Preaching through Romans

These notes are intended to help you prepare a sermon series that will give your congregation an overview of the book of Romans. The sermon series works in tandem with <u>The Romans Course for small groups</u> and the <u>series book on Romans</u>. Together, they enable the whole church to experience the message of Romans on Sundays, in small groups and individually. The sermon notes include the basics of what you need to know as a preacher and they signpost to other resources for further reading, watching and listening. In particular, the series book by Andrew Ollerton will help you prepare each message, one chapter at a time: <u>Romans: A Letter (Mnhing2Chaptans:3667(Le)2 (tte tTBT ff 0 0 0 0 383 Bat) ler)25at a time: (m (tt))</u>

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KE E I C IDE A A HE E IE :

- How might preaching through Romans help your church to become more confident in the gospel and more united in mission?
- What are the issues faced by people in your church in their work, or home, or elsewhere which Romans might address?
- How might the key themes of Romans be applicable to the situations members of your congregation find themselves in at home, at work and in the community?
- How can you pray for your congregation in the light of what Paul teaches in Romans, and how can you encourage everyone to engage with the message of Romans for themselves?

The historical context of the text is important as you prepare your sermon, though not always something you will need to include in detail. However, it may be helpful early in the sermon to remind the congregation of where you are in your series, especially for those who might not have heard previous sermons. The <u>mountain image</u> is a great way to visualise the big picture of Romans and to highlight each section in turn.

We have tried to keep each reading short, rather than reading a whole chapter of Romans. You could play the dramatised Scripture readings from the beginning of each session video where they match up with the suggested texts (see small group resources). Alternatively, you could read the passage yourself and include surrounding verses as you feel is appropriate.