Prayer?

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

843.856.3222 x PRAY (7729)

prayer@eastcooperbaptist.com





Sermon Notes.

Speaker: Buster Brown, Senior Pastor

Message: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! (Or How to Fight the Wild Beast)

Text: Ephesians 1:15-21

"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, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come." Ephesians 1:15-21

"What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, 'Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.' Do not be deceived: 'Bad company ruins good morals.' Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame." 1 Corinthians 15:32-34

This prayer, with its ringing note of confidence, would prove to be especially comforting to believers in Ephesus. Many of them were converted out of a background of magic, the Artemis cult, or astrological beliefs. This letter was given to a group of people who needed help in developing a biblical perspective on demonic powers and encouragement in their ongoing struggle with the forces of darkness (i.e. "rule, authority, power and dominion"). In his book *Powers of Darkness*, **Clinton Arnold** states that "these believers live in a milieu characterized by flourishing magical practices, the renowned Artemis cult, and a variety of other Phrygian mysteries and astrological beliefs" (p. 167).

The common feature in the midst of this religious diversity was that people had an extraordinary fear of hostile, spiritual powers. This prayer strongly underscores the supremacy and greatness of Christ.

- 1. To build hope, affirm our standing in Christ, and to rejoice in the power of faith, the Apostle Paul runs to the historical resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ. Without the resurrection of Christ, there is no hope.
- 2. In fighting the "wild beast" in Ephesus (1 Corinthians 15:32) Paul runs to the resurrected and all-powerful Jesus.
- 3. The all-powerful, resurrected Savior orders my days, conquers the darkness within and without, and ushers me into an eternity of joy.



"This sanctification (holiness) is throughout, in the whole man; yet imperfect in this life, there abiding still some remnants of sin in every part; From this arises a continual and irreconcilable war..." Westminster Confession of Faith, chapter 13, article 2 & 3

Although the remaining corruption, for a time, may much prevail; yet, through the continual supply of strength from the empowering Spirit of Christ, the believer does overcome; and so, the saints grow in grace.

Fighting the Wild Beast: LAUD

L = We LOAD our minds with biblical truth.

"Holy affections are not heat without light; but evermore arise from some information of the understanding, some spiritual instruction that the mind receives, some light or actual knowledge... Knowledge is the key that first opens the hard heart, and enlarges the affections and so opens the way for men into the kingdom of heaven." Jonathan Edwards, Religious Affections (p. 192)

A = ASK God to give you holy affections.

"That religion which God requires, and will accept, does not consist in weak, dull, and lifeless wishes, raising us but a little above a state of indifference... In nothing is vigor in the actings of our inclinations so requisite, as in religion; and in nothing is lukewarmness so odious." Jonathan Edwards, Religious Affections (p. 27)

U = Rejoice in the UNQUENCHABLE love of Jesus for his people.

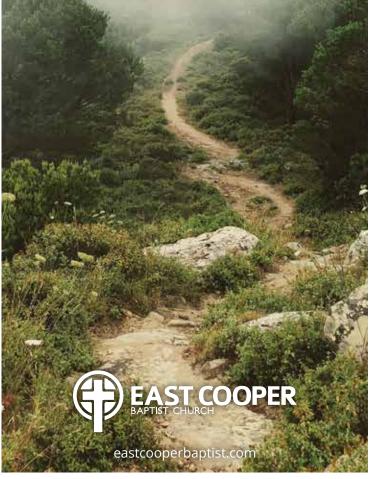
The one who says "come to me all who are weary and heavy laden" (Matthew 11) never turns away his eternally-loved and repenting people.

This unquenchable, insatiable love breaks through the shame/despair/alienation (withdrawal) cycle.

D = Our DESTINY; because Jesus has resurrected and ascended and reigns in power, our destiny is in eternity with him.

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

STRENGTH THE JOURNEY





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

NEXT WEEK: COMBINED SERVICES Sanctuary 9:30 & 11:00am • No Classes Overflow available in the Worship Center both hours

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.

Troy Draughn



ELDER ON THE ADMIN TEAM

Troy surrendered his life to Jesus in 1996 after deciding to read the Bible every morning. Through scripture, Troy understood what Jesus had done for him on the cross and his own need for a savior. He has attended East Cooper since 1996 and has previously served as a deacon and elder. In his free time, Troy enjoys playing golf.

REFRESH 2024

LIVING GENEROUSLY 4 week series beginning in January

Refresh is a class that takes place every January! Each year this class will contain an update to our vision goals, reminders about our vision language, and some specific teaching geared towards this season of our church family's life. Refresh 2024 will be about Living Generously. We're asking all of our church members to commit to attending this fourweek class.

Classes start January 7 in the East Cooper Gym and will be offered at both 9:30am and 11:00am on Sundays, and at 6:30pm on Wednesday evenings. We look forward to growing with you there!

To register, go to eastcooperbaptist.com/refresh or scan the QR code





Upcoming.

ANGEL TREES

Angel Trees are set up around the church. Pick up a tag **TODAY** to give a gift to a child of incarcerated parents, in foster care, or in a refugee family. Gifts are due back by December 3.





eastcooperbaptist.com/events

COMBINED SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY

Join us for combined services on November 26 at 9:30 or 11:00am in our Sanctuary. The Nursery hallway will be open. All other ages worship with parents. No classes.

SEE YOU THERE.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

You are invited to our 2023 Christmas concert. *"The Arrival"* featuring the East Cooper Baptist Choir, Orchestra, and Worship Band. December 8 at 7:00pm & December 9 at 4:00 & 7:00pm.

GET TICKETS ONLINE.

THE eastcooperbaptist.com/events

SERVE IN KIDS MINISTRY

Starting in January, the Nursery hallway will be opening a new classroom to accomodate many new babies. Sign up today to help us care for these little ones.

SIGN UP TODAY!



eastcooperbaptist.com/serve

First Time Guest? We'd love to get to know you!

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 MO DA YR MO DA YR
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