

**DATE** August 25, 2019

SPEAKER David Smith

TITLE Relationships That Go Bad

**SERIES** The Galatians struggled with what following Jesus really

means. Some couldn't let go of the old laws, while others abused their new freedom. So, how do we fight the legalism of too many rules without creating a free-for-all without them? Is there a fine line between the two

extremes?

**Introduction**- Today we were reminded that in every realm of relationship, the Gospel is still the "Good News." We dig deeper into Galatians 4 and see how we can base each of our relationships in grace and truth.

- 1. Has anything happened this week that was clear or apparent that God was speaking to you or directing you? If not this week, was there a time when it was so obvious that God was communicating specifically to you?
- 2. Is your relationship with yourself grace-based or are there times when you extend very little grace to yourself? Do you find it harder to expand grace to others or to yourself?
- 3. Is there someone who needs grace in their life from you right now? What is your plan if they don't respond with grace back to you?
- 4. Read Galatians 4:8-9. Paul was asking the Galatians to remember what their life was like before God. Do you remember the day when you gave your life to Christ? What was that season like? Consider your current relationship with God. Would you say that you are currently more contagious, more committed, or more callous?
- 5. Is there was something in your life that needs to be corrected? How would you prefer a friend or family member to correct you? Have you ever been corrected by someone? What was done well? What was done poorly? How did you respond to that correction?
- 6. Read Joshua 4:1-24. What did God command Joshua and the Israelites to do? Some people journal. The Israelite used rocks. What physical or tangible thing can you do alone or with your family that can serve as a visual reminder of God's great power and love?

**Prayer-** Dear God, Thank you for demonstrating true grace to us through your Son's death on the cross! You made us. You know us. You love us. Help us to be observant to the ways you are reaching out to us personally this week. May we accept your grace fully and show your grace in each of our relationships this week. Amen!