



The Gospel Life

Part 4 God's plan for Israel & the world:

His Sovereign Rule



Romans 9:1-11:36



Fall Life Group Guide 2023

Part 4

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God's Plan for Israel and the World

Our study in Romans, the greatest theological work ever penned, takes us to chapter 9 which also takes us to the fourth part of this great epistle: **God's Plan for Israel and the World**. This section is without question the most unique of the book's five parts, which has led many to call this fourth part of Romans, the Great Parentheses. As we come to this chapter, we will be challenged to learn and grow as we consider the sovereign will and glory of God.

These three chapters will give us a profound look into the glory and ways of God, more so perhaps than any other three-chapter section in all the Bible. In doing so, these verses will help us find answers to some of life's weightier questions like - what is God doing in the world? What is He doing with me? Why am I here? And, honestly, there is not a more appropriate time than now to have questions like this answered.

We will be reminded that God is in charge of His creation and has been since the beginning. While the first 8 chapters have been a discourse on justification and sanctification these upcoming chapters deal largely with the doctrine of predestination. These verses will go deep about into importance and biblical proof of election with verses like Romans 9:15

For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." - Romans 9:15.

Paul will also speak to the justice of God in saving some and not others with verses like Romans 9:21

Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use? - Romans 9:21

This next section will also introduce us to a biblical doctrine that might be new to many and that is the doctrine of reprobation, which speaks to God's right to judge those who reject him.

As we study this fourth section our aim and prayer is that what we learn will lead us to analyze God less and adore Him more, to scrutinize him less and to proclaim His truth more. Amen

PRAYER | CARE | SHARE

PRAYER Leads to **CARE** Opening Ways to **SHARE** the Gospel.

The Prayer, Care and Share strategy is an evangelistic tool intended to equip Christians to pray for unbelievers, show acts of kindness, and share their personal testimony and Gospel with the unredeemed.

PRAYER

When talking about sharing our faith, "Prayer" is asking God to prepare our hearts and the heart of the unbeliever. That our lives would be holy. That our hearts would long for the salvation of the people around us. That we would be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading and that the unbeliever's heart would be open to the truth of the gospel.

CARE

"Care" can be described as "building relationships that clearly display a love for God and a love for the unbeliever." Our desire is that we would be a living example of Christ's love for them, and because of this they would be open to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As it has been said before, "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."

SHARE

Our evangelism starts with Prayer, continues with Care, and finally arrives at Share. "Share" can be described as being sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading as we clearly explain the complete Gospel of Jesus Christ to an unbeliever who is open to receive it.

BURDEN FOR ISRAEL



Share Together

Through studying Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome, how are you looking to grow in your relationship with the Lord?

Study Together

1. Not that Paul wasn't already speaking the truth, but here he wants to emphasize the deep sorrow and anguish that has overcome him for unredeemed Israel (v1-2). What role does our conscience and the Holy Spirit have in our burdens?
2. Paul reveals that his burden, the desire to see Israel redeemed, is credible and nothing short of a sincerity to surrender the impossible - his own election (v3). How does Paul's burden for unredeemed Israel align with Christ's love for the lost?
3. Paul clearly understands the sovereignty of God's election; however, struggled with how Israel could miss seeing Jesus as the Messiah. Discuss the different advantages Israel had to help point them to Christ (v4). With these advantages how did they still not find salvation in Christ!?
4. Consider that Paul had the same advantages as Israel - yet, God's mercy had led Paul to redemption in Christ. How does this give us a clearer picture of the burden Paul had for Israel?



ROMANS 9:1-5

Notes

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit— 2 that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. 3 For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. 4 They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. 5 To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

Scripture Reference

Sent Together

Discuss your burden to share Christ with the unredeemed. How has your redemption story shaped the burden you have for others?



ISRAEL'S UNBELIEF



Share Together

If you had to describe God in one to three words, what would they be? Explain.

