

Prayer?

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

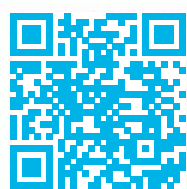
NEW TO ECBC?

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: The Blessed/Happy God and Generosity

Text: Matthew 13:34-45

*"³⁴All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable. ³⁵This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet: 'I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world.' ³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' ³⁷He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear. ⁴⁴The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls...' " **Matthew 13:34-45***

*"Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you. Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh— For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself." **Philippians 3:1-3, 18-21***

If I am to move towards an attitude of generosity as a disciple of Christ, I must continually taste and see all that the Lord has given me in the person and work of Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*"You awaken us to delight in your praise; for you (O Father) have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in you." **The Confessions of Augustine, 1-1***

Therefore, because God has made us for himself we will never find true rest, peace, and meaning in other pursuits that are divorced from the changeless, triune God.

Two approaches (Philippians 3):

1. The Pharisees (vv. 1-3) who were feverishly trying to earn the favor of God by their self efforts, and their twisting of the law for their own purposes. This led to ego-laded living. *(continued >>)*

Sermon.

(continued)

2. The sensualist (vv. 18-21) who were individuals who denied themselves no passion or inclination. This led to radical, egocentric living and a total disregard for other people.

The road to beholding the goodness of the Lord:

1. We continually ponder to seek to understand the absolute goodness and mercy of God in such a way as "I treasure Jesus." (1-3)

"How sweet all at once it was for me to be rid of those fruitless joys that I once had feared to lose! You drove them from me, you who are the true, the sovereign joy. You drove them from me and took their place, you who are sweeter than all pleasure."

The Confessions of Augustine, 9-1

2. We must press against the "wind and tide" of the cultural moment.

*"If you will go with us (Christian and Hopeful), you must go against Wind and Tide; which I perceive you are unwilling to do. you must also own Religion in his Rags, as well as when in his Silver Slippers; and stand by him, too, when bound in irons, as well as when he walketh the streets with applause." **John Bunyan, Pilgrim's Progress (112-113)***

3. We must go against the "wind and tide" of indwelling sin.

*"For what am I to myself without you, but a guide to my own downfall? Or what am I even at the best, but an infant sucking the milk you give and feeding on you the food that perishes not." **Confessions of Augustine, 4-1***

"Who can disentangle that twisted and integrate mass of knots (which I find within myself)?... With you is rest and tire and life imperturbable (peaceful). Whoever enters into you, enters into the joy of his Lord; and shall not fear, and shall do excellently in the Supreme Good."

Confessions of Augustine, 2-14

4. The glad and blessed pursuit of knowing the Lord.

*"Behold, O Lord, my heart is turned to you; open my ears and say to my soul, I am your salvation and after this voice let me run, and take hold of thee, hide not your face from me. I'd rather die than not see your face." **Confessions of Augustine, 1-5***

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did the Pharisee and the sensualist in Philippians 3 end up in the same place of being ego driven?
2. What is a one-sentence summation of Proverbs 8:36-38?
3. What does it mean to continuously behold the goodness and power of the risen and reigning Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit?
4. What is the difference between looking within, as advocated by Stoicism and Buddhism, and looking without, by glorying in the greatness of the cross (Colossians 3:1-4)?
5. What is the difference between saying "no, no, no, no" to _____ versus taking on the freeing and gloriously good yoke of Christ?
6. Why does the gospel push us towards generosity?

JANUARY 14, 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.

Jonathan Howell



ELDER ON THE NEXT GEN TEAM

In elementary school, Jonathan understood that he was a sinner and that the only way to salvation was through believing and trusting in Jesus. He has attended East Cooper since 2004 and serves in the Kid's Ministry and as a Man2Man leader. In his free time, he enjoys hunting, fishing, and reading.

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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DECEMBER - JANUARY

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CHURCH GOAL:

\$625,000

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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:

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

Upcoming.

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 **TODAY at 12:15pm** in room B221 & 222.

PLAN TO ATTEND.

2024 MISSION TRIPS

INFO MEETING


GLOBAL IMPACT

eastcooperbaptist.com/events

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.



eastcooperbaptist.com/serve

WILD GAME BANQUET

Join us for this year's Wild Game Banquet on **February 15 at 6:00pm!** This year's speaker is Hank Parker, host of Hank Parker's Outdoor Magazine.

GET TICKETS ONLINE.



eastcooperbaptist.com/events

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

NEW TO ECBC?

For more information email info@eastcooperbaptist.com

Hello.

1.14.24

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

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☐ Join the Church

☐ Meet with a Pastor

☐ Subscribe to newsletter

☐ Other