

(1) What would it take for the “faith” of people at Bridgeway to be proclaimed throughout the state, the country, and around the world? Is this even conceivable? If it were to occur, what is it about your/our faith that you would want others to know?

(2) Have you ever received a spiritual gift when other Christians prayed for you? Have you prayed for others to receive a gift? If not, stop and ask those in your group if anyone desires a particular gift and then take time to lay hands on them and pray for them.

(3) What does it tell you about the nature of humility that a man like Paul, an apostle, would describe himself as one who needs to be encouraged and strengthened by the faith of these Christians in Rome?

(4) I mentioned in the sermon how the “sweeping inclusivity” of the gospel is revealed in Paul’s desire to preach not only to Greeks but also to barbarians, not only to the wise but also to the foolish. What does this tell us about the reach of the gospel? What lessons do we learn from it about the importance of the Christian gospel cutting across ethnic and educational boundaries?

(5) Talk about the many ways the gospel undergirds and inspires our obedience to the many commands in Scripture. How does the gospel help you love your spouse, use your money, respond to those who sin against you, and suffer well? Give other examples too.