

Listening Guide

This Listening Guide is designed to help you ask questions and take notes on what you're learning. The process will accomplish two things: first, it will help process the information in the lecture by keeping your mind engaged with the material. Second, it will allow you to collect your notes in one place for a summary of the lesson's content. If you choose to do additional study or want to teach the material to others, you will have a thorough set of notes to guide you.

You may print these Listening Guide pages separately and complete the information as you read, listen to, or watch the lessons. Or as an alternative, you can fill in the fields in this digital version and save to your computer once you are finished.

I. Introduction

[1] What two reasons did Dr. Blomberg give to support his claim that Romans is perhaps Paul's most influential letter?

A. Circumstances

[2] How well did Paul know the Christians in Rome in comparison to the Christians in other churches he wrote letters to?

[3] What does the material in Romans 15:22–23 contribute to our understanding of the Roman epistle?

[4] Paul wrote the epistle to the Romans after he had completed which major ministry period in his life?

[5] What topic did Paul present in the lengthiest and most systematic manner in the book of Romans?

B. Setting

[6] What did Dr. Blomberg say was the approximate year Romans was written?

[7] What significant event contributed to a potentially volatile dynamic in the Roman church?

C. Organization

[8] What does it mean that Romans was written as an “ambassadorial letter”?

[9] How do we explain the fact that even though Paul had never visited Rome, he had a long list of personal greetings in chapter 16?

[10] What are the two sections in the main body of the letter to the Romans? (There is a third section Dr. Blomberg doesn't mention that we have added to complete the outline.)

Romans 1–11 is devoted to

12–15:13 is devoted to

15:14–16:17 Conclusion, Commendations, and Greetings

[11] What did Dr. Blomberg call Romans 1:16–17?

II. Justification by Faith

[12] What is the “central defining doctrine of the Christian message”?

[13] In what New Testament book did Paul present a shorter version of this same central theme?

A. Universal Sinfulness

[14] What did Paul have to do before he could describe the Savior?

[15] What is the theological heart of idolatry?

[16] What did C. S. Lewis mean by the statement: “humans are the only creatures to blush, or to have any need to”?

B. Two Metaphors

[17] What metaphor did Paul use to explain propitiation?

[18] What metaphor did he use to explain redemption?

C. Faith Lived Out

[19] In what other letter did Paul give a clear explanation of justification?

[20] What two results of justification did Paul present in Romans 4 and 5?

[21] What example of being reckoned righteous by faith did Paul use in both Romans and Galatians?

[22] What important theme is the second half of Romans 5:12–21 known for?

[23] In what three ways did Paul say the old Adam and the new Adam, Christ, are similar?

[24] In what three ways did Paul say the old Adam and the new Adam are dissimilar?

III. Sanctification

[25] How did Dr. Blomberg explain sanctification?

[26] Finish the sentence (and try to rephrase it in your own words): “Paul turns the topic of sanctification . . .”

A. Chapter 6

[27] Why did baptism naturally and regularly follow on the heels of Christian profession of faith?

[28] What did baptism symbolize?

B. Chapter 7

[29] What profound and poignant conflict that goes on within Paul and presumably all people did he present in Romans 7:14–25?

[30] What comfort can we take from the consistent struggle we have with sin?

C. Chapter 8

[31] What can life through the Spirit begin to successfully do?

IV. Problem of Israel's Unbelief (9:1–11:36)

[32] What was Paul claiming about the gospel in Romans 9–11?

[33] According to Romans 9:1–29, how did the majority of Jews relate to God's laws?

[34] At the end of Romans 9, what must the term "Lord" mean?

V. Christian Life and Service (12:1–15:13)

[35] What topic does this section of Romans turn to?

[36] Dr. Blomberg presents a brief outline of Romans 12:1–15:3 in this section of the lesson. It would be helpful to your understanding of this crucial application section of Romans to complete this outline.

12:1–2 Basic principles of ...

12:3–8 Identify and practice ...

12:9–13:14 A miscellany of exhortations on the theme of ...

14:1–15:13 Instructions about food ...

VI. Conclusion (15:14–16:27)

[37] How did Dr. Blomberg summarize Romans?

Reflection

Record one new fact or insight you discovered in this lesson.

Application

Read Romans 12:1–2 and consider your own response to the three major exhortations Paul asked Jesus's followers to make.

Present your body as a living and holy sacrifice to God

Do not be conformed to this world

Be transformed by the renewing your mind