PART 3: Last Things First

INTRODUCTION

What do you want? What do you really want? We'll never get what we really want until we discover what is most valuable. And what we naturally want is often in conflict with what we ultimately value. So, in order to figure out what you really want, you have to figure out what you value.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When Pastor was reading through the funeral exercise from The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People, what came to mind? Have you worked through this exercise before or a similar one?
2. When you think about what you want said at your funeral by the people you love and respect the most, what themes surface?
3. In The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People, Stephen Covey wrote, "If you carefully consider what you wanted to be said of you in the funeral experience, you will find your definition of success." Based on this observation, what is success for you?
4. Read Galatians 5:22-23. Which of these virtues parallels or reflects what you will want people to say about you at your funeral?
5. Which of the fruits of the Spirit do you worry might interfere with your personal and professional goals? Is there an actual conflict?
6. Respond to this statement Pastor made toward the end of his message: "What you really want and what God really wants for you may be closer than you imagine." Does this come as a surprise? If this is true, what are the implications?

MOVING FORWARD

Pastor closed the message by saying, "When we discover what we really value, we are less prone to settle for what we merely want."

- Is there a conflict between what you actually value and what you are currently pursuing?
- Is there a conflict between your values and your behavior?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.
Galatians 5:25–26