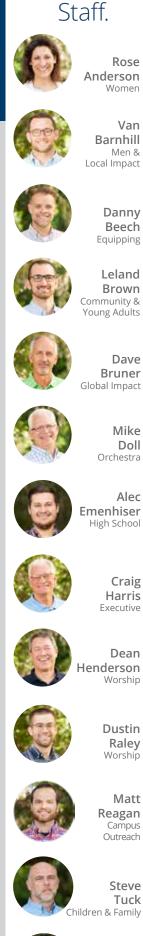
Prayer?

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



Sermon.

Speaker: Buster Brown, Senior Pastor

Message: The Abiding Life

Text: John 15:1-7

"¹I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. ⁷If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you." John 15:1-7

FOUR REASONS WE DON'T PRAY

1. We don't see the i of prayer. (Only _ people pray).

"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him." James 1:5

2. We make prayer too d

What is prayer? Answer: Prayer is pouring out our hearts to God in praise, petition, confession of sin, and thanksgiving. NEW CITY CATECHISM, Question 38

Praise>Petition Confession of Sin Thanksgiving

"And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, 'Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.'" Matthew 18:2-4

"A praying life isn't simply a morning time; it is about slipping into prayer in odd hours of the day, not because we are disciplined, but because we are in touch with our own poverty of spirit." **Paul Miller**, A Praying Life: Connecting with God in a Distracting World

- 3. We try to "figure out" the m of prayer.
- We a_ 4 _the Gospel and live out of our obedience (performance) instead of basing ALL on the glorious forgiveness of sins through Christ alone.

"Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:14-16



ANSWER KEY: importance, desperate, difficult, mystery, assume

PRINCIPLES FROM IOHN 15

- 1. There is a taking-away process and a pruning process. (v. 2, 6)
- 2. Those who constantly abide in Christ (v. 5,7):
 - · Tenaciously cling to the reality of Christ.
 - Continuously strip away the horror, ugliness, and putrid nature of personal and corporate sin. (Isaiah 30:20-following, 1 Peter 3:7)
- 3. Abiding involves allowing God's word to be rooted in our hearts. (v. 7)

The Father delights in the prayers of his broken, needy, dearly loved children who come to him in the name of Jesus.

DISCUSSION OUESTIONS

- Of the four reasons we don't pray, which one seems to be most prevalent in our culture today?
- 2. What do we mean when we say "slip away for 3-5 minutes in prayer"?
- 3. Why is it important to confess our sins and run to the cross daily?
- How do we "assume the gospel" and go on to live 4. based upon our performance?
- 5. Do you understand the concept of a pseudo-Christian versus true salvation, or a pseudo-disciple versus true discipleship (John 6:66)?

HELPS TO PRAYER

- 1. A 5- to 7-minute praise>petition.
- Carry a card or list of pertinent prayer requests, 2. based upon your hand/fingers.
 - Family
 - Those who need to be pointed to the Savior
 - Leaders

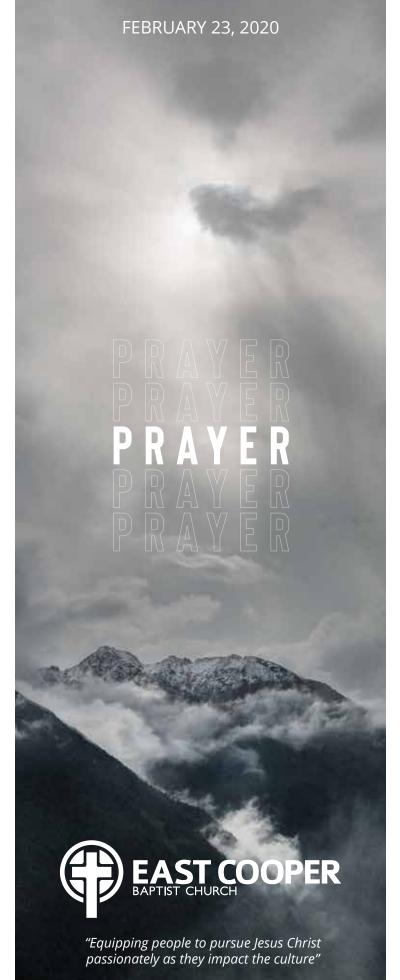
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- Those in need
- The next generation
- Pray with your spouse/family/friends (A Psalm or 3. Scripture reading of the day).

Your mobile devices are welcome! After the service, we encourage you to share encouraging pieces of the sermon or worship service on social media. Tag ECBC using #ecbccharleston.







eastcooperbaptist.com



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 by the Welcome Center following the worship services to say hello and let us answer any questions you may have. Thanks for being our guest.

