



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Discovery 101** – We are excited to hold our next Discovery 101 class on Sunday, February 25 from 3-7 pm. If you are interested in learning more about Southwinds and want to become a member of our church, please sign up on the App or email Rene Snyder at [rsnyder@southwinds.org](mailto:rsnyder@southwinds.org) with questions. Childcare and a light meal provided.
- **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](mailto:cmartinez@southwinds.org) or (760) 685-5152.

## MY STORY

**Has there been a time in our lives when we felt God was unjust?**

## 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 9:14-18; Ephesians 2:1; Romans 3:10-12, Romans 8:5-8**

“In my experience talking with people, most of our struggles with this doctrine of unconditional election boil down to this: We think too highly of ourselves and too lowly of God.” – **Michael Nolen**

**What does Romans 9:14-18 teach us about God? Ourselves?**

Examples:

- God is: always just, free, good, etc.
- We are: dead in our sins, unable to seek or please God.

“Paul says, it is entirely just and right for God to pass over all humanity and judge us for our willful rebellion against him. God is under zero obligation to save anyone, because no one deserves to be saved. Therefore, it is within his sovereign freedom as Yahweh to choose to extend mercy as an overflowing of his divine goodness to some and not others.” – **Michael Nolen**

**Discuss the way Paul responds to these objections.**

- He doesn't go on the defensive and try to explain how we are really the ultimate cause of election.
- He doesn't try to protect the human will. He "doubles down" on God's sovereignty.

"God is just in his unconditional election, in his mercy to those who are his, in his justice to those who passes over. And rather than clench our fists and grit our teeth against the sovereign mercy of God, it is far better for us to get on our faces before him and plead for mercy." – **Michael Nolen**

**How are the biblical truths of this passage good news?**

Discuss the 4 reasons Pastor Mike gave.

- Unconditional election is good news because it means God gets all the glory for our salvation.
- Unconditionally election is good news because it means our sin does not have the last word.
- Unconditional election is good news because it gives indestructible assurance to our souls.
- Unconditional election is good news because it transforms the human heart.

**What if being right with God did depend on "human will or exertion"?**

**APPLICATION**

**Share with someone this week how this study of Romans is deepening your understanding and trust in Jesus?**

**PRAISES**

**PRAYER REQUESTS**