

Prayer?

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

Contribution Statements.

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For questions, please email finance@eastcooperbaptist.com

843.856.3222 x PRAY (7729)
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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



Sermon Notes.

Speaker: Buster Brown, Senior Pastor
Message: How Cross-Centered Gratitude Breaks the Compelling Allure of Sin
Text: Hebrews 12:28-13:6

"²⁸Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, ²⁹for our God is a consuming fire. ¹Let brotherly love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. ⁵Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.' ⁶So we can confidently say, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?'" Hebrews 12:28-13:6

"But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit." 2 Corinthians 3:16-18

In discussing acceptable worship in the life of a believer, the writer of Hebrews speaks of sexual immorality and materialism/greed.

"Addiction is a complex, progressive, injurious, and often disabling attachment to a substance (alcohol, heroin, barbiturates) or behaviors (sex, work, gambling) in which a person compulsively seeks a change of mood... What drives addiction is longing - a longing not just of brain, belly, or loins - but finally of the heart." Cornelius Plantinga Jr., Not the Way It's Supposed to Be: A Breviary of Sin (p. 130-131)

To strangle lust and greed, the writer of Hebrews runs to the character of God: unchanging/permanent (vv. 5, 8) and the one who continually helps and daily sustains - which leads to a life of trust as opposed to fear (v. 6).

What breaks the allure or corrosive effects of lust/greed? Answer: **Beholding the greatness of Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit** (2 Corinthians 3:16-18).

Seeing Jesus as a great, moral teacher who gives us steps to behavior modification misses the glory of the fact that he is the wisdom incarnate, eternal God who, by his life, death, and resurrection empowers his followers to walk in the way of obedience.

"For mere improvement is not redemption, though redemption always improves people even here and now and will, in the end, improve them to a degree we cannot yet imagine. God became man to turn creatures into sons: not simply to produce better men of the old kind but to produce a new kind of man. It is not like teaching a horse to jump better and better but like turning a horse into a winged creature. Of course, once it has

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Sermon.

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got its wings, it will soar over fences which could never have been jumped and thus beat the natural horse at its own game. But there may be a period, while the wings are just beginning to grow, when it cannot do so: and at that stage the lumps on the shoulders - no one could tell by looking at them that they are going to be wings - may even give it an awkward appearance." C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity (p. 216)

The Power of Beholding:

"Prudence: Can you remember by what means you find your annoyances, as if they were vanquished/conquered?"

Christian: Yes, when I think of what I saw at the Cross that will do it (Jesus shedding his blood for the forgiveness of sin); when I look upon my embroidered Coat that will do it (the freely given once and for all imputed mercy/righteousness of Jesus given to those who believe); also when I look into the certificate I have in my chest pocket that will do it (the assurance that I am truly saved and eternally secure in Christ) and when my thoughts wax warm about where I am going to the Celestial City that will do it." John Bunyan, Pilgrim's Progress (p. 51)

"He breaks the power of canceled sin, He sets the prisoner free; His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood availed for me." Charles Wesley

1. Jesus came to call his people to a life of joyful obedience. This is realized as we glory in the cross.
2. Contentment is the result of understanding we have an Abba Father, a shepherding Savior, and an ever-present, empowering Holy Spirit who orders our days.
3. We advance in godliness and advance by putting sin to death, holding the greatness/beauty/desirability of Jesus (Romans 8:6).
4. Behavior modification (i.e. Poor Richard's Almanack by Benjamin Franklin, etc) is a distant echo of the reverberating power of the grace of the cross.
5. The power of the gospel teaches us that the love of money or unholy sex is corrosive and destroys the shalom/flourishing the Lord wants to give his people. Therefore, we take measures to put sin to death.

"The webbing together of God, humans, and all creation in justice, fulfillment, and delight is what the Hebrew prophets call shalom. We call it peace, but it means far more than mere peace of mind or a cease-fire between enemies. In the Bible, shalom means universal flourishing, wholeness, and delight - a rich state of affairs in which natural needs are satisfied and natural gifts fruitfully employed, a state of affairs that inspires joyful wonder as its Creator and Savior opens doors and welcomes the creatures in whom he delights. Shalom, in other words, is the way things ought to be." Cornelius Plantinga Jr., Not the Way It's Supposed to Be: A Breviary of Sin (p. 10)



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](https://twitter.com/ecbccharleston).

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JANUARY 28, 2024



LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®

CHURCH GOAL: \$625,000

DECEMBER - JANUARY



 EAST COOPER BAPTIST CHURCH

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 anyone with a 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 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.

Leland Brown



DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR ON STAFF

Leland is from Beaufort, SC. He came to know Christ during his freshman year at the College of Charleston. While playing on the baseball team, a few of his teammates, who were involved in Campus Outreach and ECBC, shared the good news of Jesus with him. Leland joined the ECBC staff in 2013. He is married to Sarah and they have four children, Nora Kate, Benjamin, Owen, and Mackenzie. Leland enjoys drinking coffee and playing with his kids.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®
CHURCH GOAL: \$625,000

Starting in 1888, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering was established to empower the international missions efforts for Southern Baptists. Your giving enables missionaries to be sent to make disciples and multiply churches among unreached peoples and places for the glory of God. 100% of your gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering support International Mission Board (IMB) missionaries.

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- **ONLINE** at eastcooperbaptist.com/lottiemoon
- **BY GIVING BOX**
- **TEXT 843-202-4848:** GIVE lottiemoon 50 (to give \$50.00)
- **SCAN THE QR CODE:**



You may check the progress of our offering online, too! Questions, please email: finance@eastcooperbaptist.com

Upcoming.

FOSTER & ADOPTION PANEL

If you have been considering participating in foster care, adoption, or are interested in other ways you can serve and impact vulnerable children, join us in room B214 for a Q&A info session on **February 4** at 11:00am.

REGISTER ONLINE.



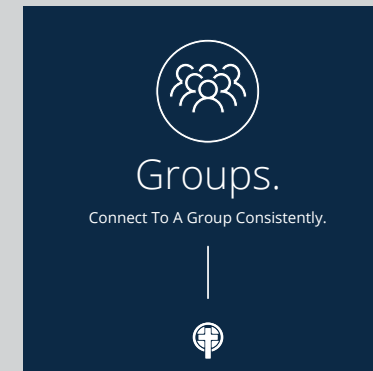
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CONNECT TO A GROUP

We would love for you to get connected to one of our many groups, like:

- Community Groups
- Age & Stage Groups
- Care Groups

JOIN ONE TODAY.



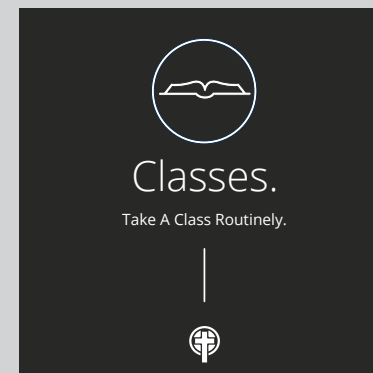
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TAKE A CLASS

We have classes coming up for you to get involved in:

The Gospel of Mark begins **February 11** and *Leadership Class* begins **March 10**.

PLAN TO ATTEND.



eastcooperbaptist.com/classes

THAILAND MISSION TRIP

This team will work with our global partner, Ann, to help run an English camp and do outreach on the college campuses. This trip involves a lot of walking.

APPLY ONLINE.



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SCAN DIGITAL CONNECT CARD



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

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