

## 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:** Taking Hold of That Which Is Truly Life

**Text:** 1 Timothy 6:13-19

*"<sup>13</sup>I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, <sup>14</sup>to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup>which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup>who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. <sup>17</sup>As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. <sup>18</sup>They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, <sup>19</sup>thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life."*  
**1 Timothy 6:13-19**

As believers align their lives in light of the life, death, resurrection, and reigning of Christ, they experience power to live as authentic, joyful, and life sustaining disciples of Jesus.

1. The foundation of the life that is truly life: The God who is gloriously happy (v. 15).
2. Understanding the character of God: The one who owns all things and richly provides us everything to enjoy.
3. Why should this reality be the focus of our lives versus the uncertainty of life/wealth and the destructive nature of haughtiness/pride (James 5:1-4)?

*"And he said to them, 'Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.'" Luke 12:15*

*"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever." 1 John 2:15-17*

*"People who are alert to the dangers of drugs, alcoholism, and sexual addiction often think that compulsive acquisition is normal. No one will suggest we need an intervention for it or that we should attend a recovery group. We seem to have a silent agreement that keeps materialism mainstream and off limits from accountability."*  
**Randy Alcorn, Giving is the Good Life (pg. 32)**

4. The pursuit of those who want to experience life: Do good, be rich in good deeds, always be generous and ready to share (v. 18).
5. The double win: Treasuring that which will last and reap dividends in the eternal kingdom and in the present life.

*(continued >>)*

## Sermon.

*(continued)*

*"Does the Old Testament model of tithing still apply to Christians today, since it was part of the old covenant? I have mixed feelings on tithing. I detest legalism. I certainly don't want to pour new wine into old wineskins, imposing superseded first covenant restrictions on Christians. However, the fact is that every New Testament example of giving goes beyond the tithe. This means that none falls short of it. The strongest arguments made against tithing today are 'law versus grace.' But does being under grace mean we should stop doing all that was done under the law.*

*I'm a strong believer in the new covenant's superiority over the old (Romans 7; 2 Corinthians 3; Hebrews 8). On the other hand, I believe there's ongoing value to certain aspects of the old covenant. The model of paying back to God the firstfruits (tithing) and giving freewill offerings beyond that is among those.*

*Because we are never told that tithing has been superseded, and because Jesus directly affirmed it (Matthew 23:23) and prominent church fathers taught it as a requirement for Christian living, it seems to me the burden of proof falls on those who say tithing is no longer a minimum standard for God's people. The question is not whether tithing is the whole of Christian giving or even at the center of it. Clearly it is not. Many people associate the command to tithe with the command to keep the Sabbath. New Testament Christians are not obligated to keep the Sabbath with all its legislated rules under the Mosaic covenant (Colossians 2:16). However, a weekly day of rest based on God's pattern of creation was instituted before the Law (Genesis 2:2-3). It's a principle never revoked in the New Testament. The special day of observance changed to Sunday, 'the Lord's day,' yet the principle of one special day set aside for worship remained intact.*

*Christ fulfilled the entire Old Testament, but he didn't render it irrelevant. Old Testament legislation demonstrated how to love my neighbor. Although the specific regulations don't all apply, the principles certainly do, and many of the guidelines are still as helpful as ever. Consider the command to build a roof with a parapet to protect people from falling off (Deuteronomy 22:8). When it comes to the Old Testament, we must be careful not to throw out the baby (ongoing principles intended for everyone) with the bathwater (detailed regulations intended only for ancient Israel).*

*We don't offer sacrifices anymore, so why should we tithe? Because sacrifices are specifically rescinded in the New Testament. As the book of Hebrews demonstrates, Christ has rendered inoperative the whole sacrificial system. But where in the New Testament does it indicate that tithing is no longer valid? There is no such passage. With a single statement, God could have easily singled out tithing like he did sacrifices and the Sabbath. But he didn't."*  
**Randy Alcorn, The Old Testament Model of Tithing and Christians Today**

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE.**



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)

JANUARY 7, 2024



**LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®**

**CHURCH GOAL: \$625,000**

**DECEMBER - JANUARY**



**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



# 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](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/give).



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

## Get to Know.

### Moriah Bruner



#### OUTREACH COORDINATOR ON STAFF

Moriah is from Mount Pleasant, SC. As a freshman at CSU, Moriah truly understood the good news of Jesus for the first time. As she learned about the marks of a Christian and studied scripture, the Lord changed her heart and her life began to display the fruit that results from knowing Jesus. She joined the ECBC staff in 2021. Moriah is married to Joey and enjoys hiking and kayaking.

**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.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING® THIS WEEK: \$325,657.77  
DECEMBER - JANUARY



### INFORMATION ON GIVING

The International Mission Board uses 100% of the gifts given to Lottie Moon to send missionaries all over the world. Our church goal is \$625,000. You may give:

- ONLINE at [eastcooperbaptist.com/lottiemoon](http://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](mailto:finance@eastcooperbaptist.com)

## Upcoming.

### REFRESH 2024 CLASS

This 4-week class begins TODAY. This class will explore the power, necessity, and practicalities of living generously. We're asking all of our church members to commit to attending this class. Meets at 9:30 & 11:00am in the gym.



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

REGISTER ONLINE.

### MISSION TRIPS INFO MEETING

Are you interested in going on a short-term trip this year? Come join us as we share about what trip opportunities are available and how you can participate! Meets Sunday, January 14 at 12:15pm in rooms B221 & 222.



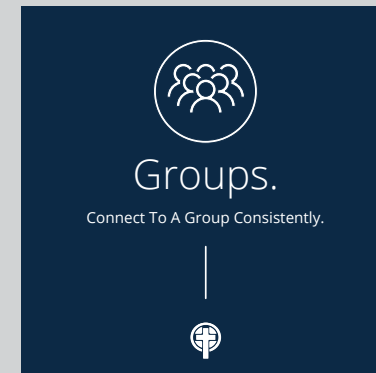
[eastcooperbaptist.com/events](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/events)

PLAN TO ATTEND.

### 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



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

JOIN ONE TODAY.

### SERVE IN KIDS MINISTRY

A new nursery classroom is needed to accommodate the many babies in our church! Sign up today to help us care for these little ones.



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

SIGN UP TODAY!

## Financial Update.

Giving Year-to-date \$ 2,675,380 (fiscal year: August 1, 2023-July 31, 2024)  
Budget Required \$ 2,839,810

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