

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:prayer@eastcooperbaptist.com)

## Sermon Notes.

**Speaker:** Buster Brown, Senior Pastor

**Message:** Strength for the Journey: Means of Grace - Receiving and Digesting the Word of God

**Text:** Psalm 1:1-3

*"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; <sup>2</sup>but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. <sup>3</sup>He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers."*  
Psalm 1:1-3

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.

*"The means of grace are such as Bible reading, private prayer, and regularly worshiping God in Church where one hears the Word taught and participates in the Lord's Supper. I lay it down as a simple matter of fact that no one who is careless about such things must ever expect to make much progress in sanctification (growth in the grace of Christ). I can find no record of any eminent saint who ever neglected them. They are appointed channels through which the Holy Spirit conveys fresh supplies of grace to the soul and strengthens the work to which he has begun in the inward man."* JC Ryle, *Holiness* (p. 26)

*"Without God's grace we are lost. And we need God's grace not only at the beginning of the Christian life but throughout. So, naturally we ask, where can we go to find God's continuing grace to us? Where do we go to get the resources for sanctification, for continuing spiritual growth? The short answer is that there are three places, the Word, fellowship, and prayer."* John Frame, *Salvation Belongs to the Lord*

Waiting for the Lord in anticipation/expectation (Psalm 27:14, Isaiah 40:32, Lamentations 3:25-27, Isaiah 30:18, & Psalm 30:5-6).

*"For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning. As for me, I said in my prosperity, 'I shall never be moved.'" Psalm 30:5-6*

**We wait/look to the Lord in confidence because:**

- It produces joy and leads to happiness (v. 1).
- There is usefulness in honoring the Lord and leads to a life of encouraging others (v. 3).

*"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."* 2 Timothy 3:16-17

(continued >>)

## Sermon.

(continued)

*"Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. As they go through the Valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength; each one appears before God in Zion."*  
Psalm 84:5-7

### 1. The posture of refusal (v. 1).

*"The question of whether we let pundits or prophets calibrate our morning identity is an urgent matter of neighbor love. So long as we look to the news for our identity we won't respond to the information with genuine care and concern for our neighbor."* Justin Earley, *The Common Rule*

### 2. What the believer is to do (v. 2)...Delight: joy/pleasure/treasure...meditates.

Meditation is filling our mind with biblical and theological substance and consistently chewing on that content as it shapes our character and fills us with purpose. Meditation is filling the mind, not emptying the mind.

*"Meditation is a marvelous means of God's grace in the Christian life – perhaps the most misunderstood, and most underrated, of the disciplines in the church today. And it is a high point of receiving God's word."*  
David Mathis, *Habits of Grace* (p. 55)

*"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."* Joshua 1:8

### 3. The result (v. 3).

#### QUESTIONS:

1. Why does the waiting, watching, longing for the mind of God in scripture facilitate replacing the "orphan mindset" (I don't measure up, I've got to work to be a part of this family) with the mindset of "full and free adoption in Christ?"
2. How do we make meditation more central to our living and relationships?
3. Why did Jonathan Edwards (d. 1758) say that the means of grace were the endeavoring to promote appetites by "laying yourself in the way of allurements?" What do we do to lay ourselves in the way of allurements/the path of blessing?
4. Why is the intake of scripture a fight to see and know the goodness of God?

