



## Sermon Discussion Questions

### "Vessels of Mercy"

Romans 9

January 15, 2017

Visit the **Sermons** page on this website to see full video.

Opener:

What was one thing about which a parent figure of yours used to say, "Wait until you're older, and then you'll understand"?

When have you won something unexpected: A trip? Award or achievement? A big game or competition?

Group Interaction: [The following material is meant to supplement the sermon, to offer further points of interaction with the selected text. Also, feel free to discuss your own questions regarding the sermon or text.]

1. Why does Paul have great sorrow for the people of Israel?

How do verses 6-13 demonstrate that God has not failed in his promises and purposes for Israel?

2. Looking at verses 15-18, on what is God's favor based?

3. How do verses 19-21 inform questions raised by the previous verses?

4. How does the illustration of the potter and his clay help us gain a proper perspective (vv 20-23)?

5. How is God's mercy and justice revealed in his treatment of the Gentiles and the Jews (vv 24-29)?

Application:

6. For what work or purpose do you feel God created you?

7. Who are people that are not followers of Jesus that God has used to help you mature in your faith and life? How so?

8. Where are you growing in your understanding of God's will for your life? What questions might you like to ask God about this area?

9. Whose unbelief grieves you? Perhaps it is someone close to you, or distant. Pray together as a group, and be open to God about your concerns. Pause often and long, and listen for how the Holy Spirit may speak to you regarding these concerns.

\*These questions were adapted from *The NIV Quiet Time Bible* (InterVarsity, 1996) and *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).