

Prayer?

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

Elders.



Frank Pettersen
Elder Chairman



Jeff
Armfield



Scott
Broome



Buster
Brown



Taso
Chakeris



Clint
Cole



Joe
Diamond



Mike
Dorrity



Troy
Draughn



Rick
Gwinn



Jonathan
Jellema



Don
King



Walt
Lancaster



Burke
Lee



Josh
Malone



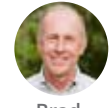
Nathan
Mansell



Ted
Melchers



Bob
Nagy



Brad
Reed



Rick
Rummler



Bill
Watson, Jr.



Bill
Wilson

Sermon.

Speaker: Pastor Buster Brown

Today's Message: Despair on Overdrive

Today's Text: Ecclesiastes 6

"There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, and it lies heavy on mankind: a man to whom God gives wealth, possessions, and honor, so that he lacks nothing of all that he desires, yet God does not give him power to enjoy them, but a stranger enjoys them. This is vanity; it is a grievous evil. If a man fathers a hundred children and lives many years, so that the days of his years are many, but his soul is not satisfied with life's good things, and he also has no burial, I say that a stillborn child is better off than he. For it comes in vanity and goes in darkness, and in darkness its name is covered. Moreover, it has not seen the sun or known anything, yet it finds rest rather than he. Even though he should live a thousand years twice over, yet enjoy no good—do not all go to the one place?"

All the toil of man is for his mouth, yet his appetite is not satisfied. For what advantage has the wise man over the fool? And what does the poor man have who knows how to conduct himself before the living? Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the appetite: this also is vanity and a striving after wind.

Whatever has come to be has already been named, and it is known what man is, and that he is not able to dispute with one stronger than he. The more words, the more vanity, and what is the advantage to man? For who knows what is good for man while he lives the few days of his vain life, which he passes like a shadow? For who can tell man what will be after him under the sun?"

In this passage, Solomon has reflected a full blown "under the sun only" worldview, which says that everything is nothing more than a vanity of vanities or smoke and mist.

Solomon has been reflecting on living an Epicurean lifestyle which discounts the reality of God while pursuing pleasure in a socially acceptable fashion.

1. There is no power to enjoy the good gifts of God, because Solomon has lost his spiritual equilibrium. (v. 1-2)
 - We either expect too much or settle for too little.
2. There is no satisfaction with the good gifts of life. (v.3-7)

"If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world." C.S. Lewis

(continued >>)

Sermon.

(continued)

3. There is no comfort in a hope of the certainty of Heaven and a preferable future in the presence of God. (v. 6b, 12b)
4. There is a growing cynicism regarding the quote "one stronger." (v. 10)
5. There is despondency regarding friendship. (v. 11)

Hope Overcoming Despair

1. Enjoy.
Enjoy the gifts of life because the good gifts of today are a foretaste of the glory to come.

2. Life's good gifts are a gift from the Lord.
"Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures."
James 1:16-18

3. The chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.
"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."
Romans 8:18

4. The centrality of the bodily resurrection of Jesus conquers despair.
"And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then, those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied."
1 Corinthians 15:17-19

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why does a life of despair, as a result of living life only "under the sun" lead to cynicism or anger?
2. When we live with an "under the sun" perspective, why do we find ourselves placing burdens on friendships, marriages and systems that cannot possibly deliver?
3. How do we determine if we are expecting too much, or settling for too little?
4. How does the resurrection of Jesus conquer despair in the life of a child of God?



Your mobile devices are welcome! After the service we encourage you to share pieces of the sermon or worship on social media that you think others will find encouraging. Tag ECBC using #ecbcharleston.

Listen to sermons online at eastcooperbaptist.com/sermons

OCTOBER 21, 2018



"Equipping people to pursue Jesus Christ passionately as they impact the culture"

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 by the Welcome Center following the worship services to say hello 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 | @pastorbusterb

Traditional Worship / Sunday Bible Classes
Sanctuary 9:00a & 10:45a
Contemporary Worship / Sunday Bible Classes
Worship Center 9:00a & 10:45a



Next Steps.

1. Attend a Guest Luncheon

Get to know us better at our next Guest Luncheon and see what God has in store for you. You'll meet our pastor and some of our staff and enjoy fellowship with a great meal. Our next free luncheon is **January 13, 2019 at 12:15p** in the Gym. For more information, please contact Carol at carolw@eastcooperbaptist.com.

2. Find an equip•u Class

Our equip•u classes are groups that meet before or after the worship services to study the Bible in depth. Visit the Welcome Center to pick up an equip•u guide or go online to choose from a variety of classes. Register for track classes at eastcooperbaptist.com/classes.

