

## Romans 1C Listening Guide

### Review

1. We've seen Paul explain why we should care about the topic of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Established that righteousness is the key to \_\_\_\_\_ life.

3. Habakkuk 2:4

### Two Points of View

- a. The righteous man shall live \_\_\_\_\_ by faith.
- b. The righteous man shall live day by day in a \_\_\_\_\_ of faith.

4. The righteousness of God is revealed from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

### Vs. 17

5. Do I need \_\_\_\_\_ righteousness?

6. If you understand that you have no \_\_\_\_\_ in you and have are unrighteous before God... the gospel provides an answer to your need.

### 7. Concentric circles

- a. All \_\_\_\_\_
- b. God's \_\_\_\_\_ is revealed *from* heaven against all unrighteousness in all men.
  - c. It's against all \_\_\_\_\_ and all \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. It's against men who suppress the \_\_\_\_\_, which means holding it \_\_\_\_\_.

8. The manner they do that is by perpetuating a \_\_\_\_\_.

9. The lie is that we can \_\_\_\_\_ something other than God and escape His \_\_\_\_\_.

10. Finally, Paul says that men are without \_\_\_\_\_.

11. God's attributes can be discerned and known by what is made. (Explains why we are **not** right with God, not that this knowledge is enough to save you.)

### Romans 1

### Vs. 21

12. Men once knew God \_\_\_\_\_.

13. Know means \_\_\_\_\_; a convincing knowledge.  
John 6:69

14. And yet, knowing God...they \_\_\_\_\_ even in the face of that knowledge. This is the history of how we got to where we are. In this one verse we have our first insight into the \_\_\_\_\_ of man's condition.

15. "God, if only you would reveal yourself in a greater and more tangible way..." We blame our lack of obedience on a lack of \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 16:20

16. We only come to know and follow God truly and fully through His \_\_\_\_\_.

**17. Man's descent into unrighteousness followed a very specific**

- \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. They did not \_\_\_\_\_ him.
  - b. They did not give Him \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. They moved to \_\_\_\_\_ speculations.

18. **Futile** means \_\_\_\_\_.

19. When worship is directed \_\_\_\_\_ it's of no value, it's vain.

20. **Speculation** means reasonings or \_\_\_\_\_. Instead of knowledge regarding the true living God, they put in its place futile self-centered speculations and opinions.

21. First step in rebellion was an intentional \_\_\_\_\_ for God, which then led to substituting of speculation in place of the \_\_\_\_\_.

22. Resulted in a \_\_\_\_\_ heart.

23. **Heart** means \_\_\_\_\_, the nature of who we are apart from the body.

24. Second step was idolatry (vs. 22). They exchanged the \_\_\_\_\_ of the incorruptible God for... things of this \_\_\_\_\_ which they turned and made god.

25. They could do that because their hearts were \_\_\_\_\_.

26. How quickly is this happening?

27. Genesis 4:25 – Enosh- \_\_\_\_\_ years after the fall.

28. Genesis 6:5 – Lamech – A living \_\_\_\_\_ who could have said exactly who God was.

29. Individually we all arrive at the same place in the end,  
\_\_\_\_\_ from God's grace.

30. What did God do when He witnessed their darkened hearts and their full rebellion? Vs. 24

31. Third Step – Vs. 26 – God instigated purposeful action of judgment.

- a. God gave them to the lusts of their \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. God gave them to degrading \_\_\_\_\_. (flesh)
- c. God gave them over to a depraved \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. He lifts their \_\_\_\_\_

32. Another God-instigated removal of restraints – the \_\_\_\_\_ of the One who \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_.

33. Why did He do it? As a demonstration of His \_\_\_\_\_.

34. What you \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_. This principle is being played out in their lives as a form of judgment against them

35. Just as God's righteousness is revealed in the \_\_\_\_\_, His wrath is revealed against all \_\_\_\_\_.

36. Before the flood it was magnified on a world scale. You see it return before the second judgment. It is also a characteristic pattern among the \_\_\_\_\_ world.

37. The **pattern** from a different point of view. They knew \_\_\_\_\_. Implies the opposite. Instead of idolatry you would \_\_\_\_\_ what you know. The outcome of worship is \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

38. What Paul describes is the opposite. You \_\_\_\_\_ know God. That resulted in \_\_\_\_\_ which led to...

39. Vs. 24 Therefore, what they receive is dis\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ in their own bodies.

40. Specific depravities as examples. Exchanging natural affections for \_\_\_\_\_.

41. Why does he choose these examples?

- a. They're \_\_\_\_\_
- b. They represent the \_\_\_\_\_ of depravity
- c. Their bodies become their own \_\_\_\_\_ for what is going on \_\_\_\_\_ in their nature

**Vs. 28**

42. Paul wraps up his discussion of these people. Here's where we get to see \_\_\_\_\_.

43. Depravity is a \_\_\_\_\_ term.

44. The problem is \_\_\_\_\_, it's \_\_\_\_\_.

45. Sin left unchecked by the \_\_\_\_\_ of God goes down a very specific path which arrives ultimately at the \_\_\_\_\_ we see in our own \_\_\_\_\_.

