**Title: Priority over Preference, Part 4**

**Genesis 25:27-34; Luke 10:38-42**

Recap: Happiness vs. flourishing.

While the end game of preference is happiness, the goal of priority is flourishing. **Psalm 92:12-14**.

The prevailing culture (pursuit of life, liberty and happiness) is the dominant reasoning, which has put many in positions where flourishing is out of reach.

Three things which accompany priority and pair as blessings of a life lived in pursuant of priority.

1. YOU SEE CLEARLY (LIMITED DISTRACTION): sometimes our preferences, like alcohol, can impair our vision and sense of reason or judgment. Often, we can’t clearly see what’s ahead because we are unable to separate what serves our present personal interests versus what serves our overall good. **Genesis 25:29-32**. For Esau, his lack of foresight was sustained by the need to satisfy the “now” which he equated as happiness.
2. YOU TRAVEL LIGHT (LIFE IS SIMPLIFIED): many are encumbered with competing interests. With this approach to life, it is difficult to focus. I’d rather be successful in one thing than be average in many things or be successful in the wrong thing. Once we live life on the “one thing” principle, life gets streamlined, and we can travel light. **2 Timothy 2:4, Philippians 3:13, Psalm 27:4.** Esau was encumbered with too many things.
3. YOU INCREASE CAPACITY (PRODUCTIVITY RUNS HIGH): one question that runs constantly in the mind of an individual that is flourishing is “how do I increase my capacity to…?” Increased capacity comes with paying attention to priorities. Increased capacity does not mean you are doing everything. It is creating room to do more of what will have greater value or impact. SOMETIMES, LESS IS MORE because of its impact. Jacob was able accomplish more with the less he focused on. **Psalm 92:12**.

Conclusion: It takes a palm tree about 20 years to get to its full height and about 4 - 5 years to see any fruit. However, it flourishes for about 40 - 50 years. Priority may take time, but it is enduring.

This week’s priority: people.