



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Women's Brunch** – Saturday, February 3rd, Southwinds' Women's Ministry is pleased to have you join us for brunch as we welcome local author and speaker, Cheryl Jacobo. Cheryl will share her testimony and unpack with us, the Theme/Topic: "His Grace is Sufficient". Registration for this event is required and childcare will be available. Click [here](#) to register. For questions contact Pastor Chris Thielen at: cthielen@southwinds.org.
- **Life Groups** – Our Life Groups Ministry is offering two new groups this trimester. For more information on these and all Life Groups, go to southwinds.org/lifegroups. To sign up for a group click [here](#). Additional questions please contact Talanna Williams at: twilliams@southwinds.org.
 - **Financial Peace University (FPU)** – If you are looking to learn how to budget, payoff debt, invest and more, then our FPU group is for you.
 - **Zoom, Sermon Based Bible Study** – If you are unable to attend an in-person Bible Study, then feel free to join our Monday evening Zoom group.
- **Local Missions Opportunity (March 9-16)** – Southwinds will be hosting a Missions Team from Texas. Anyone interested in providing meals or serving along-side the Missions Team. Please contact Chris Martinez at cmartinez@southwinds.org or (760) 685-5152.

MY STORY

**Who's Your One? Who is one person in your life you want to see come to faith in Christ?
What steps can you take to lead them to Christ?**

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Have a Volunteer Read: Romans 9:1-13

"God's people have always been created through God's sovereign, unconditional choice. That means God's word has not failed, because God never promised that all ethnic Israel would be saved, only true Israel. That's what God's faithfulness is about." – **Michael Nolen**

What does Romans 9:1-13 teach us about God's faithfulness to his Word?

“Most theologians across the history of the church have held to a view known as Compatibilism, which means that God's sovereignty is compatible with human responsibility. But you might ask, ‘What role does unconditional election play in our faith? What it does is it removes every single ground or basis for human boasting, any thought that we bring something to the table. [SLIDE] Unconditional election then replaces that boasting, that doing, that striving to please God, wondering where we stand with God... it removes it all from the table and replaces it with... astonishment, and gratitude, and joy and unshakable confidence, not based on our fickle human hearts and our ever changing emotions. Our will to believe is in fact saving. Our will NOT to believe is in fact damning. We are held responsible for both. But under both... is a mighty bedrock of God's free, unconditional election of who will be saved and who will not. The elect will believe. The non-elect will not. We are not sovereign, we are not autonomous. We are not self-determining. Only God is. (Piper) So how God is able to weave together his sovereignty and our responsibility in such a way that we remain fully accountable and he remains fully in charge is a mystery. But the Bible teaches it.” – **Michael Nolen**

How can we grow our hearts for those outside of Christ? Pray for your “ones” in your life group.

“The Bible teaches that God is absolutely sovereign, and God has woven human responsibility into his sovereignty in such a way that our thinking and deciding and acting are real and genuine, authentic, while he continues to be absolutely sovereign.” – **Michael Nolen**

What difference in your life each day does it make to recognize God’s sovereignty in your salvation?

“God always fulfills his promises because they are based on his electing purposes, which are guaranteed to come to pass. They are invincible. I know there are probably many questions out there, and I won’t answer them all today, so come back next week. But right now, I want to issue a caution against jumping to unbiblical conclusions or imbibing unbiblical assumptions. We’ll come back to this over and over again in Romans 9. [SLIDE] Unconditional does not contradict the truth that we make genuine choices in life and are held responsible for those choices. The Bible does not teach a sort of fatalism, that God has already decided everything, that what will be will be, so our actions don't really matter.” – **Michael Nolen**

What are common ways God’s sovereignty is misunderstood? What are some question or objections you might have? Email Pastor Mike with your questions to: mnolen@southwinds.org.

APPLICATION

How do these truths grow your affections for and trust in Jesus?

PRAISES

PRAYER REQUESTS