

# LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

## Is Israel's Future Hopeless?

**Passages:** Romans 11:11-16

**Introduction:** This week, John continued walking through Romans 11 and taught that belief in Christ as the true Israel and the church as the continuation of God's people does not rule out hope that a lot of ethnic Jews will believe in Christ in the future. John taught, based on Romans 11:11-16 and 11:25-26, that there will be a mass conversion of ethnic Jews before Jesus returns.

**Additional passages:** Genesis 12:3, Deuteronomy 32:19-21, Isaiah 49:6, Zechariah 2:10-11, Matthew 8:10-11, Romans 9:24-25, 10:19.

**Questions:**

1. John's first point was that ethnic Israel's future is not hopeless, but right now a great number of Gentiles are receiving salvation through faith in Israel's Messiah. John noted that God always has included Gentiles in His saving plan (see Gen 12:3, Isaiah 49:6, Matt 8:10-11).  
**What do these verses teach about how Israel was to treat foreigners who wanted to join them?**
  - a. Genesis 17:12-13
  - b. Exodus 12:38, 48-49
  - c. Leviticus 19:33-34
2. John's second point was God has a purpose of provoking ethnic Israelites to jealousy through the Gentiles' inclusion and so cause many Jews to repent and believe (Rom 11:11-14, Cf. Rom 10:19, Deut 32:19-21). **How have you seen God use jealousy in your life to make you desire something good? How do you know when jealousy is bad, aka coveting, and not to be acted on, but instead rejected?**
3. John talked about how God typically uses human means to save people. **What people did God use to save you? What circumstances did He put you in/your sinful choices put you in that God used to turn you to Himself?**
4. **How is it going with sharing Jesus with lost people God has put in your life?**
5. John's third point was that there will be a future ingathering of many ethnic Israelites before Jesus comes back (Rom 11:13-15, Cf. 11:25-26). **Is this a new idea for you or something you had heard before? Note that it is not through physical descent, but through faith in Christ that such Jews can be saved. How does this impact how you pray for modern-day Israelites?**