

Sermon Notes

Big Idea: How can you tell the difference between engaging God as a religion, and enjoying God through a relationship. To sum it up in one word - the difference is GRACE. The Book of Galatians helps Christians eradicate a religious approach to God from our lives, so that we can pursue a joyous relationship with Him. Let's learn to *Let Grace Work*.

What is your approach to God?

Galatians 1:6-7 (ESV) Genesis 2:8-9; 16-17; 3:1-7 (NIV)

Discerning the Difference between Religion and Relationship:

RELIGION: Focuses on what you do.

RELATIONSHIP: Focuses on what Jesus has done.

John 5:39-40 (NIV)

RELIGION: Focuses on getting God's approval.

RELATIONSHIP: Focuses on receiving God's love.

Romans 5:8 (NIV)

RELIGION: Focuses on external duty.

RELATIONSHIP: Focuses on internal desire.

Philippians 2:13 (NLT)

How to Let Grace Work:

- Receive the love of Jesus.
- Reject Condemnation.
- Repeat Daily.

John 14:15 (NIV)

Romans 8:1-2 (NIV)

Discussion Questions

- 1) What impacted you the most from this week's message? Encouraged you? Challenged you?
- 2) How would you answer the opening question to the sermon: What is your approach to God?
- 3) Read Romans 5:8. Do you find yourself 'doing more' to get to God and earn his approval? Do you struggle with condemnation when you fall short? Explain.
- 4) In your own words, how would you define Religion verses Relationship? How about the difference between the Tree of Life and the Tree of The Knowledge of Good and Evil?
- 5) Read 1 John 15:14. Do you feel like you obey God out of Duty or Delight?
- 6) What are some practical ways you can choose *Let Grace Work* in your approach to God? How about your approach to others?