

Prayer?

Please list your prayer requests with detailed information of people in need. Thank you!

NEW TO ECBC?

For more information email info@eastcooperbaptist.com

First Time Guest?

We'd love to get to know you!

SCAN DIGITAL CONNECT CARD



843.856.3222 x PRAY (7729)

prayer@eastcooperbaptist.com

Sermon Notes.

Speaker: Buster Brown, Senior Pastor

Message: Are You Seeing?
(Comprehending the True Riches)

Text: Ephesians 1:15-20

"¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places..."
Ephesians 1:15-20

The means of grace are God's appointed instruments by which the Holy Spirit enables believers to receive anew the empowering presence of Christ and the benefits or redemption in Him.

In order to have strength for the journey (to stay strong in the Lord and to finish strong), we must continually tap into the resources found in Christ.

For this reason (v. 15) → the believer's union with Christ, includes every spiritual blessing In Christ: eternally loved In Christ, adopted as sons In Christ, redeemed through the blood of the cross, forgiveness of our trespasses By Christ, a glorious inheritance In Christ, and filled with the promised Holy Spirit by virtue of the work Of Christ.

Union with Christ is our solidarity/association with Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit and through faith by virtue of which believers continually partake of His saving benefits.

The Battle to See:

Comprehend/seized/overpowered/to grasp (Ephesians 3:18) versus "the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ who is the image of God." (2 Corinthians 4:4)

General Principles:

1. Our union with Christ brings joy and energy (Ephesians 1:17; 1 Peter 2:9-10).
2. Jesus is our substitute for sin and our present day Savior.

"That God should set such a high value on a community of sinners, rescued from eternal judgment and still bearing too many traces of their former state, might well seem incredible or it not made clear that he sees them in Christ, as from the beginning he chose them in Christ. As a consequence Paul prays that his readers might appreciate the extraordinary value which God places on them; he views them as in his beloved Son and estimates them accordingly. And this is true of all who are 'in Christ'...may

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Sermon.

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we live consistently with this high calling and accept with gratitude and true humility the grace and glory that he has lavished on us." Peter O'Brien, Commentary on Ephesians

3. Our union with Christ is indissoluble (lasting; cannot be destroyed).

Q 79: May not true believers, by reason of their imperfections, and the many temptations and sins they are overtaken with, fall away from the state of grace?

A: True believers, by reason of the unchangeable love of God, and his decree and covenant to give them perseverance, their inseparable union with Christ, his continual intercession for them, and the Spirit and seed of God abiding in them, can neither totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace, but are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Westminster Larger Catechism, Q. 79

APPLICATIONS:

1. The inseparable link...

"The Spirit and Word are inseparable in our lives, so prayer and meditation are inseparable. The fight for joy always involves both. Prayer without meditation on the word of God will disintegrate into humanistic spirituality. It will simply reflect our own fallen ideas and feelings - not God's. And mediation, without the humility of desperate prayer, will create proud legalism or hopeless despair."
John Piper, *When I Don't Desire God* (p. 149)

"(Unchecked and mortified sins) leaves us lame, weak and unable. We don't just need forgiveness and ultimate deliverance; we also desperately need present help - helps so we will have the will to desire and power to do what is right and good in the sight of God." Paul David Tripp, *New Morning Mercies*, October 4th

We look to Christ with our ears. The eyes of the heart look through the eyes of the mind as the word of God is communicated. As this happens, we're continually transformed by the Holy Spirit.

2. ...Labor to be amazed.

"The final goal of the blessed life rests in the knowledge of God. Lest anyone, then, be excluded from happiness, he not only sowed in men's minds that seed of religion of which we have spoken, but revealed himself and daily discloses himself in the whole workmanship of the universe. As a consequence, men cannot open their eyes without being compelled to see him." John Calvin, *The Institutes* 1.5.1

As we receive the kingdom like a child, we should strive to be continually gladdened by the glory of creation and the absolute wonder of the cross.

"I shall sometimes look back at the freshness of vision I had in childhood and try, for at least a little while, to be, in the words of Lewis Carroll, the 'the child of the pure unclouded brow and dreaming eyes of wonder.'"
Clyde Kilby, Resolution Number 7

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OCTOBER 8, 2023

STRENGTH FOR THE JOURNEY



eastcooperbaptist.com

Hello.

Please complete the perforated section and take to the Welcome Desk or place in any giving box located around the church.

I/We attended worship at:

9:30am 11:00am

I am a first time guest

Name

Spouse

Birthdate Spouse Birthdate

Address

City

State Zip

Mobile

Spouse Mobile

Email

Spouse Email

Preferred method of contact: Call Text Email

Interested in the following:

- Become a Christian
- Join the Church
- Meet with a Pastor
- Subscribe to newsletter
- Other

NEW TO ECBC?

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SCAN DIGITAL CONNECT CARD



Upcoming.

ELDER & DEACON NOMINATIONS

We ask that members of East Cooper give input in selecting leadership. If someone comes to mind, please complete the form **no later than today** to nominate them for the role of elder or deacon.

NOMINATE TODAY.

DEACON NOMINATION FORM



ELDER NOMINATION FORM

GLOBAL IMPACT CONFERENCE

The Global Impact Conference (October 27-29) is a time when we, as a church, focus on the Great Commission and hear from missionaries from around the world. Kids Missions Festival goes alongside this conference.

REGISTER TODAY.



eastcooperbaptist.com/gic

KIDS MISSIONS FESTIVAL

On October 27-29, your kids will love learning about the country of Jordan, what missionaries do, and how to be a part of the Great Commission! All children must be registered with a parent attending GIC.

REGISTER TODAY.



eastcooperbaptist.com/gic

SERVE IN THE WORSHIP MINISTRY

Sunday morning worship is such a vital part of our church! It takes a team of volunteers to help bring music to our venues! If you are gifted musically and desire to use it, volunteer today.

SIGN UP TODAY!



eastcooperbaptist.com/serve

REFRESH

2024

LIVING GENEROUSLY
4 week series beginning in January

Refresh is a yearly class that takes place every January! Each year this class will contain an update to our vision goals, reminders about our vision language, and some specific teaching geared towards this season of our church family's life. Refresh 2024 will be about Living Generously. We're asking all of our church members to commit to attending this four-week class.

Classes start January 7 in the East Cooper Gym and will be offered at both 9:30am and 11:00am on Sundays, and at 6:30pm on Wednesday evenings. We look forward to growing with you there!

To register, go to eastcooperbaptist.com/refresh or scan the QR code



Welcome.

We're glad you are here to worship with us. If you are new to East Cooper Baptist, we would love to meet you. Please stop anyone with a name-tag and let us answer any questions you may have. Thanks for being our guest.



Buster Brown, Senior Pastor
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Traditional Worship and Classes
Sanctuary 9:30am & 11:00am
Contemporary Worship and Classes
Worship Center 9:30am & 11:00am

Ways to Give.

Giving is part of our worship to God. Through your faithful giving, God continues to change lives here in our area and around the world.



Give in-person by dropping your gift in any giving box located throughout the church.

Give online by visiting our website at: eastcooperbaptist.com/give.



Give via text by texting the word "GIVE" to 843-202-4848.

Get to Know.

Mark Leindecker



ELDER ON THE WORSHIP TEAM

In junior high school, Mark came to know Christ while attending a family summer camp with his grandma. He has attended ECBC for 30 years and currently serves in the orchestra. Mark plays the french horn and loves playing or watching baseball.