



GraceWay Church Groups
Discussion Guide
Oct. 5 - 11 , 2025

“Rooted”

Open It

1. If you could visit any historical site mentioned in the Bible, which one would you choose and why?

Read It (Read Romans 11:17-18)

2. What blessing do Gentile believers now share in, according to **verse 17**?
3. In **verse 18**, what warning does Paul give to Gentile believers?
4. What truth about our faith’s foundation can we draw from these verses?

Get It

5. Why do you think Paul used the image of an olive tree to describe our faith connection to Israel?
6. *Spiritual* – Our Savior came from, and was rooted in, Israel. How does recognizing Jesus’ Jewish heritage shape our appreciation for the Old Testament and God’s covenant story?
7. *Scriptural* – God’s Covenant Still Stands. Read **Genesis 12:2–3**. What promises did God make to Abraham, and how do they still impact the world today?
8. *Strategic* – Stand with Israel, Encourage Israel, Pray with Israel. What are some practical ways the Church can “stand with Israel” today? How can you personally show gratitude for being grafted into God’s family through Israel’s root?
9. According to **Acts 1:8**, how did the Word going forth from Jerusalem fulfill God’s plan through Israel? How does this shift your mindset in realizing WE are the "uttermost"?
10. Why is it important for believers today to understand God’s promises to Israel when interpreting Scripture?
11. Share your biggest "take-away" from this sermon on being ROOTED in Israel. What stood out to you?

Apply It

12. This week, commit to learning more about God's covenant with Israel and how it relates to your faith. Set aside time each day to pray specifically for the peace of Jerusalem as Scripture instructs.
13. How can we pray for you this week?

1. We Are Rooted in God's Story Through Israel

Paul uses the image of an olive tree to describe God's people. Israel is the original tree—rooted in God's covenant promises, faith, and calling. When we came to Christ, we were grafted in—brought into that same tree, nourished by the same root of faith that began with Abraham.

That means our spiritual story doesn't start with us—it starts with God's covenant with Israel. We don't stand alone; we draw strength from what God started long before we were ever born.

💡 *We are connected to something ancient, sacred, and enduring—God's covenant promise.*

2. Our Savior Came From Israel

Spiritually, we stand with Israel because our Savior came from Israel. Jesus was born a Jew, raised under the Law, and fulfilled the promises given through the prophets. Everything about our salvation story is tied to Israel's faithfulness and God's mercy toward His chosen people.

We can't love the Savior and ignore His story.

We can't celebrate salvation and forget where it began.

💬 *To honor Jesus fully, we must honor the root from which He came.*

3. God's Covenant Still Stands

In Genesis 12:2–3, God said to Abraham,

"I will bless those who bless you, and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you."

That promise still stands today. God's covenant with Israel was not canceled—it was expanded through Jesus to include us. We share in the blessings of Abraham, but the root—the foundation—remains Israel.

So when we bless Israel, we align ourselves with God's heart and His eternal promise.

4. Our Response: Stand, Encourage, and Pray

Because our faith is rooted in Israel:

- **Stand with Israel** — Recognize God's ongoing purpose for His people.
- **Encourage Israel** — Speak life, hope, and peace over them.
- **Pray for Israel** — Psalm 122:6 says, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem."

When we pray for Israel, we're not taking a political side—we're taking a biblical stand.

5. Stay Humble and Grateful

Paul reminds us in verse 18, *"You are just a branch, not the root."*

That's a call to humility. We didn't earn our place; we were graciously grafted in. So our response should be gratitude, not pride.

🙌 *We are rooted by grace, sustained by God's faithfulness, and called to bear fruit that honors our source.*

Closing Thought

Our faith is not floating—it's **rooted**.

Rooted in God's covenant.

Rooted in His people, Israel.

Rooted in His Son, Jesus Christ.

So let's remember where we come from, stay humble in our place, and stay faithful to the root that gives us life