RIVERVIEW CHURCH

HOME-GROUP QUESTIONS

A Passion for the Gospel

With Scott Phelps
August 16, 2026

Romans 1:1-17

NOTES:

QUESTION 1

Paul describes himself as someone who was radically transformed and set apart for the gospel -- in what ways has your own encounter with Christ redirected the trajectory of your life, and how clearly does that transformation define your identity the way it defined Paul's?

QUESTION 2

Pastor Scott draws a distinction between being called into full-time vocational ministry and being called to share the gospel in everyday life -- how are you actively discerning which of these callings God may be placing on you, and what might be holding you back from responding?

QUESTION 3

Paul and Silas chose to stay in the prison and share the gospel rather than flee when the doors were miraculously opened -- what does that decision reveal about what they valued most, and what would your response have been in that moment?

QUESTION 4

Jesus looked at the crowds and felt compassion because they were harassed and helpless like sheep without a shepherd -- when you look at the people around you in your daily life, do you see them through that same lens of compassion, and what difference would it make if you did?

QUESTION 5

Pastor Scott encourages believers to simply move the chains rather than score a touchdown in every gospel conversation -- how does releasing the pressure of having to deliver a complete presentation of the gospel change the way you might approach everyday interactions?

NOTES:

QUESTION 6

Martin Luther struggled for years trying to earn God's acceptance before Romans 1:17 broke through to him with the truth that righteousness is a gift received by faith -- are there ways in which you still functionally try to earn what God has already freely given, and what does that reveal about your understanding of grace?

QUESTION 7

Paul expressed no shame about bringing the gospel into Rome, the most powerful and culturally dominant city of his time -- what environments or relationships in your life feel most intimidating as places to share your faith, and what would it look like to approach them with Paul's boldness?

QUESTION 8

The sermon points out that Paul refused to write off anyone as beyond the reach of the gospel, even noting that believers existed within Caesar's own household -- is there someone in your life you have quietly written off as unlikely to ever come to faith, and how might that assumption need to change?

QUESTION 9

Pastor Scott describes the gospel as dunamis, a dynamite-level power capable of transforming individuals, cultures, and societies -- in what practical ways are you trusting that power to work through your ordinary words and actions, rather than relying on your own persuasiveness or preparation?

QUESTION 10

The sermon closes with a challenge to maintain an eternal perspective because life is short -- how would your daily priorities, conversations, and use of time look different if you genuinely lived with the awareness that the people around you are in urgent need of the gospel?