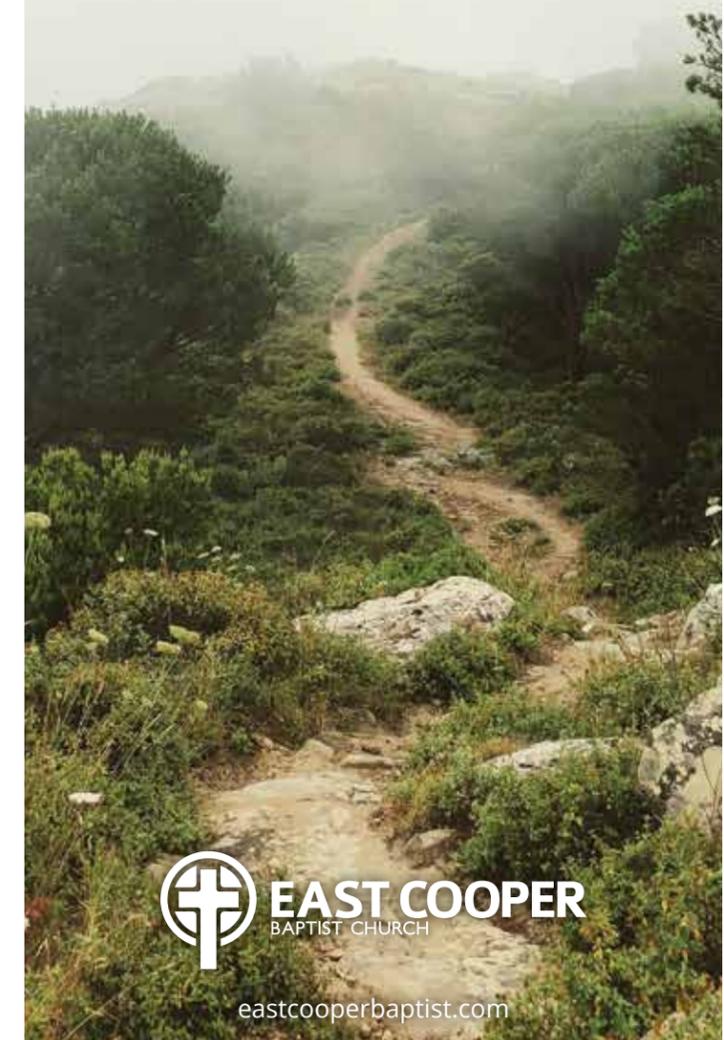


Your mobile devices are welcome! After the service, we encourage you to share encouraging pieces of the sermon or worship service on social media.  
Tag ECBC using [#ecbccharleston](https://twitter.com/ecbccharleston).

Listen to sermons online at [eastcooperbaptist.com/sermons](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/sermons)

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

# STRENGTH FOR THE JOURNEY



**EAST COOPER**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

[eastcooperbaptist.com](http://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

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## Upcoming.

### JORDAN

In cooperation with The Lodebar Initiative, a team will be going to assist our Christian partners in extending Biblical mercy and Good News to Syrian refugee children and their families.

#### PLEASE PRAY

- That they may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith (Rom 1:12).
- That God may open to them a door for the Word (Col 4:3-4).
- That each member of the national team and volunteers would take up the whole armor of God that they may be able to withstand in the evil day (Eph 6:13).

#### 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.



[eastcooperbaptist.com/gic](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/gic)

REGISTER TODAY.

#### 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.



[eastcooperbaptist.com/groups](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/groups)

#### SERVE THE POOR & DESTITUTE

There are people in our community in need of our help, both through serving them & sharing the gospel! Serve with Families Count and Hope to Home Furnishing Ministry as we reach our community.



[eastcooperbaptist.com/serve](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/serve)

SIGN UP TODAY.

## Leadership.

We ask that members of East Cooper give input in selecting leadership. Read and pray over the definitions and scripture below. If someone comes to mind who meets these qualifications, please complete the form to nominate them for the role of elder or deacon.

### Deacons

The word "deacon" means servant and came to be used by the church to designate a special position in the church. The diaconate, therefore, signifies a position of special Christian service. Both the Scripture and the dignity of the office demand a person of the highest spiritual, moral, and practical qualifications. The qualifications are listed in 1 Timothy 3:8-13 and are similar to those for elders with the exception of "able to teach."

### Elders

Elders (also translated as "overseers") are responsible for overseeing their local church. Their primary duties include leading, teaching, praying and shepherding the people. The Bible lays out clear qualifications for elders in 1 Timothy 3:1-10 and Titus 1:6-9. These qualifications are living above reproach, faithful to his wife, self-controlled temperament, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, free from addictions, not pugnacious, uncontentious, free from the love of money, manages his household well, not a new convert, gives generously to his church, has a good reputation with outsiders, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, loves what is good, just, devout, and one who holds fast the faithful word.

### Nominate

To nominate digitally, scan the QR code below, fill out, and submit.

DEACON NOMINATION FORM



ELDER NOMINATION FORM



Nominations close on October 8



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 name-tag and let us answer any questions you may have. Thanks for being our guest.

**Buster Brown**, Senior Pastor  
[busterb@eastcooperbaptist.com](mailto: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](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/give).



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

## Get to Know.

### Walt Lancaster



#### ELDER ON THE SHEPHERDING TEAM

Walt understood what it meant to truly follow Jesus when he and his wife were invited to a neighbor's Bible study. It was then that he surrendered his life to Christ. Walt has attended ECBC for over 30 years and currently serves at the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings. He enjoys spending time with his kids and grandkids.