

"GRAFTED IN FAITH"

1. As a child, when did your desire to be like one of your heroes help you to change and grow?

2. How does Paul's question in verse 11 relate to verse 1? What hope does he give in his answer?

3. In what ways would God's grace toward Gentiles break through the walls of presumption which the Jews had built around God?

4. Up to now, Paul has been dealing with the Jewish believers' feelings of superiority over Gentiles. How does his image of dough and of an olive tree deal with the other side of the coin (vv. 13-24)?

5. What phrases indicate what the Gentile believers were thinking? What attitude ought they to have about their acceptance by God? What difference, if any, is there between Jew and Gentile before God?

6. Why does Paul want his Gentile readers to be aware of God's plan (v.25)? Why would pride become a danger for them?

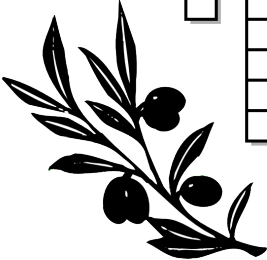
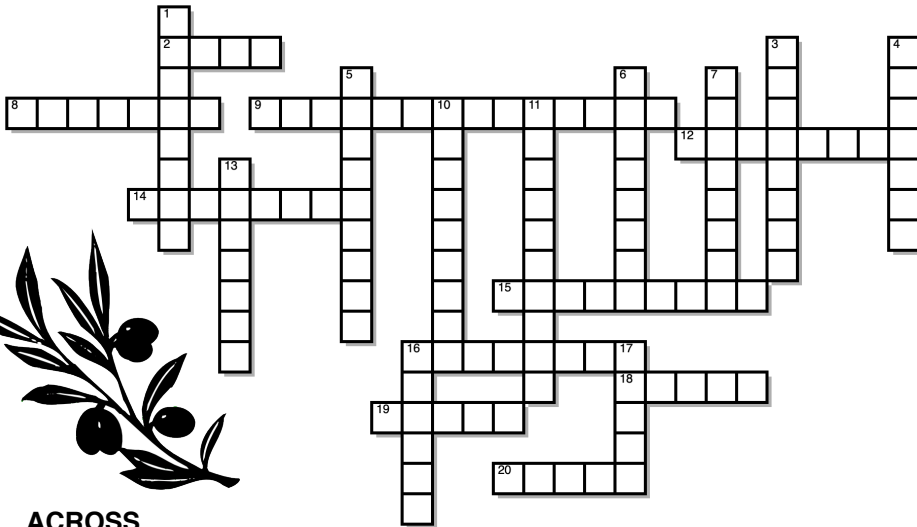
7. How would you paraphrase God's purpose in verses 25-26 and 30-31? How would this diffuse tensions between the two groups?

8. What is the ultimate hope for Israel (vv.26-27)? For Gentiles (v.32)? How does this tie in with Paul's teaching in 3:21-24?

9. How has arrogance between groups of Christians hurt your church experience? When have you shown this attitude to natives and outsiders?

10. What modern illustration would serve as an equivalent to the grafted olive branch? Where would you fit within this new analogy?

11. When a prodigal receives God's blessing and grace in their life, does that spur you on to seek God all the more, or does it make you jealous (even upset)? Why?



ACROSS

- 2 "if the _____ is holy, so are the branches. (1:16)
- 8 "So too at the present time there is a _____, chosen by grace." (11:5)
- 9 "For if their rejection means the _____ of the world,..." (1:15)
- 12 This leads to being broken off. (1:20)
- 14 "Rather, through their trespass salvation has come to the _____" (1:11)
- 15 "a partial _____ has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in." (1:25)
- 16 "I ask, then, has God _____ his people? By no means!" (11:1)
- 18 Gentiles are likened to a wild _____ shoot. (1:17)
- 19 "if God did not _____ the natural branches, neither will he _____ you. (1:21)
- 20 "you stand fast through _____" (1:20)

DOWN

- 1 What were broken off? (1:17)
- 3 "and this will be my _____ with them when I take away their sins." (1:27)
- 4 Gentiles were _____ into the root of the tree. (1:17)
- 5 "For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his _____?" (1:34)
- 6 "God's kindness to you, provided you _____ in his kindness." (1:22)
- 7 Paul was member of this tribe. (11:1)
- 10 "I myself am an _____, a descendant of Abraham" (11:1)
- 11 "...what will their _____ mean but life from the dead? (1:15)
- 13 "So I ask, did they _____ in order that they might fall?" (1:11)
- 16 "Or who has given a gift to him that he might be _____?" (1:35)
- 17 "If the _____ offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump," (1:16)



WORD SEARCH:

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|----------------|-------------|
| God | Firstfruits |
| Israel | Holy |
| Remnant | Branches |
| Grace | Olive |
| Works | Arrogance |
| Gentiles | Kindness |
| Jealousy | Severity |
| Trespass | Unbelief |
| Riches | Grafted |
| Inclusion | Natural |
| Apostle | Wild |
| Ministry | Cultivated |
| Jews | Mystery |
| Reconciliation | Hardening |
| Life | Gift |
| Dead | |

G N A R L T H T Z R C H M R S R M L
 R O R E E P J O Y U A P G S E M M K
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