Buster Brown, Senior Pastor busterb@eastcooperbaptist.com | 843.856.3222 x2006 | @pastorbusterb

Traditional Worship / Sunday equip•u Classes Sanctuary 9:00a & 10:45a Contemporary Worship / Sunday equip•u Classes Worship Center 9:00a & 10:45a

📥 Next Steps.

Attend a Guest Luncheon

Get to know us better at our next Guest Luncheon and see what God has in store for you. You'll meet our pastor and some of our staff and enjoy fellowship with a great meal. Our free luncheon is **March 8 at 12:15p** in the gym. For more information, please contact Carol at carolw@eastcooperbaptist.com.

Find an equip•u Class

Our equip•u classes are groups that meet before or after the worship services to study the Bible in depth. Visit the Welcome Center to pick up an equip•u guide, or go online to choose from a variety of classes. Register for track classes at **eastcooperbaptist.com/classes**.

Join a Community Group

An authentic biblical community provides a place where we can grow, learn, and serve as we seek to know Jesus. We have a variety of over 30 open groups from students to adults. Please go online today to locate a group near you. **eastcooperbaptist.com/groups**

Become a Member

Register online for our upcoming New Members Class on Saturday, March 14. This class is a basic introduction to our church family and is a requirement for joining the church. We designed this class to clearly explain what we believe at East Cooper Baptist.

Serve in equip•them

Equip•them is the serving arm for Sunday morning ministries. We have nearly 600 opportunities to serve. Some needs require 15 minutes before the service; others may require the whole equipping hour. eastcooperbaptist.com/serve

Childcare.

We have a safe and loving environment for your children where they can learn about God. Please take advantage of our nursery for children up to age three during the worship services. Our ushers are ready to assist you.



VISION PLANNING

Over the past 3 weeks, we have celebrated the past years of God's blessings on ECBC and how we are looking toward the future through the vision planning process we are currently going through. Our hope in going through this process of evaluation and planning is that we will learn how to best help our people, our neighbors, and the nations become mature followers of Jesus Christ. For more information and to learn more about the process

go to: eastcooperbaptist.com/vision-planning



Upcoming.

For detailed event information, please go online.

TODAY Would you like to join us as we tour the Holy Land? Plan to attend this information meeting after the second service in room B215 to learn more about this exciting opportunity! **COME HEAR MORE.**

ISRAEL THE HOLV LAND TOUR

MAN2MAN

Breakfast, Fellowship & A Short Message

Friday Mornings 6/204M

THU Join us Thursday mornings to learn from other women and hear their experiences of God's faithfulness in their specific callings. Pastries and coffee are provided, but there is no childcare. SEE YOU THERE.

FRI A large, weekly gathering of 200+ men desiring to know God, themselves, and their brothers in a deeper way. We meet from 6:20-7:30a on Fridays in the gym and enjoy a hot breakfast and 20 minute message from Buster. **PLAN TO ATTEND.**

FEB 28-MAR 1 The Global Impact Conference is a time when we, as a church, focus on Christ's Great Commission. For more information about our speaker, schedule, and to register, please go online. REGISTER ONLINE.

FEB 28 & 29 The Kids Mission Festival goes alongside our Global Impact Conference. This year we will be focusing on the country of Colombia. Your kids will love being a part of this. REGISTER ONLINE.

MAR 3 Buster is calling the church to a day of Prayer and Fasting from dinner on Monday night to dinner on Tuesday night. We will end this time praying together at 6:30p in the Worship Center. PLAN TO ATTEND.

MAR 8 Following the Global Impact Conference, we will have a session on March 8 at 9:00a in room B222. This session is designed to help you more clearly discern if you are called to go to the nations and what steps you should take to prepare.

MAR 8 Come get to know us better at our Guest Luncheon. Meet a few of our pastors and church members while enjoying a great meal. The lunch is free and held in the gym after the second service. SEE YOU THERE.





UNCHEO



offering plate

or bring by the

Welcome

Center.

| lf you're here for the first time, please come by our Welcome Center and say hello. We'd love to answer any questions and say thanks for being our special guest today. |
|---|
| I/We attended worship at: |
| 9:00a 10:45a |
| l am a first time guest |
| Name |
| Spouse |
| Birthdate Spouse Birthdate MO DA YR MO DA YR 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 Request a personal visit Subscribe to newsletter Join a Community Group Other |

02.23.20

Hello