

Prayer?

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

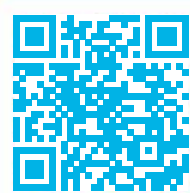
NEW TO ECBC?

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: Enlightened Hope

Text: Ephesians 1:15-18

"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," Ephesians 1:15-18

THANKSGIVING/GRATITUDE is based upon the faithfulness and mercies of God in the past; while HOPE is looking towards the future with confidence and joy because of the Abba goodness of the Father, secured by the cross and resurrection of the Son and applied to our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

In this prayer, Paul rejoices in the mercy of God extended to the believers in Ephesus and their corresponding faith in the Lord Jesus and love for all the saints. This causes a welling up of thanksgiving in the life of Paul for these people (v. 16).

And he also prays for the glorious outpouring of the Spirit of wisdom and revelation so that the eyes of their hearts may be enlightened which would lead to a growing understanding of the hope of their calling to faith.

"According to the Bible wisdom starts with 'the fear of the Lord' (Proverbs 9:10). It is only found by waiting on him, and looking to him for the knowledge we need. The Holy Spirit helps us obtain this knowledge by giving us the faculty which is essential to understanding the biblical message." Martyn Lloyd Jones, God's Ultimate Purpose, p. 356

Knowledge/Enlightenment:

1. A knowledge of God that is shared by the devil and his host (James 2:19).
2. A knowledge of facts.
3. The knowledge whereby the eyes of the heart are (gloriously and joyously) enlightened (Exodus 33:12, Psalm 27:4, Psalm 92:10, Philippians 3:10,13-14, 2 Peter 3:17-1).

"'Gospel presence...' by Gospel I simply mean the good news that as sinners we are embraced and accepted by God by what Jesus has done for us, by PRESENCE I mean there is a way of being, an orientation to life and reality and others, a fundamental attitude that emanates from the core of who you are that shapes and colors everything you do. The way you carry yourself. The aura you display. The impression you give. That's what I mean by presence. And gospel presence is crucial for creating the right environment for dealing with any sin." Joe Rigney, More Than a Battle, p. 82-83

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Sermon Notes.

(continued)

"Through your own merciful dealings with me, O Lord my God, tell me what you are to me. Say to my soul, I am your salvation. Say it so that I can hear it. My heart is listening, Lord; open the ears of my heart and say to my soul, I am your salvation. Let me run toward this voice and seize hold of you. Do not hide your face from me: let me die so that I may see it, for not to see it would be death to me indeed." Confessions by Augustine, 1.1

"Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned." 1 Corinthians 2:12-14

The Hope of Our Calling:

1. We are in daily need for the enlightening power of the Holy Spirit.
2. We wait upon God with expectation (Isaiah 40:28-31).
3. The hope is a call to rejoice in the goodness of our salvation and a call to "not forget nor neglect" (Hebrews 6:10-11).
4. This (remembered and rehearsed) calling keeps us fresh, vital, and kingdom-focused.

"It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. WE ARE FAR TOO EASILY PLEASED." C.S. Lewis, The Weight of Glory, and Other Addresses

QUESTIONS:

1. How is Ephesians 1:15-18 a universal prayer for all believers at all times?
2. Why is a growing biblical knowledge of the triune God of absolute importance?
3. What is "Gospel presence"?
4. How does this attitude present itself in our desires and relationships?
5. How can we be like people who go to Colorado on vacation and be content to live in the plains without a trip to the Rockies?



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).

Listen to sermons online at eastcooperbaptist.com/sermons

MARCH 24, 2024



eastcooperbaptist.com



Buster Brown, Senior Pastor
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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.

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.

David Preston

ELDER ON THE WORSHIP TEAM

David came to know Christ in 1994 after hearing a sermon about the tragedy of not making Jesus pre-eminent in your life. Hearing the words of Colossians 1:18 changed his life. He has been attending ECBC since 2002. Currently, David serves on the Worship Team and Security Team. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his kids.

Celebrate With Us.

For more information, please go online.

Good Friday • March 29

7:00pm in the Sanctuary

Join us on Good Friday as we come together for a special service in honor of the work Christ our King did for us on the cross. During this service, we will be taking communion together. Children of all ages worship with parents.

Easter Sunday • March 31

Contemporary & Traditional Services at Both 9:30 & 11:00am

You are invited to celebrate our Risen Savior on Easter Sunday at East Cooper! Services will be in both the Worship Center and Sanctuary at both hours. The Nursery Hallway for birth through 2 years will be open at both hours. All other ages are invited to worship with their parents. We look forward to celebrating with you!

eastcooperbaptist.com/easter

361 Egypt Road • Mount Pleasant, SC 29464 • 843.856.3222

Upcoming.

WOMEN AT THE WELL

Join us on **April 9** to hear testimonies from East Cooper Women of the ways God makes Himself known! Dessert and coffee will be served.

REGISTER ONLINE.

eastcooperbaptist.com/events

AWARE CONFERENCE

The Aware Conference will feature Dr. Tim Elmore, a leading researcher and effective communicator. He will share about how best to lead, love, teach, and parent Gen Z and Gen Alpha. Ticket Cost: \$10 per person, \$12 per married couple.

GET TICKETS.

eastcooperbaptist.com/aware

MOROCCO MISSION TRIP

Join the work of our partners and their family in North Africa. This team will have the opportunity to meet and share with the locals. If you have any medical background, part of the time we will be helping with a medical clinic.

APPLY ONLINE.

eastcooperbaptist.com/serve

SERVE IN KIDS MINISTRY

Every Sunday, the Kids Ministry welcomes and serves kids and their families. This is made possible because of our volunteers. Sign up and join our fun team of volunteers.

SIGN UP TODAY!

eastcooperbaptist.com/serve

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First Time Guest?

We'd love to get to know you!

SCAN DIGITAL CONNECT CARD

Hello.

3.24.24

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

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

☐ Meet with a Pastor

☐ Subscribe to newsletter

☐ Other