**Pastor Demetric Felton August 16, 2020**

**Living Free Of Legalism**

Galatians 4:12-20

**Key Truth:** One of the greatest threats to our spiritual growth is legalism, trying to earn God’s love through works.

**Paul’s Pastoral Concern:**

1. That the Galatians would reject the true gospel and Paul

would be found to have labored in vain.

2. That the Galatians will forget his message and manner of

life and see him as an enemy.

3. That the Galatians will seek acceptance from peers over

being accepted by Jesus Christ.

A. Be careful of flattery and hidden agendas.

B. Our love for the praise of men hinders us from

trusting Christ

C. There is danger of wanting to be seen as religious and

moral in the eyes of others.

**How Christ Is Formed In You:**

1. By our faith in Jesus Christ. Galatians 3:5

2. By the power of the Spirit. Galatians 4:6

3. By our continued exposure and obedience to the word of

God.

A. Discipleship to Jesus is both visible and measurable;

therefore, credible to a looking world.

**Taking It Beyond the Walls:** Thank God for the freedom we have because of Jesus Christ. Continue to trust Jesus to do greater works in and through you in the future.

**Food For Thought**

Do you ever feel like you have to perform to get people to approve of you or love you? In what kind of situations are you most likely to feel that way (i.e., parenting, work, friendships, etc.)?

Does that need for performance-approval ever bleed over into your relationship with God? If so, what does that indicate about the way you view God’s love?

What in your current life or your past might contribute to the belief that you have to perform in order for God to love you?

How had false teachings influenced the Galatians? Describe Paul’s response to this turn of events.

Why did Paul ask in verse 16 whether he was now an enemy of the Galatian believers? What concern did he express in regard to their relationship with the legalistic Judaizers?

Romans 8:1-4: What role does the Father, Son and Holy Spirit play in regard to your salvation? What did Christ set us free from? How does that change how you live today?