

# SEPTEMBER 18-24 READING

18	<b>ROM 9</b>	Paul answers the Jews' objection concerning their purpose in God's history by asking, "Will what has molded say to the molder, 'Why have you made me like this?'" (9:20). Just as the Jews were elected to a service, you too have been given gifts that allow you to serve in particular ways (12:3-8). Even though you may have chosen to serve in different ways, God has a purpose for you. How does the analogy of clay in a potter's hand help you to be happy in your service?
19	<b>ROM 10</b>	Imagine your car had an engine, but no steering wheel. Could you get where you wanted to go? In order to follow the right path, you need both drive and direction. The Jews had drive, zeal, but not direction, knowledge (10:2). How has your faith at times resembled a car with an engine but not steering wheel?
20		Paul quotes Deuteronomy 30:11-14 to emphasize that no great search must be made for God's revelation (10:6-8), because Jesus has brought it near. List three reasons you are grateful for the word delivered through Jesus Christ on earth.
21	<b>ROM 11</b>	Some non-Jews has become arrogant to think that because the Jews rejected Jesus that there was no place for them among the people of God (11:18). There was a sense of "you will never belong here." When have you too been tempted to predetermine who God will accept or reject?
22		"Note then the kindness and severity of God" (11:22). All are deserving of God's severity, but all have the hope of his kindness (11:32). The logic goes, "If God can have grace for me, he can surely have grace for others." How does this change the way you see sinners?
23	<b>ROM 12</b>	Paul challenges the Romans, "Outdo one another in showing honor" (12:10). Commit to doing two things today that show honor to someone else.
24		When it comes to personal conflict, don't fight fire with fire; everyone gets burned. Instead overcome evil with good. Prepare a response that you can say today to someone who may have offended you. Make it a response that communicates kindness. Write it on a notecard and put it in your back pocket for a week as a reminder.