



WHEN LIFE THROWS US A CURVE

ROMANS 15:14-33 * NOVEMBER 5, 2023

UNDERSTANDING GOD'S WILL

① God's will is far more _____ than it is _____.

→ It is more about where we are _____ than where we are _____.

② Our goal in life should be in how we _____, not where we _____.

→ Paul's _____ didn't change, just the _____ and _____.

WHEN MY PLANS DON'T PAN OUT

→ Pray for your _____ and _____—just remember who has _____ the desire of your heart.

→ Surrender to God regardless of the _____.

→ Pray for _____ when everything seems _____.

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION:

1. What images come to mind when you think of the first-century church?
2. Read Romans 15:14-22. How did Paul view his own mission? To what did Paul credit his success in evangelism? What attitudes toward himself and his mission did Paul express in these verses?
3. How could Paul be so sure the Roman Christians were capable of teaching each other in the faith (verse 14)?
4. Read Romans 15:23-33. What do these verses teach us about the relationships among first-century Christians? What impresses you most about their relationships, and why?
5. Why has Paul never been able to visit Rome (verse 22)? Why is he now planning to go there? Before visiting Rome, Paul had to deliver the gifts the Macedonian churches collected for the hurting believers in Jerusalem. How did Paul want the Roman Christians to help him?
6. As you read through the verses below, discuss anything that relates to, adds to, or elaborates on the steps for responding when life doesn't work out as planned—When My Plans Don't Pan Out: on the front of this sheet. (James 1:5; Hebrews 13:20-21; Psalm 37:4-6)
7. Most of the early church's outstanding leaders were highly motivated. How do people develop this high level of commitment?