Study Together

1. The power of God's Word is not in question here (v6). What was being brought into question is how Israel has overlooked and misapplied scripture. Why is it essential that we carefully handle God's Word and believe it is sufficient for everyday life?
2. Israel's unbelief was blinding, they missed the truth that no one is inherently a child of God; and that faith is not inherited, obtained or achieved simply because of who you are. If Israel had carefully handled the sacred scriptures, what would they have learned about salvation (v7-8)?
3. There is the nation of Israel and there are the people of Israel. In carefully expositing portions of Genesis, Paul brings clarity to Israel's true identity - children of the promise (v9-13). How does this exposition help us better understand God's purpose of election in relation to Israel?
4. Faith, the root of salvation, is born in mercy and grace and is the result of forgiveness in Christ. How are Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob's examples reminders of this sacred truth (v9-13)?



ROMANS 9:6-13

Notes

6 But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, 7 and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." 8 This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring. 9 For this is what the promise said: "About this time next year I will return, and Sarah shall have a son." 10 And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, 11 though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls— 12 she was told, "The older will serve the younger." 13 As it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

Scripture Reference

Sent Together

Consider over the next few months, sharing your testimony with one another. How does hearing someone else's experiences remind you that God is a God of grace? How does it help bolster your faith?



WHEN GOD WILLS



Share Together

Has someone ever treated you mercifully? Share the experience with your group.

Study Together

1. God's justice is not in question here (v14), for it simply cannot be. Paul brings this up then, to emphatically bolster our view of God's wisdom and sovereignty found throughout scripture. Why is it important that Paul is pointing the early church back to the scripture (v6-13) for answers and not just topically addressing felt needs or fears?
2. What seems random has a purpose. Is it possible to answer how or when God decides to have mercy and show grace (v15)? Christians who try to answer this can find themselves compromising what key attributes of God? How does not knowing or having a full answer help the Christian better rely on Christ?
3. Mercy and Grace by principle are impossible to earn; in fact, any attempt to earn them negates the very principle of impartiality and being freely distributed. Why is salvation being a complete act of Christ and not on human will (v16) key to doctrinal soundness?
4. Consider Paul's exposition of Exodus 9 in verses 17-18. What does the "so then" in verse 18 reveal about the specific reason why God shows mercy or hardens a heart (v17b)?



ROMANS 9:14-18

Notes

14 What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means! 15 For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." 16 So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy. 17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." 18 So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.

Scripture Reference

Sent Together

Discuss how our lives should reflect God's mercy to the world around us.



ALL FOR HIS GLORY



Share Together

If you were to survey people in America and ask them to describe God, what do you imagine would be the most common answers?

Study Together

1. The burden of God's election is solely His as He perfectly dispenses grace (v18). In our applied theology, this often creates tension in embracing God's goodness. How is God good when it comes to applying His will in a manner that redeems some and condemns others (v19)?
2. Paul reminds the early church that no fault can be found in God's grace (v19). How does the imagery of the potter and clay help us better delineate God's wisdom and will from our own (v20-21)?
3. God is the Potter. From the same clay, honorable and dishonorable vessels are made (v21). In relation to Israel, how can we properly apply Paul's statements in verses 22-23?
4. As Paul directs, consider the difference between the vessels. How do vessels of mercy and wrath both display God's glory (v22-23)?



ROMANS 9:19-24

Notes

19 You will say to me then, “Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?”
20 But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, “Why have you made me like this?”
21 Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?
22 What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,
23 in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory—
24 even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles?

Scripture Reference

Sent Together

Discuss how God's justice and His mercy should urge us to preach the gospel with greater fervency.



FAITH ALONE



Share Together

Do you think that the nation of Israel today is the same as the Israel of the Old Testament? Why or why not?

Study Together

1. God's kindness in giving us Hosea's prophecy gives us insight into Israel's systemic problem with unbelief (v25-26). How does having this prophecy (and others) help us have confidence and clarity in God's gospel plan for the church and Israel?
2. Sixty years later, Isaiah too, recognized that Israel had become a nation wrapped in human effort, void of righteousness. What would be the purpose of the remnant that God would redeem (v27-29)? What early church leaders from scripture, would have been part of the remnant of Israel?
3. Israel had the sacred scriptures with countless examples of God's redemptive plan; they lived in the treasured promised land, and were often an example to the nations. Yet in reading, teaching, and applying the Scriptures they still missed it. What specifically did they miss (v32)?
4. Consider how verse 31 can be so counterintuitive - a stumbling block- for many. How does following the law not lead to righteousness? What, then is faith, and how does it lead to salvation?



