

DATE September 8, 2019

SPEAKER David Smith

TITLE A New Creation

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?

Today Pastor David concluded the Fine Line sermon series by looking at how the apostle Paul sums up his letter to the churches in Galatia. As we've learned throughout the Fine Line series, grace is the answer! Because God's pleasure in us is based on Jesus' performance for us and not on our own legalistic rules, we are free to live as a new creation in Christ.

- 1. As we come to the end of the Fine Line sermon series, how do you now view the fine line of grace between legalism and liberalism?
- 2. With God's grace and Jesus' work we have freedom, but what does this freedom actually mean, and how can one believe they are free if they still feel in bondage to sin or addiction?
- 3. How are we, as the apostle Paul describes in Galatians 6, a "new creation" in Christ?
- 4. Pastor David says, being a "new creation" is having patience for God to come through. How can we practice being patient? How can we help others to be patient while we practice patience ourselves?
- 5. Read through the story of Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar in Genesis 16 (which is referenced in Galatians 4:21-31). How were Abraham and Sarah impatient with God? What was the result of their impatience?
- 6. What does it mean to be "unoffendable"? Why should we be "unoffendable" people and how do we do that in today's culture?
- 7. Pastor David tells us that if we are a grace-based person, we would be counter-cultural. How so?
- 8. Faith outplays logic every time. How do we maintain faith when things don't seem to pan out (see Hebrews 11)?
- 9. What is your next right step with God? How do you know? What will happen in your life if you take that step? What will happen in your life if you don't?

As you pray this week, thank God for the fine line of grace that we can walk between legalism and liberalism so that we can live in freedom. Pray about your next right step with God so you can live as a "new creation," "unoffendable," and patient for God to come through.