

## **Doxology of Praise**

Romans 16:25-27

Sermon Discussion Questions

April 30, 2017

1. This week, Pastor Tom taught on the closing of Romans. He began by highlighting all the amazing things that happened this year. Take a moment and share amidst the group what are some of the things you experienced during this series. What did you have a chance to see God doing in your life or the life of someone you know?
2. Pastor Tom made the point that upon reflecting on the last year, it should feel awkward to celebrate everything “we” have done because the glory should go to God. As he went around taking pictures with people, did you feel awkward? What did you think or feel as he started the message?
3. After pointing out the difference between a benediction and a doxology, Pastor Tom goes on to break down Paul’s praise of God in these verses. What does the phrase “able to establish you in accordance to my gospel” from verse 25 mean? What was Paul saying here? Read the verse over and compare it to Paul’s message in Philippians 1:6.
4. Further on in the verse we are reminded that the center piece of this gospel, the key component is Jesus. We may have a lot of things to say and share about but if it doesn’t have Jesus in it we’re missing the key part. How easy do you find it to bring Jesus into your story? As you share with people about your journey, your faith and your life, is it hard to focus on the person of Jesus? Why?
5. Pastor Tom spent sometime addressing Paul’s use of the word “mystery” and its connection to Jesus, the gospel and us. What did he say about it? Think back to the examples used from the Old Testament and read Colossians 1:24-27 as reference.
6. According to Paul if Jesus is now in us, revealed and alive, it will lead to obedience in faith. This obedience then serves as praise of God. How so? How does our obedience of God, our following His commands and obeying him, bring Him praise? How is this true in your own life?
7. This closing segment was all about recognizing the greatness of God and seeing how Paul rightfully closes by giving Him all the glory and honor. As you close your time together take some time to share praises of what He’s done this last year. Share testimonies, stories or just praise to God and then pray for each other.