



Talk it Over

PASTOR DAVE - ROMANS 9 - II - 1/11/26

KEY SCRIPTURE

Romans 9:18-21

18 So then He has mercy on whom He desires, and He hardens whom He desires.
19 You will say to me then, "Why does He still find fault? For who resists His will?"
20 On the contrary, who are you, O man, who answers back to God? The thing molded will not say to the molder, "Why did you make me like this," will it?
21 Or does not the potter have a right over the clay, to make from the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for common use?

Genesis 50:20

"As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive. "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive.

Matthew 26:38-42

38 Then He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death; remain here and keep watch with Me."
39 And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will."

START TALKING

Have you made any resolutions or changes in your life for 2026?

START DISCUSSING

THE DEEP THINGS OF GOD

Read Romans 9:18-21

Pastor Dave spoke about the deep things of God and how there are things that God reveals to us that we cannot fully understand. There are some times when the two truths seem to be a contradiction. He gave three steps to come to terms with those kind things.

1. Accept the Incomprehensible Nature of God
2. Trust God's Character – Just, Merciful – Compassionate
3. Let the Scriptures Say What It Says

Take a few minutes to discuss each step.

YOU MEANT IT FOR EVIL, GOD MEANT IT FOR GOOD

Read Genesis 50:20

Evil Things Joseph's Brothers Did to Him

- Hated him because their father loved him more
- Refused to speak peaceably to him
- Plotted to kill him when they saw him coming
- Threw him into a pit, ignored his cries for mercy
- Sat down to eat while he was screaming for help
- Sold him as a slave for profit
- Handed him over to foreigners
- Deceived their father with a fabricated story
- Used blood to stage evidence of Joseph's death
- Allowed Jacob to grieve for years without repentance

Evil Things Because of His Brothers

- Joseph became a slave
- Falsely accused by Potiphar's wife
- In prison for years before becoming powerful

Take some time to make sure everyone is familiar with Joseph.

Discuss the awful things that happened in his life. Discuss why God would use the word "meant" and not "allowed." Remember that though Joseph was able to see the "why" of his suffering, many times we will never understand why God's plan included some of our difficulties.

NOT AS I WILL BUT AS YOU WILL

Read Matt 26:38-42

Jesus faced becoming the "Sin-Bearer." Though He asks if there is another way, He accepted that this was God's will and willingly received it. **Discuss how the example of Jesus' prayer helps us to pray and accept God's plan even when we do not understand, and it may include suffering.**