

GENESIS 36

“PURSUIT”

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



LET'S TALK!

#1 THE PURSUIT OF GOD VS. SELF

- Reflect on the pursuit of Esau in Genesis (e.g., Gen. 25:27, 29-34; 27:41; 28:6-9). Do you see him pursuing God or self?
- Genesis 36:2 says that Esau married Canaanite women. Why was that wrong and how did that affect Esau and others?
- In this life, we cannot pursue God and self at the same time. What does Galatians 2:20 tell us about this and what does it mean to be crucified with Christ?

#2 THE PURSUIT OF HOLINESS VS. WORLDLINESS

- Read Genesis 36:6. Esau acquired many possessions, and from what we know of Esau, he was a man who valued the things of the world over the things of God (e.g., 25:7-34). What would you say was the main pursuit of Esau's life?
- Think about/discuss these three things: Narcissism is the love of self; hedonism is the love of pleasure, and materialism is the love of things. All three of these have been prevalent in humanity since sin entered the world. How/why is a Christian to combat each of these?

#3 THE PURSUIT OF ETERNITY VS. TEMPORARY

- Genesis 36 recounts many of the descendants of Esau and the kings who reigned in the land of Edom. What king would eventually come from the Edomites who would attempt to kill the Messiah, Jesus Christ (i.e., Matthew 2)?
- Esau is an example of living for the temporary. He desired the passing pleasures of sin over the greater and more important things of God. Why is this a tragic way to live?
- Read Colossians 3:1-4. How does God instruct us to live rightly in the world?