

Prayer?

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

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First Time Guest?

We'd love to get to know you!

SCAN DIGITAL CONNECT CARD



Sermon.

Speaker: Buster Brown, Senior Pastor
Message: The Church: Empowered by the Reality of the Cross of Christ
Text: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

"¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.' ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. ²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹so that, as it is written, 'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.'" 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

In his letters to the church at Corinth, Paul rejoices in the power of the gospel of Christ (1 Corinthians 1:17-18, 24; 2:4-5; 2 Corinthians 4:7; 12:9) This power is the result of understanding and applying the glory of the work of Jesus on the cross for our sins.

This passage underscores the centrality of the wonder of Christ and him crucified. The church of the risen and reigning Christ must always be centered on the reality of the cross.

"I fear that the cross, without ever being disowned, is constantly in danger of being dismissed from the central place it must enjoy, by relatively peripheral insights that take on far too much weight. Whenever the periphery (not relating to the main, or most important, part) is in danger of displacing the center, we are not far removed from idolatry." D.A. Carson, The Cross and Christian Ministry

"They all have individual interests, of course, but the bond remains mere Christianity. What we want, if men become Christians at all, is to keep them in a state of mind I call "Christianity And". You know - Christianity and the Crisis, Christianity and the New Psychology, Christianity and the New Order, Christianity and Faith Healing, Christianity and Psychical Research, Christianity and Vegetarianism, Christianity and Spelling Reform. If they must be Christians let them at least be Christians with a difference. Substitute for the faith itself some Fashion with a Christian coloring. Work on their horror of the Same Old Thing." CS Lewis, The Screwtape Letters, XXV.

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Sermon.

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1. By the cross I come into a saving relationship with the Living God. (1 Corinthians 1:18, 30)
2. By the cross I see clearly (through humility) and am changed as I boast in the reality of Christ. (1 Corinthians 1:20 and following)

"Over against 'wonder-seeking Jew' and the 'wisdom-seeking Greek' there is a third category, namely, Christian believers. We preach Christ crucified (v.23). Notice the contrast implied in the three verbs: Jews make 'demands' and Greeks are seeking 'wisdom'. What then is the characteristic of Christian preachers? It is neither demanding nor searching but proclaiming the gospel of Christ crucified." John Stott, Basic Christian Leadership

"I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else." CS Lewis

"What we suffer from today is humility in the wrong place. Modesty has moved from the organ of ambition and settled upon the organ of conviction, where it was never meant to be. A man was meant to be doubtful about himself, but undoubting about the truth; this has been exactly reversed. We are on the road to producing a race of men too mentally modest to believe in the multiplication table." G.K. Chesterton, Orthodoxy

3. The cross gives me a reference point for rejoicing/gladness/boasting/living.

The point of boasting is in the reality of Christ (1 Corinthians 1:29, 31; 4:7; 2 Corinthians 10:17; Galatians 6:14).

QUESTIONS:

1. How has the reality of the cross shaped the view of yourself or others in the last 3 months?
2. What "good" peripheral issues in your life can potentially take the place of the centrality of the cross?
3. When viewing the quote from The Screwtape Letters', what are some examples of hyphenated Christians in our day (Christianity-And) ?
4. How did the Jews and Greeks seek to be "in the driver's seat" when the gospel was proclaimed? How can people in our context do the same?
5. What is the basis of humility in the Christian faith? How does this affect our daily living? (Note the quote by G.K. Chesterton)
6. How can we HELP BROKEN PEOPLE TREASURE JESUS?



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JANUARY 23, 2022



DECEMBER - JANUARY
LOTTIE MOON
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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

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SCAN DIGITAL CONNECT CARD



Upcoming.

For detailed event information, please go online. eastcooperbaptist.com/events

PRAYER MEETING

We would love to have you join us on the first Tuesday evening of each month for a time of prayer in our Sanctuary from 6:00-6:30pm. Our next one is on **February 1**.

PLAN TO ATTEND.



WOMEN'S REJOICE

Register for this weekend of spiritual renewal. Join us **February 4-5** for a time of fellowship and worship as we look at the book of Philippians together. Registration deadline is **January 28**.

REGISTER TODAY.



FAMILY SUMMIT

During the month of February, this class will cover a variety of topics for every age group in order to better prepare you for leading your children and students. For more information and to register, visit eastcooperbaptist.com/familysummit

REGISTER TODAY.



SERVE IN KIDS MINISTRY

Every Sunday, the Kids Ministry welcomes and serves kids and their families. This is made possible because of our volunteers. If you would like to join our fun team of volunteers, visit eastcooperbaptist.com/serve

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361 Egypt Road • Mount Pleasant, SC 29464 • 843.856.3222

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 blue name-tag 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

Traditional Worship
Sanctuary 9:30am & 11:00am
Contemporary Worship
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.

COVID-19 Update.



As of November 1, masks are optional on campus at East Cooper Baptist Church. We appreciate your kindness and consideration as we navigate this season.

Beginning Sunday, January 9, we will be offering a small, masked service for people at 8:00am in rooms B217/218/219.

We encourage you to be praying for the medical staff in our community as they navigate this season's challenges due to COVID-19.