1. **Not ashamed of the Gospel**
   a) Romans 1:16–17
   b) Why does Paul begin his letter to Christians in Rome by declaring he is not ashamed of the Gospel?
   c) Who might have insinuated Paul should be ashamed of the Gospel he was proclaiming?
   d) Summarize the Gospel as taught by the apostle Paul under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
   e) Have you ever been ashamed of the Gospel? How did you find freedom from fear of what people might think about you as a follower of Jesus?

2. **A better covenant**
   a) Hebrews 8:1–6
   b) What does the author of Hebrews mean when he speaks of “better promises”? Are some of God’s promises better than other promises?
   c) The promises that were inadequate in the Old Covenant were those made by the children of Israel. Exodus 19:8
   d) God keeps all His promises. What promises about salvation through faith in Jesus are especially meaningful to you?
      i) Examples: John 3:16, Romans 10:13, 1 John 5:12–13

3. **Challenge in the early Christian community**
   a) Acts 15:1, the challenge

4. **Persistent challenges from some Jewish Christians**
   a) While Paul does not address these false teachers directly in his letter to the Romans, what warning does he give in Galatians 1:1–12?
   c) Notice Paul’s clear teaching of “the Gospel of Christ.”
      i) Romans 3:21–24
      ii) Romans 5:1–2
      iii) Romans 10:9–13
   d) What important lessons must we remember when people challenge or try to intimidate us for believing in salvation by grace alone through faith in Jesus?