

KIDS CATECHISM

Book/Chapter: Romans 9
Category: Basic Christian Doctrine

Date: Week of Nov. 15, 2009
Number: 09

Parent to child(ren): If I create a mess, who should be responsible for cleaning it up, me, or someone else? Why? If you said, "Because you created it," you are right! If I create a masterpiece of art worth millions of dollars, who should decide what to do with my masterpiece, me, or someone else? Why? If you said, "Because you created it," you are right! Now we know that God created us, so who has the right to chose what will become of us – God or us? Why? If you said, "Because God created us," you are right! And that is the main message in our Bible study this week. Because God created us, He has the right to make ANY choice for man that He wants – any choice, at any time for any one.

Now many people do not like the idea that God has the right to chose for them whatever He wants. They want to decide everything for themselves. They say, "That's not fair!" But they are wrong. It is fair! Since God created us and gave us life and breath and everything else, He most definitely does have the right (and the power!) to chose to do whatever He wants with man. For example, if it was God's choice, He has the right, as our Creator, to have us spend 12 hours every day cleaning up the earth - pulling all the world's weeds, picking up all the world's trash, wiping up all the world's messes and scrubbing all the dirt off of all the world's mountains with a toothbrush! If God wanted, He also has the right to chose that we be only allowed to eat brocolli, spinach, brussel sprouts and turnip greens every day and to clean our teeth afterward with cut lemons. And guess what? We would have no right to talk back to Him!

This is a very important truth for us to learn. God has the right to do as He pleases with you and me, simply because He IS Almighty God! But here is a promise... if you will really get to know our awesome, almighty God, the truth that He can and will choose things regarding our lives will not trouble you, it will comfort you!

Q41. Before Abraham died, he had 8 sons in all. Of all those sons, which did GOD choose to bless and establish His covenant through?

A41. God chose *Issac* for that special blessing. (**8:6-9**) (*cf.*, **Gen. 17:18-21; 25:1-2**)

Q42. Issac and Rebecca had twin sons named Jacob and Esau, which did GOD choose to bless and establish His covenant through?

A42. God chose *Jacob* for that special blessing. (**9:10-13**) (*cf.*, **Gen. 25:19-23**)

Q43. Was God unfair to the sons of Abraham and Issac to whom He did not give that special blessing?

A43. *No, not at all!* God has the right to show mercy and compassion to whomever He wills (**9:15**) (*cf.*, **Matthew 20:1-16**)

Q44. Pharoah was a proud and rebellious man who did not want to let God's people go and serve Him in the days of Moses. What did God do to Pharoah so that He could show His power to all the people of Egypt and the world?

A44. *God hardened Pharoah's heart* so He would keep being 'pig-headed' and not let God's people go (**9:18**) (*cf.*, **Exodus chs. 7-12**)

Q45. By hardening Pharoah's heart and then judging him, was God acting unfairly toward Pharoah?

A45. *No! God is never unfair!* He had a purpose and it was right for Him to do it!

(Pastor's note: Pharoah would not have repented of his sin, or God would never have hardened him (**see, 2 Pet. 3:9 & Malachi 3:6**)! The Bible teaches us that God never changes, and, that He is not willing that ANY should perish, but wants all to come to repentance. Therefore, it is certain that Pharoah would NOT have repented and God simply, as the scripture said, chose to make His Name known to others by hardening further Pharoah's already hard heart (**9:17**).

*** *Italicized words* can be used as shortened answers for smaller children. Older children can be helped to understand and learn the full answers.

SCRIPTURES TO HELP YOUR KIDS HIDE IN THEIR HEARTS

KJV

Romans 9:14, "What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid!"

Romans 9:15, "...I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion."

Romans 9:16, "So then, it [*i.e., receiving God's promise*] is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that showeth mercy."

NLT

Romans 9:14, "What can we say? Was God being unfair? Of course not!"

Romans 8:15, "'I will show mercy to anyone I choose, and I will show compassion to anyone I choose."

Romans 8:31, "So receiving God's promise is not up to us. We can't get it by choosing it or working hard for it. God will show mercy to anyone he chooses."

----- Suggested Memory Work -----

Up to age 6 / answers only (shortened, *italicized* answers)

Ages 7 - 9 / shortened answers plus one scripture

Ages 10-12 / full answers plus one or two scriptures

Ages 13 & up / full answers plus all three scriptures

NOTE TO DADS: At least one day this week, sit and read the "Parent to child(ren) section with your family. Then, read **Romans 9** with them (let those who can take turns and share in the reading). Make sure everyone is using the same translation. Next, go over the questions with them and see how they do just getting the basic idea. After that, help them with the wording of the answers (giving them one Q & A on M-F and encouraging them to memorize the answer is one way you could approach this part). By reading God's Word to them and passing on to them the things God is teaching you at Calvary Chapel, you will be discipling your own family, equipping them to be strong in the Lord and mighty in His Word (*see, I John 2:14b*)!