



☛ **Key Bible Verse:** *“Brothers, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved” (Romans 10:1). Bonus Reading: Romans 9:1-3.*

Have you ever had a medical check-up to see if you were healthy? It’s time to determine the health of your heart. But it’s not a physical you need; it’s a spiritual. This will test the strength of your heart for other people. Ready? Answer two questions. One, what do you want most for others? Two, what do you pray for others?

The apostle Paul provides his answers to these questions. His heart’s desire and his prayer was that his people, the Israelites, would be saved. In fact, his desire was so great that he experienced sorrow and anguish over their spiritual condition (Romans 9:1-3).

We often lack the passion and prayer that Paul possessed. We can be honest about that, but we don’t have to stay that way. Prayer is a key. Ask God to give you a heart for the lost. Ask him to help you to care about people’s eternal destiny and their present condition.

✦ **Thought:** Talk to God about people and then talk to people about God.

✦ **Take a Step:** Each day this week, ask God to give you a heart that passionately desires for others to know Jesus Christ. Pray for others to come to faith through your influence.