3. Join a Community Group

An authentic biblical community provides a place where we can grow, learn, and serve as we seek to know Jesus. We have a variety of over 30 open groups from students to adults. Please go online today to locate a group near you. eastcooperbaptist.com/groups

4. Become a Member

Register online for our upcoming New Members Class on Saturday, **January 26, 2019**. This class is a basic introduction to our church family and is a requirement for joining the church. We designed this class to clearly explain what we believe at East Cooper Baptist.

5. Serve in equip•them

Equip•them is the serving arm for Sunday morning ministries. We have nearly 600 opportunities to serve. Some needs require 15 minutes before the service, others may require the whole equipping hour. eastcooperbaptist.com/serve

Childcare.



We have a safe and loving environment for your children where they can learn about God. Please take advantage of our nursery for children up to age three during the worship services. Our ushers are ready to assist you.



This Week.

For detailed information please go online.

SUN

OCT
21

Equip•u Classes
9:00a & 10:45a
ECCO Bag Collection
Drop off bags today at trailer
HSM D-Groups
5:30-7:30p Host Homes

MON

OCT
22

Reengage Marriage Program
6:30-8:30p D-Wing Choir Room

TUE

OCT
23

Women's Bible Study
9:30-11:30a Worship Center
Worship Band Rehearsal
6:30p Worship Center

WED

OCT
24

WAM
6:30-8:00p A-Wing Classrooms
Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal
6:30-8:00p Choir Room
MSM T4:12
6:30-8:00p Gym
Women's Bible Study
6:30-8:00p B218/B219

THU

OCT
25

Women's Morning Devotional
6:30-7:30a Welcome Center
Women's Marriage Study
9:30-11:30a D-Wing Choir Room
Young Adults Connect
7:00p Annex

FRI

OCT
26

Man2Man
6:20a Gym
Young Adults Fall Retreat
Friday-Sunday Flat Rock, NC
Fall Festival
6:00-9:00p ECBC Campus

THIS MONTH: COMMUNITY OUTREACH

FEATURED MINISTRIES

Throughout the month of October we are featuring all of our local ministries in the area of helping those in need in our community. This includes ministries helping with the homeless and people or families in crisis situations. Stop by the kiosk in the Welcome Center to find information on ministries like:



YOUR COFFEE DONATIONS HELP TO SUPPORT THESE MINISTRIES.



361 Egypt Road • Mount Pleasant, SC 29464 • 843.856.3222

Upcoming.

For detailed event information please go online.

TODAY If God has blessed you in the area of hospitality, consider being a part of our Welcome Team. We are in need of help serving coffee on Sunday mornings, door greeters, passing out bulletins, and more! Visit our website to sign up to help!



TODAY An authentic biblical community provides a place where we can grow, learn, and serve as we seek to know Jesus. We have a variety of over 30 open groups from students to adults. Please go online today to locate a group near you.



OCT 22 PCA proudly presents its 2nd Annual Christmas Tree, Garland and Wreath Sale! All proceeds from the sale will go directly to the PCA Annual Fund. You'll find trees from 5 to 10 feet and a variety of options on wreath and garland sizes. Place your order online at: palmettochristianacademy.org



OCT 26 A large, weekly gathering of 200+ men desiring to know God, themselves, and their brothers in a deeper way. We meet 6:20-7:30a on Friday mornings in the gym, enjoy a hot breakfast, and 20 minute message from Buster. **PLAN TO ATTEND**



OCT 26-28 Join the Young Adults as they head to Bonclarken Conference Center in Flat Rock, NC for our Fall Retreat! This is a great time to meet other young adults. Final Registration is **TODAY** and cost is \$85 per person. **REGISTER ONLINE**



OCT 26 Join in on all the fun at our annual Fall Festival! At this community outreach you'll find trunk-or-treating, music, and tons of fun. Plan to come with your family or group of friends and decorate your car. **REGISTER YOUR CAR TODAY**



NOV 3 We invite everyone to this church-wide day of service where we will be loving on our community in the name of Jesus. We will work on projects like construction, craft making, painting, and yard work. **REGISTER ONLINE**



NOV 1-4 Men, join us for hiking and camping in some of the best mountain scenery our country has to offer. Don't miss this "iron sharpens iron" ministry experience. Registration deadline is October 26th. Cost is \$45. **REGISTER ONLINE**



NEW TO ECBC?
After the service, stop by the Welcome Center

Please complete the perforated section and place in the offering plate or bring by the Welcome Center.

Hello.

10.21.18

If you're here for the first time, please come by our Welcome Center and say hello. We'd love to answer any questions and say thanks for being our special guest today.

I/We attended worship at:

☐ 9:00a ☐ 10:45a

☐ I am a first time guest

Name

Spouse

Birthdate

MO DA YR

Spouse Birthdate

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
☐ Request a personal visit
☐ Subscribe to newsletter
☐ Join a Community Group
☐ Other