



TRANSFORMED BY GOD

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WARM UP QUESTION: Have you ever eaten at a restaurant that was so good you wanted to tell everyone about it? What was it that compelled you to want to share that experience with others?

READ: Romans 15:8–33

FOCUS: God is the hope of the Jews and Gentiles—we worship Him by overflowing in hope and taking His hope to the nations.

OBSERVE:

- It has always been God’s plan to extend his hope beyond Israel to all the nations. Paul says that Christ was a servant to the Jews to confirm God’s promises to the patriarchs and so the gentiles would glorify God for his mercy (Psalm 18:49; Deuteronomy 32:43; Psalm 117:1; Isaiah 11:10).
- Paul says that the gentiles will hope in Jesus when knowledge of him has been spread to all the nations. When we trust in God, he fills us with peace and joy so that we overflow with hope. Hope abounds in us even in difficult situations.
- We worship God by taking our hope to the nations, just as Paul did.

DISCUSS:

- What stood out to you, or what did the Holy Spirit bring to your attention?
- Consider your current circumstances in light of Jesus’ rule over all the world. What does it look like for you to trust in God so that hope may abound?
- How would you go about extending your hope to others?

TAKE ACTION:

- Take time to read through God’s promises to Abraham and to Israel through Moses and the prophets, reflecting on God’s plan for the world.
- How can you participate in Paul’s goal that the gospel of Christ be fully preached and those who have not heard will understand, bringing about the obedience of the gentiles?

PRAY: *Father, thank you for extending your mercy to all the nations so that all may have hope through Jesus. Please help us to abound in hope and to bring that hope to others. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen!*