

Course hosts' notes

These notes are designed to assist the course host in facilitating *The Romans Course* by providing an overview and key information for each session. We've included some further ideas, suggestions and tips to help your course run smoothly and enhance the experience for everyone who attends.

Launching the course

Romans is a letter that has transformed many lives. The Romans Course is pitched at an introductory level so it's accessible for mature Christians and those newer to faith. So, why not throw the door open wide and invite everyone in your church, homegroup or friendship circle to check it out? Promote the start of the course a few weeks in advance using [The Romans Course trailer](#) and other [promotional resources](#). Encourage everyone to come along, even if they are not sure the course is for them. Usually, people are reassured by the content and style of the videos and enthusiastic to come again for more! Why not have some 'Roman-themed refreshments for the first session to draw people in? Or some Italian pizza and gelati should do the trick!

Materials to order in advance

To run the course, you need to download the course videos and participants' guide (one for everyone). You might also like to order the course book [Romans: A Letter That Makes Sense of Life](#) by Andrew Ollerton.

Session structure

1 Welcome and introduction

- This is very important, especially at the beginning of the course. Make sure any new guests are welcomed and those feeling nervous are reassured that they won't be put on the spot! Distribute the resources and explain the format of the session. It's also helpful to note that we may not always agree but we will listen to and respect each other. Confidentiality is important, so ask that what is said in the room stays in the room.

- Review

- From Session 3 onwards, you could ask someone to give a one minute recap of the previous session. We suggest you set a timer and model this yourself on week two. Then ask for a volunteer. Some people will quite enjoy the challenge! Andrew briefly reviews the whole route map each week, but from session 3 onwards, you could ask if someone would like to sketch the mountain motif that Andrew uses. The participants' guide will also help to remind people of the main points for review.

3

- For each session we've included an optional question to get conversation going before the first teaching video. These are loosely connected to the theme of the session and are especially useful if your group are new to each other. Make sure you keep to the five minute time slot!

Refreshments

You can enhance your course experience by offering refreshments and hopefully some of the group will contribute as the weeks roll on.

Sound and vision

Being able to see and hear the videos is key to the success