of the living God.'"

**Deuteronomy 7:7-8 (ESV)** <sup>7</sup> It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, <sup>8</sup> but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

**John 6:44 (ESV)** No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.

**John 15:12-17 (ESV)** <sup>12</sup> “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup> No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. <sup>17</sup> These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

**Romans 9:6 (ESV)** But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel,

**Romans 9:8 (ESV)** This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring.

**Romans 9:11-13 (ESV)** <sup>11</sup> though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God’s purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls—<sup>12</sup> she was told, “The older will serve the younger.” <sup>13</sup> As it is written, “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

**2 Peter 3:9 (ESV)** The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

A. Remember the multiple perceptions of the will of God in Scripture.

- God’s revealed will - What God declares in his Word.
- God’s decreed will - What God decrees in the world.

**Job 14:5 (ESV)** Since his days are determined, and the number of his months is with you, and you have appointed his limits that he cannot pass,

**Acts 4:28 (ESV)** to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.

**Isaiah 53:10 (ESV)** Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief;...

B. Remember the multiple dimensions of the love of God.

“I believe the doctrine of election because I am quite certain that if God had not chosen me, I should never have chosen Him. And I am sure He chose me before I was born, or else He never would’ve chosen me afterwards. He must have elected me for reasons unknown to me for I never could find any reason in myself why He should have looked upon me with special love. So, I am forced to accept this great biblical doctrine.” - Charles Spurgeon

● **We do not deserve God’s mercy.**

**Romans 9:14-15 (ESV)** <sup>14</sup> What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God’s part? By no means! <sup>15</sup> For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion

● **We are not to defy God’s authority.**

**Romans 9:19-21 (ESV)** <sup>19</sup> You will say to me then, “Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?” <sup>20</sup> But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, “Why have you made me like this?” <sup>21</sup> Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?

- **We are not to neglect our responsibility.**
- **We live for the glory of God.**