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Question #1: Has God rejected His people? (verses 1-10)

- 1. How do Paul's examples help us to understand that God has not rejected His people?
- 2. On what basis is one kept from being part of the remnant?
- 3. On what basis does one become a part of the remnant?
- 4. What does it mean to be a part of the remnant?
- Have you ever felt like Elijah felt? How might God's answer to Elijah be of encouragement to you? (cf. 1 Kings 19:14-18; Romans 11:3,4)
- 6. Why did Israel fail to obtain the righteousness they were seeking (verses 7 to 10)?
- 7. What can we learn from Israel's failure that might help us in our own relationship with God?

Question #2: Did Israel stumble in order that they may fall? (verses 11,12)

- 1. How is God using Israel's stumbling to bring salvation to the Gentiles?
- 2. Is God through with Israel?
- 3. What encouragement might there be for you in how God deals with Israel's stumbling?

Paul's warning to the Gentiles. (verses 13-24)

- 1. Paul tells us to "note then the kindness and severity of God..." (verse 22). What does it mean that God is kind? What does it mean that He is severe?
- 2. Why is it important for us to personally notice God's kindness and severity?
- 3. How does one "continue in His kindness"?
- 4. How might Paul's illustration about roots and branches and grafting help us to deal with our penchant towards spiritual arrogance? Put slightly different: How does one become spiritually proud and what does Paul tell us our attitude should be? (cf. verse 20)
- 5. How does fearing God counter our tendency towards spiritual arrogance?

Processing all that...

- 1. Have you ever personally struggled with spiritual arrogance? Examples?
- 2. How can you personally avoid being spiritually arrogant?

TAKE HOME QUESTIONS:

- 1. If you had to pick just one insight from this study that speaks specifically to you, what would it be? Why?
- 2. How do you plan to respond to it this week?
- 3. Who do you know who needs to hear what was helpful for you in this study? When will you share this encouragement with them?