**Title: Priority over Preference, Part 2**

Is preference always bad?

**Genesis 25:27-34; Job 8:7; Luke 10:38-42**

Priority: something given or meriting attention over competing alternatives.

Preference: a greater liking for one alternative over the other.

The real difference between the two are the words MERIT and LIKE

Is preference always bad? The answer to that is no.

Going by the definitions of priority and preference, we can see that the problem with preference is:

1. Preference does not consider the merit, value or potential of competing alternatives as is the case with priority.
2. Preference only takes into consideration the interest, pleasure and satisfaction of the chosen path.
3. Preferences leave us SHORTCHANGED whether it is inherently good or bad. Esau got the inheritance but lost the blessing. **Genesis 27: 30-40;** **Hebrews.12:1.** There are certain things that carry the same weight as sin.
4. Preferences are formed based on what is present inside us. We like the things we like because of our personality. They satisfy a need inside.

Examples of Weights

1. Procrastination
2. The need to be seen/adulated.
3. Self-preservation
4. Worry
5. Control
6. Paranoia/fear
7. Offense/unforgiveness

Esau’s choice of the porridge over birthright is instructive on how preference can shortchange anyone. At that moment, the porridge was a good idea, it took care of Esau’s interest, pleasure, and satisfaction. It even eliminated a pressing need - hunger; unfortunately, it did not address the merit, value and potential of the competing alternative of the future. **Hebrews 12:1.**

Mary and Martha’s story in **Luke 10:38-42** further explains the fact that we always get the shorter end of the deal when we live by preference and not priority.

Today’s Priority: LEGACY

Legacy is the evidence you leave behind at every turn, in other words we are always creating legacy whether we know it or not.

Legacy is the report card of your stewardship. How well this turns out will depend on the role of priority in your life because legacy always aligns with priority not preference.

Legacy is about making a positive impact result in the enduring good of others. Although, we can also leave a trail of negative impact (Dan Reiland).

Three things to note:

1. We are always creating a legacy.
2. Legacy is the story of your life in an abridged form.
3. Legacy is not about size. **Job 8:7**

Finally, the aim of legacy is that somebody, at some time in the future, whether here or in the by and by, should be able to say, “I met Jesus because of you, my marriage stood because of you, my life got better because of you”; a result of priority. Conversely, for some, others will say the opposite and it can be traced back to preference.