ROMANS 9:25-33

Notes

30 What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; 31 but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. 32 Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, 33 as it is written,

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

Scripture Reference

Sent Together

How can we use the truths from this conversation to pursue those who have not yet put their faith in Christ?



ISRAEL'S NEGLIGENCE



Share Together

How do you define "zeal"? Is there anywhere in our culture that we see zeal without knowledge?

Study Together

1. Paul's heart is revealed as he shares a longing for the lost nation of Israel to know Jesus (v1). How would you describe the hope Paul has for Israel? How is he able to fully embrace the prophecies of Hosea & and Isaiah (9:25-29) and still have a confident hope in the gospel?
2. Israel's fault was rooted in ignorance, not an ignorance of God, but an ignorance of people's depravity and means of righteousness (v2). Why is the doctrine of depravity (Rom 3:10) key to finding redemption? When someone is careless with this doctrine, what does it lead to (v3)?
3. Consider what it means to submit to God's righteousness (v4). Explain how someone can submit to God's law and not have a heart that is submitted to God? Using other texts, what does it biblically mean to submit?
4. Together read Romans 3:20-22. Discuss why Christ's righteousness needs to be imputed to us. How is Christ the "end of the law for righteousness" for everyone who finds salvation in Him (v4)?



ROMANS 10:1-4

Notes

Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. 2 For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. 3 For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

Scripture Reference

Sent Together

Is the good news from God and about God increasingly good news to you, news that you long to share with others?



MESSAGE OF SALVATION



Share Together

Can a person know about God, and even Jesus, and still not experience salvation? How?

Study Together

1. Moses' writings say that righteousness is the basis for the law (v5) and that the person who tries to obtain righteousness through the law is entrapped in the futility of human effort. How does searching for truth and answers elsewhere (v6-7) negate the need for faith? Contrast this now with faith that completely relies on the Word and work of God.
2. Carefully notice how several of the truths from this passage center around the heart - the internal (v8-10). Discuss how the law addresses the external and outward actions while faith focuses on the internal. How is the gospel of God both internal and external? How is this truly good news for the unredeemed?
3. Consider what Paul means by the Word being near (from Deut 30:14). From these verses what role does the Word of God have in bringing someone repentance and forgiveness? Can a person find salvation without the Word of God?
4. Because the gospel can be easily misappropriated today, discuss the meaning and application of verses 9-10 together. How does someone properly explain salvation to someone using the truths from this text?



ROMANS 10:5-10

Notes

5 For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. 6 But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) 7 "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). 8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

Scripture Reference

Sent Together

What would you say to someone who insists that this message of righteousness by faith alone is just too simple, that there has to be more to earn God's love?



AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST



Share Together

Share a time when you were unsure of your relational status with someone due to a conflict or another reason. How did this impact the way you interacted with them or felt about approaching them?

Study Together

1. Paul reminds us that the Gospel does not discriminate or have distinctions - but it is a message for everyone (v11-12)! Consider, that there is a certainty that those who "call on the Lord" will find salvation (v13). Why then must the gospel message still be preached even to those who will not call out to the Lord?
2. Review the series of rhetorical questions Paul asks in verses 14-15. What conclusion is Paul hoping to lead his readers to understand? Why do you think the Lord uses ordinary men and women as ambassadors of His gospel message?
3. One of the first steps in receiving the gospel is hearing the Word of God which results in faith (v17). Using Israel as an example, what responsibility does the messenger have and not have in proclaiming the gospel (v18-19)?
4. Discuss the truths that Paul expositors out of Isaiah's prophecy (v20). How does the prophecy perfectly dovetail with the earlier verses (v11-13) and then the entire passage?



ROMANS 10:11-21

Notes

11 For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. 13 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching

15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" 16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?"

17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Scripture Reference

Sent Together

Does it come naturally for you to speak about your relationship with Christ? Why or why not?



GRACE ALONE



Share Together

Discuss a time when struggling with a difficult question has helped you come to a deeper understanding of the gospel and God's character.

