

Ingrafted Branches—Romans 11:11–24

Topics: Attitude, Faith, Grace, Humility, Repentance, Salvation, Spiritual Rebirth

Open It

1. What success have you had with gardening?

Romans 11:11–24 (ESV)

¹¹So 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.

¹²Now 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!

¹³Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry

¹⁴in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them.

¹⁵For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead?

¹⁶If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches.

¹⁷But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, although a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing root of the olive tree,

¹⁸do not be arrogant toward the branches. If you are, remember it is not you who support the root, but the root that supports you.

¹⁹Then you will say, “Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in.”

²⁰That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast through faith. So do not become proud, but fear.

²¹For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you.

²²Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God’s kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you too will be cut off.

²³And even they, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again.

²⁴For if you were cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, the natural branches, be grafted back into their own olive tree.

Explore It

2. How have Gentiles been helped by the Jews’ rejection of God’s salvation plan? (11:11–12)
3. What will be an even greater result than just the response of the Gentiles to God’s plan? (11:12)
4. How did Paul hope his own Jewish people would respond when they saw him ministering to the Gentiles? (11:13–14)
5. What did Paul imagine the response of the Jews to God could bring to the world? (11:15)
6. To what did Paul liken the Gentiles? (11:17)

7. Why do we need to be careful not to boast that God has reached out to us? (11:18)
8. To whom does God show severity and kindness? (11:22)
9. What is promised to Jews who do not persist in unbelief? (11:23)

Get It

10. What is significant about the fact that the Jews have stumbled but not fallen?
11. What attitude should we have toward the fact that God has chosen to reach out to us?
12. How could a person miss salvation by trusting in family background or heritage?

Apply It

13. What can you do this week to acknowledge that you depend on God's kindness?
14. What can you do this week to share Christ with a friend who is separated from God?