

Text: Galatians 4:8-20

**Big Idea:** Sometimes our faith journey takes us to new and unfamiliar places. Moving ahead becomes challenging. This is particularly true when Gospel living confronts the familiar demon of religiosity. In our walk with Christ we need to remember that grace moves us <u>forward</u>; religion moves us <u>backward</u>.

## **Discussion Questions:**

- In Tim Keller's commentary on Galatians, he writes, "The great and central basis of Christian assurance is not how much our hearts are set on God, but how unshakably His heart is set on us." How does that reassure you? How might that keep you looking forward?
- 2. False teachers were telling the Galatians that their faith and grace were not enough. Paul equates their former religious practice of idolatry with that same false teaching, calling both demonic (Gal. 4:8-9). Do you think Paul was too harsh? What are some ways we bring religion into our walk with Christ? How can we avoid that?
- 3. Read Philippians 4:11-13. Why do you think people struggle with being content? What do you see in your life that demonstrates that you are growing in contentment?
- 4. Paul points out that he cares about the Galatians while the false teachers do not. (Gal. 4:16-17) Think of a time when you felt convicted or challenged by God. How did God use other Christians to minister to you? What did you experience that you can apply when ministering to others?