Study Together

1. God didn't start something in Israel and then not complete it - He finishes everything He begins (Philippians 1:6). Discuss the difference between the Israel that God foreknew (His people) and the Israel He did not know (the nation) in verse 2. How is His work completed in both of them?
2. Israel was considered a nation that worshiped the Lord but did not know the Lord (consider Isaiah 1:12-17). As you consider Elijah's example, how does it relate to Israel in the time of Paul and to Israel today (v2-5)? On what basis did God choose the remnant in Elijah's day (v5)?
3. Paul uses the phrase, a remnant chosen by grace, to describe those who would be redeemed in Christ. Discuss the tension between human effort and grace when it comes to salvation and sanctification (v6). On what basis does God save people today? How might our faith suffer if we fail to recognize this?
4. A person who rejects the Lord's justice and mercy doesn't just one day stand before Him in eternity to then accept it. Meaning blind eyes cannot see, and deaf ears don't hear -without surrendering to God's justice and appealing to His mercy (v7-10). How does this text give us clarity and confidence in the Lord's goodness as He maintains His justice?



ROMANS 11:1-10

Notes

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. 2 God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? 3 "Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life." 4 But what is God's reply to him? "I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal." 5 So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace. 6 But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

7 What then? Israel failed to obtain what it was seeking. The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened, 8 as it is written,

"God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day."

Scripture Reference

Sent Together

How would you describe the difference in your life since coming to know Christ? Who has God put in your life to share about these differences?



EXAMPLES OF GRACE



Share Together

Discuss how the pride of doctrinal correctness is one form of spiritual pride. What are some other forms of it to be on guard against?

Study Together

1. In Israel's disbelief, God provides an outside example. In this, Paul's hope is that Israel might see what they are missing (v11-16). Despite not having the law as a measure of righteousness, the Gentiles were brought to salvation (v11). How did Israel's failure and their salvation come to mean riches for the world (v12)?
2. Paul's hope is that Israel might soon see the purpose of the law and their need for mercy and grace in Christ. How would magnifying Paul's ministry to the Gentiles stir up jealousy in Israel and possible repentance (v13-14)?
3. From the beginning, God has always had a heart for the nations! How has incorporating the Gentiles and establishing the Church Age become an incredible act of grace to the world? What does the imagery of being a wild olive shoot grafted into the tree provide for the early church and us today (v17-20)?
4. Consider that Israel, to this day uses the same prophetic texts as the church, and yet is still blinded by human effort and self-righteousness. How can the church caution itself by being aware of Israel's disbelief (v22-23)? Discuss the corrosive power of pride and how it erodes faith (v20).



ROMANS 11:11-24

Notes

11 So I ask, did they stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather, through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous. 12 Now if their trespass means riches for the world, and if their failure means riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their full inclusion mean!

13 Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry 14 in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. 15 For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? 16 If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches.

Scripture Reference

Sent Together

What can we learn from Paul's evangelistic fervor? Who in your life do you long for God to save? How can you express your desire to God for that person?



ISRAEL'S FUTURE



Share Together

What's a tough decision you had to make this past year? What led you in the decision-making process?

Study Together

1. As servants of Jesus Christ, we are also stewards of the mystery of the gospel (1 Cor 4:1). Consider that the Gentiles were once part of this mystery; how is Israel now part of the mystery of salvation (v25)?
2. The Lord's plan still involves Israel. What Israel has is a partial hardness; because they have access to the scripture and gospel message they still have hope. What keeps them from a total hardness toward the Lord (v27-28)?
3. Consider that every part of scripture can be counted as true. How does this relate to what Paul mentions in verse 29? What key events will occur in bringing Israel to a place of repentance and redemption (v30-32)?
4. How does Paul's reminder to his readers about the depths of the wisdom of the Lord aid them in understanding the mystery of Israel's salvation (v33)? What attributes of God does Paul emphasize in this song (v34-36)? How are these attributes seen in God's offer of salvation to all?



ROMANS 11:25-36

Notes

25 Lest you be wise in your own sight, I do not want you to be unaware of this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. 26 And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written,

“The Deliverer will come from Zion,
he will banish ungodliness from Jacob”;

27 “and this will be my covenant with them

when I take away their sins.”