46. All the sin you see in the world \_\_\_\_\_ then... are the result of \_\_\_\_\_ men and women.

47. What conclusion do you make?

**Chapter 2, verse 1** – Paul moves from third person to second person.

All men are \_\_\_\_\_. If one man is due judgment for sin then \_\_\_\_\_ men are due judgment for \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Discussion Lesson 1 C**

### **Overview**

This week Stephen completes the teaching we looked at briefly last week when we discussed how God “gave them over” as a demonstration of His wrath. In the audio, Stephen uses the illustration that you reap what you sow, and sometimes we reap the consequences in our own bodies. He tied that to the lie men perpetuate when they suppress the truth; that we can worship something other than God and escape His wrath. Today we’re going to talk about our part in that lie and why we too are without excuse.

### **Discussion Topics and Questions**

1. Read Romans 1:18-21
2. For how long have God’s invisible qualities been known?
3. That will be our starting point today. Read the following passages and we will discuss them as we go.
4. Read Genesis 1:1, 26-30
5. What aspects of God’s character could Adam comprehend from creation alone?
6. How is modern man without excuse for the same reasons?
7. Read Genesis 2:15-17
8. What did God provide to the man?
9. What did God restrict from the man and why?
10. Read Genesis 3:1-6
11. To what aspects of Eve’s character did the fruit appeal?  
*(Leader Note...these would be things like greed, appetite, appearances, pride, power, etc...)*
12. Since God had clearly restricted them from eating this fruit, between what two things (persons) was Eve choosing? *(Leader Note...be sure that they see the contrast between choosing themselves over God.)*
13. How do the consequences of this story demonstrate the principle of God giving them over? What did He warn them was the consequence of eating the fruit, and what was the consequence actually?

14. How does this story remind you of the principle we learned from Habakkuk 2:4? (Leader note...remember the proud man heedless to the warning versus the righteous man...having humbled himself to God's warning.)

15. Read Romans 1:25

16. As a result of choosing themselves over God, Adam and Eve traded what for what, and then did what?

17. Read Romans 1:21

18. How is this verse true for them?

19. How fast did humanity go from perfection to utter failure?

20. The word **futile** in verse 21 is translated from the Greek word meaning *to make empty, vain, foolish*, but that needs further defining. (This is the only time this particular Greek word is used in the entire Bible!) [wordnetweb.princeton.edu](http://wordnetweb.princeton.edu) defines **vain** this way: *conceited: characteristic of false pride; having an exaggerated sense of self-importance.*

21. Further, **speculations** can be translated as, *the thinking of a man who is deliberating with himself.*

22. If you were to use an understanding of these definitions to rewrite Romans 1:21 it might read something like, "they became pridefully concerned with their own self-importance when choosing between God's instructions and their own desires".

23. Choosing themselves before God was a form of self-worship. To **worship** something is *to love it uncritically, unquestioningly, and to give it a higher value than anything else in one's life.*

24. Read Exodus 20:1-5a

25. What have we become when we chose ourselves over God?

26. How does self-worship (idolatry) violate the principle of "love God, love people"? (Leader Note...you could share with the group the acronym JOY - which stands for **J**esus, **O**thers, **Y**ou – as a way of remembering the correct order and the expected outcome of obedience.)

27. Read 1 Samuel 15:22

28. What two things are contrasted here and which does God prefer?
29. Does obedience require a sacrifice? Explain how. (Leader note...be sure the group understands that obedience requires **self**-sacrifice, which puts God back in His proper place at the top of the worship-ladder.)
30. Read 1 John 5:3
31. How does this clarify all that you've learned so far today?

### **Summary**

Even if we had a face to face relationship with God, that would not prevent us from seizing the opportunity to sin. Sin is simply a choice between God and us, effectively making **self** into an idol. The result of that vanity is death. Sin holds empty promises, and when we deliberate with ourselves over the choice between obedience and sin, we should assume the position of the righteous man of Habakkuk 2:4 – humble to God's righteousness and to His ways. The fact that we don't always immediately reap the consequence of our sin can give us the false impression that God has not seen our choice or the condition of our heart, but the principle of reaping and sowing is still in effect.

God hates sin...even more, He hates the death of His child as a result of sin and grieves as a perfect father when even one is lost. Therefore, He made a way for sinners to be forgiven, but we must not abuse the grace of Christ. He desires our obedience as a demonstration of our love. He desires for us to choose Him, worship Him, honor Him and so, not make our **self** our own object of worship. Obedience is a meaningful sacrifice – a sacrifice of self. We must ask ourselves constantly, "What would I take for myself, which God has not freely given"?