

# SERMON OUTLINE

## You Were Running So Well

*Galatians 5:1-15*

*The only true freedom in this world is to know the love of God in Jesus Christ...*  
(Galatians 5:1)

**What reminders will such gracious freedom offer us in the race of faith?**

**Grace will remind us that we are prone to leave the God we love...**

(Galatians 5:2-6)

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**Grace will remind us that we are prone to remove the offense of the cross...**

(Galatians 5:7-12)

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**Grace will remind us that we are prone to consume one another...**

(Galatians 5:13-15)

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**Grace will remind us that streams of mercy never cease for those who are yoked with Jesus Christ...** (Matthew 11:28-30)

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## REFLECTION QUESTIONS (taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- You notice a friend doing something self-destructive, but without any self-awareness. Do you point it out? What happened the last time you tried?
- What's at stake here in Galatians 5:1-4? What does Paul mean by "yoke of slavery"? (See Matthew 11:28-30)
- If rule-keeping doesn't count for anything (Galatians 5:2), but dooms one to fail (Galatians 5:3-4), what does count (Galatians 5:5-6)? Why only faith, worked out in love?
- What is Paul's tone in Galatians 5:7-12? Why does the issue move him so strongly?
- In Galatians 5:13-15, how does Paul navigate between the dangers of legalism and license?
- Paul says: a) we are not "under the law" anymore; b) we are to fulfill it. How can both be true at once? Hint: What are we free from? What are we free for?
- What "spiritual yardstick" does our church circle use to see who measures up? What "yokes" have we placed upon people? How have you been freed from the same? Whose yoke have you taken on instead of Jesus' (Matthew 11:28-30)?
- How have you seen Christian freedom abused? How is Galatians an antidote to those who think their freedom in Christ gives them license to do anything they wish?