

Session 10: Mission .

How can we be ambitious with the gospel?

ROMANS 15-16

KEY VERSE:

'Now to him who is able to establish you in accordance with my gospel ... to the only wise God be glory for ever through Jesus Christ! Amen.'

ROMANS 16.25,27 (NIV)

Key themes

- Paul's passion for mission
- Paul's arrest in Rome
- Paul's vocation to share the gospel with Gentiles from other nations
- Invited in and sent out
- The gospel is a rooted story
- The gospel is a relevant story
- The gospel is a relational story

Possible issues

HOW DO WE EFFECTIVELY SHARE THE GOSPEL TODAY?

Response: There are lots of books and other resources to help us work out this question in a predominantly secular society. It would be worth looking at a few of these so that we can learn how to be relevant in our communication.

I DON'T FEEL CALLED TO BE AN EVANGELIST LIKE PAUL

Response: Many of us don't feel equipped to share the good news with others but we should pray for courage and wisdom. We may not have the words, but we can show genuine love, hospitality and care to the people God puts in our lives and pray for opportunities.

Wrap up

- In summary: we've reached the end of *The Romans Course*! We've travelled a long way through one of the Bible's most important letters. Don't worry if you feel the need to re-read Romans or even take a break and explore an easier book for a while. We've discovered Paul's passion for mission and worked through big themes like justification, salvation and our eternal hope. Our hope is that your vision of the gospel of Jesus Christ is richer, deeper and more relevant than before. Let us say with Paul, 'For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes' (Romans 1.16, ESV).

SUGGESTED OUTLINE

- Refreshments
- Welcome and introduction including brief recap of last session (4 minutes)
- Optional discussion starter questions (5 minutes):
What's the best news you've ever received? Have you ever been the bearer of good news for someone else? How did it feel?
- Video part 1 (15 minutes)
- Discussion time (questions in participants' guide) (25 minutes)
- Video part 2 (10 minutes)
- Personal prayer/reflection (10 minutes)