

Study Questions for the August 29, 2021 Sermon:
“Are They Yours?”
Romans 9:1-5

1. In Romans 9:1, the Apostle Paul states that he is confident he is telling the truth because his conscience and the Holy Spirit are in harmony. When we have an idea, or experience an emotion, how can we know whether our conscience and the Holy Spirit are in harmony?
2. Romans 9:2 is one of many verses that portray the Apostle Paul as a man of deeply-felt emotions. Who were other Biblical characters who obviously experienced profound emotions? Support your answer with scripture references.
3. Romans 9: 1 – 5 does not specify the exact cause of the Apostle Paul's “...great sorrow and unceasing anguish.” Can you refer to other passages that clarify why Paul experienced those emotions?
4. Most Christians have family and friends that they love dearly and want to see in a saving relationship with Jesus, just as the Apostle Paul expresses in verse 3. How do we share the gospel with them in a manner that opens their spiritual ears instead of driving them away?
5. Perhaps the single most offensive (to unbelievers) Christian doctrine is the existence of an eternal Hell. What evidence do you see in this passage that the Apostle Paul believed this doctrine?
6. It is difficult to share the gospel with someone who appears happy and self-sufficient. Pastor Paul said in his sermon that the happiness we see in our neighbors is often a veneer. If our neighbors perceive us as intrusive, the “happiness veneer” only gets harder. How do we get our neighbors to open their hearts to us?
7. *We should remember that when it came to ministry, the Jews were Paul’s worst enemies. They harassed and persecuted him from town to town, stirring up lies and violence against him. (David Guzik Commentary) If you know what it is like to passionately love someone who acts as your enemy, share the story.*

8. People sometimes say “That is your truth.”. They mean that you hold some belief that helps you cope with adversity, or understand life. However there is no reason to expect others to believe the same as you. How would you respond to someone who refers to your Christian belief as “your truth”.