

Discussion Guide and Study Notes

December 15th, 2013

Please use this guide in your Life Group discussion to help glean the most from our Sunday morning teaching. These notes are also excellent for your personal study and growth.

TILL [Get the soil ready]

Have you ever seen or received and act of prejudice? Has anyone ever put you down for your race, weight, intelligence, gender, height, etc.?

Is favoritism ever shown in churches? How so?

SOW [What God wants us to hear]

Paul was given a special revelation regarding the Gentiles (non-Jews) and their place hearing the Gospel Message. Read the passages and discuss the questions below.

Ephesians 2:11-3:6

- What did Jesus do for the Gentiles?
- Whom did he reconcile?
- What is now available to the Gentiles (2:19-22)?
- What is Paul's role (3:1-6)?

Romans 11:13-14

- What title (or role) does Paul call himself?
- But, what is Paul's nationality?
- What did he have to overcome in his own heart for the ministry God gave him?



Tend [Working the truth into our hearts]

From what you've read in the above passages, has God only planned salvation for Israel or beyond Israel?

Has God then shown any favoritism (in terms of offering salvation) to other people groups?

Harvest [Where the fruit is seen]

Think back to your answers in the last question under "Till." How can churches avoid showing these kinds of favoritisms? What needs to change when someone comes through a church door on a Sunday? What about the rest of the week?

Have you shown favoritism, or prejudice for any reason (not just racism or economics but behaviors too)? What needs to change?

Preview for next week: Pick a team sport. What qualities does a team need to win?

