WEEK 06 / GROUP DISCUSSION

Has the Church Replaced Israel

READ FROM THE BOOK

Step Five: the comparison of Fulfillment Theology and Replacement Theology.

BIG QUESTION

> **Does God's love for the Church require Him to cancel His covenant commitments to Israel?**

CORE BIBLE PASSAGE

> **Romans 11:17–18 (NLT)**
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> "But some of these branches from Abraham's tree—some of the people of Israel—have been broken off. And you Gentiles, who were branches from a wild olive tree, have been grafted in. So now you also receive the blessing God has promised Abraham and his children, sharing in the rich nourishment from the root of God's special olive tree. But you must not brag about being grafted in to replace the branches that were broken off. You are just a branch, not the root."

THREE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean for Gentile believers to be grafted in?
2. Is being grafted into a tree the same as replacing the tree?
3. Why does Paul warn Gentile Christians not to boast against the Jewish branches?

BOMB SQUAD EXERCISE

Draw the tree. Draw the olive tree of Romans 11. Label the root, natural branches, and grafted branches. Discuss which picture fits Paul's description: replacement or incorporation.

TAKEAWAY

Grafted in is not replaced.

MEMORY VERSE

Romans 11:18 (NLT)

"But you must not brag about being grafted in to replace the branches that were broken off. You are just a branch, not the root."