

(1) What has been your personal experience with the book of Romans? Have you avoided it in the past? If so, why? If you have immersed yourself in the book, what impact has it had on your life? Did you find it too theologically deep? Talk about your expectations for this new series in Romans.

(2) What is your initial reaction to Paul's description of himself as a "slave of Jesus Christ"? Are you offended by this? How does it strike you to think of yourself as a slave of Christ?

(3) Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20. When you think of yourself as a slave of Christ, what practical difference does it make in how you live, what you read and listen to, how you use your time and money, etc.?

(4) Although Paul was an apostle, there is a sense in which all Christians have been "set apart for the gospel." What might this mean for you personally?

(5) Paul refers to "the gospel of God." Define the gospel. What are some of the misconceptions you might have had in the past regarding the gospel?