

Small Group Discussion Guide

VOL 4: Part 22: The Olive Tree: Grafted by Grace

BIG Idea: God's kindness in grafting us into His family calls us to humility, perseverance, and hope for restoration for all who will turn to Him.

Application: Stand firm in faith, walking daily in God's kindness, rejecting arrogance, and holding out hope for the restoration of others.

Discussion Questions

Icebreaker: Have you ever been "grafted in" to a new group or community? What was that experience like?

1. How does the historical background of Claudius's edict help you understand Paul's tone in Romans 11:11–24? (Claudius had expelled the Jews from Rome, leaving the Gentile Christians to lead the church for several years before Jewish believers then returned to Rome.)
2. What does Paul mean when he says Israel's "stumble" is not the end? How does this shape how we see people far from God today?
3. How can our lives "provoke" others to want a closer relationship with Christ in a healthy, God-honoring way?
4. Paul warns Gentile believers against arrogance. What might arrogance look like in today's church culture?
5. Discuss the balance between God's kindness and sternness in Romans 11:22. Why are both important?
6. What do you think it practically means to "continue in God's kindness"?
7. What does it look like for you personally to "continue in God's kindness" in your daily walk with Him this week?
8. How does the olive tree metaphor help you understand your place in God's story, both personally and as part of the church?
9. How can we as a church model humility toward outsiders while holding firmly to biblical truth?
10. Who in your life needs to hear the hope that "restoration is always possible with God," and how can you share that hope this week?

Prayer Prompt: Pray for a renewed humility in our hearts, perseverance in our faith, and for God's power to restore those we know who are far from Him.

Join us as we read the Bible together in 2025. <https://bit.ly/ReadwithMe25>