28 As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. 29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. 30 For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, 31 so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. 32 For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

33 Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

Scripture Reference

Sent Together

How do we respond to the truths of Romans 11? What kind of praise can we offer to God for our salvation and the salvation of others?



GOSPEL: A SAVING FAITH

Being a Christian is more than identifying with a particular religion or affirming a certain value system. Being a Christian means you have embraced what the Bible says about God, humankind and salvation. Consider the following truths about God.

God is Creator. We were created by a personal God to love, serve and enjoy endless fellowship with Him. The New Testament reveals that it was Jesus Himself who created everything. Therefore, He owns everything and has authority over our lives (read John 1:3; Colossians 1:16).

God is Holy. God is absolutely and perfectly holy; and therefore, He cannot commit or approve of any evil. God requires holiness of us as well (read Isaiah 6:3; James 1:3; 1 Peter 1:16).

Humankind is Sinful. God tells us that “there is no man who does not sin.” That does not mean we are incapable of acts of human kindness. But we are totally incapable of understanding, loving or pleasing God on our own (read Romans 3:10-12).

Sin Demands a Penalty. God's holiness and justice demand that all sin be punished by death. That is why simply changing our patterns of behavior cannot solve our sin problem or eliminate its consequences (read Ezekiel 18:4; Romans 6:23; Psalm 145:20).

Jesus is Lord and Savior. God tells us that “If you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved.” Even though God's justice demands death for sin, His love provided a Savior who paid the penalty and died for sinners (read 1 Peter 3:18; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 3:26).

Saving faith is accompanied by repentance from sin. Repentance is agreeing with God that you are sinful, confessing your sin to Him, and making a choice to turn from sin and to follow Christ as your leader (read Luke 13:5; 1 Thessalonians 1:9; John 17:3).

SHARING YOUR TESTIMONY

If you've never thought about preparing and communicating your story, that's fine (most Christians haven't). Here are simple principles to get you started.

Keep it short. Communicating too many details about your life can distract listeners from the central point: how you met Christ. Keeping it short can help with that. Three minutes is a good target. Remember that the purpose of telling your story is not about you; it's about God. Clearly and succinctly communicate what *he* has done in your life.

Have a before, how, and after. There should be a pretty clear timeline and logical flow to your story. Talk about what your life was like before Christ, how you met him, and what your life's like now. This timeline is different for everyone, of course, but it brings a sense of structure to what you're saying and helps keep your listener tracking.

For those who've been Christians since childhood, be vulnerable about your struggles as a growing Christian—the “how” may be a time when the gospel really sank in, and you understood it at a deeper level. Everyone's story is unique, and there's flexibility in how to share it, but thinking in terms of a timeline can be very helpful.

Clearly present the gospel. You want people to clearly grasp the source of your transformation: Jesus Christ. If people aren't pointed to Christ, they'll be pointed in another direction, which will (of course) ultimately fail them. We want people to come away from our story thinking, “Isn't Jesus amazing? I want him in my life, too.”

Your testimony should show people that God loves them, they're sinful, Jesus is the payment for the penalty of their sin, and they need to trust Christ as the payment for the penalty of their sins in order to have a personal relationship with God. If you haven't shared the gospel in your testimony, you haven't really shared your testimony.

Avoid 'Christianese.' Avoid Christian slang—those words believers use all the time in everyday Christian circles but make no sense to anyone else. We're trying to be clear about what we're communicating, and we need to understand the importance of speaking a language that can be easily understood. We want anyone and everyone to have intellectual access to what we're saying, so eliminate alienating language (or at least be willing to quickly define it).

Practice, practice, practice! You should know your testimony by heart without having any notecards or outline in front of you. If someone asks about your life at the public swimming pool, you won't be able to whip out a piece of paper for reference—so have your story memorized and ready at a moment's notice. It's a good idea to write it out or make an outline, then practice it aloud on your own or with a friend. Eventually you'll know it by heart.

The Gospel Collation: 6 Principles for Sharing your Testimony -2021

NOTES



at Snohomish Community Church

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