

Living Connections Bible Study



Pathway of Election

Text: Romans 9:1-18

Icebreaker: Give some examples of where a Christian should choose to obey Christ rather than giving in to the desires of a friend or loved one?

1. What do we learn about God’s plan to redeem the human race even before the first sin?
1 Peter 1:18-20; 2 Timothy 1:9; Revelation 13:8

The Bible doctrine of election has to do with God’s plan and pathway leading to the cross by which God would redeem a fallen and broken world to Himself through the sacrifice of His Son.

2. Who is the first person mentioned through whom the Messianic Seed, Christ, would come?
Genesis 3:15

3. Who was it that carried on the *pathway of election* through the flood leading to Christ? Genesis 6:5-9; Hebrews 11:7

4. What man of faith did God choose through whom He would raise up His elect nation (Israel) through whom Christ would come? Genesis 18:17-19

5. What did God tell Abraham when he pleaded for his son Ishmael to be the descendant through whom God's elective purposes would be fulfilled? Genesis 17:18-19; Romans 9:6-9

6. Which of Isaac's two sons did God choose to carry on the *Messianic line* leading to *Abraham's Seed* through whom the world can be saved? Romans 9:10-11

The Israelites who came out of Jacob were God's chosen and elect people throughout the Old Testament. The theme of Romans 9 is not individual election to salvation, but the election of a people group through whom Christ would come. It was through Israel that God revealed Himself to the world. It was to them and through them that the Word of God was revealed for mankind. It was through the Jewish prophets that God spoke and taught and warned and encouraged. It was to them and through them that He performed miracles and displayed His glory to the nations as when He delivered them out of Egypt and brought them to the *Promised Land*. But most importantly it was through Israel that the Savior of the world came.

7. What do we learn of God’s elective purposes and privileges for Israel, His corporate elect body in Deuteronomy 7:6-8a?

8. Who is God’s corporate elect body (Abraham’s Seed) representing Him before the world today? 1 Peter 2:9-10; Galatians 3:16, 26-30

9. Considering the promises of the elective privileges leading from Abraham to Christ, what do you think God meant when He said, *Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated.* Romans 9:12; Malachi 1:2-4; Luke 14:26-27

10. How do we know that God loves the descendants of Esau and that they can partake of the blessings of salvation promised through Abraham’s Seed, Christ? John 3:16; 2 Peter 3:9; Genesis 12:3, 18:18; Revelation 5:9

Think about it this week:

*God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world through Him might be saved.
He who believes in Him is not condemned;
but he who does not believe is condemned already,
because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world,
and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.*

John 3:17-19