

## 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.

**Speaker:** Buster Brown, Senior Pastor

**Message:** How to Avoid Bear Traps and Deadly Currents (and Embrace the Good Life!)

**Text:** 1 Timothy 6:3-10

*"If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain. But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs." 1 Timothy 6:3-10*

### GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. This passage puts forward two systems of thought:
  - "the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ" (v.3)
  - "unhealthy craving" (v.4) which leads to controversies and quarrellings (mere speculation)

*"I call piety that reverence joined with love of God which the knowledge of his benefits induces. For until men recognize they owe everything to God, that they are nourished by his Fatherly care, that he is the Author of their every good, that they should seek nothing beyond him—they will never yield willing service." John Calvin, The Institutes of Christian Religion, I-2-1*
2. Godliness with contentment is great gain...("fills your life with wonderful things) vs. ruin and destruction"... (ruinous living).

*"For the simple are killed by their turning away, and the complacency of fools destroys them; but whoever listens to me will dwell secure and will be at ease, without dread of disaster." Proverbs 1:32-33*

*"Blessed is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors. For whoever finds me finds life and obtains favor from the Lord, but he who fails to find me injures himself; all who hate me love death." Proverbs 8:34-36*
3. Happy living is a result of proper desires yoked under the Lordship of Christ. Destructive living is a result of living with ungoverned desires.

Those whose lives led to ruin and destruction had "unhealthy cravings" (v.4), materialistic desires that defined them (v.9), and a "craving"/insatiable yearning for money which caused them to wander from the faith and be pierced with many sorrows.

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## Sermon.

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Therefore: we must constantly renew our minds, plead for the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit, and seek for continual renewal before the Lord.

4. Everyday is a battle in a world that in many cases is bitterly opposed to the standards of the Father and his kingdom.

*"Every day of our lives, as we get closer to our deaths, we head away from the treasures we accumulate on Earth. But if we store up our riches in Heaven, every day brings us closer to them. That's why Jesus wants us to let go of much of our stuff and walk with arms wide open toward eternity. Think of treasures as heaving mass and, therefore, gravity. Gravity holds things in orbit around that mass. The larger the mass we accumulate—the more treasures we store up on Earth—the greater its gravitational pull on us. But consider this: the more we invest in eternal and therefore the less power they have to hold us in their orbit."*

Randy Alcorn, *Giving is the Good Life*, p.55

### APPLICATION

1. The bullseye/core/heart of living the good life is to behold the wonder and goodness of Jesus. "Helping broken people treasure Jesus."
2. The worldly system, unchecked, can pull our emotions into the abyss of ruin and destruction.

*"Attempting to experience the abundant life Jesus spoke of while burying ourselves in material abundance isn't just difficult; it's impossible. While possessions may be neutral or even fun, it's too easy to end up trusting our stuff instead of our Savior and suffocating under the accumulation...Materialism dresses up the corpse and puts makeup on it, but it's still dead. Jesus redirects us from death disguised as life to true abundant life."*

Randy Alcorn, *Giving is the Good Life*, p.10

3. God always rewards faithful living centered on the glory of the gospel of Christ.

*"And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."*

Hebrews 11:6

### QUESTIONS:

1. What are the two thought systems in this passage?
2. What is the end result of a worldview that is materialistic?
3. How do we fight against unhealthy cravings, especially in the area of wealth accumulation.
4. Define generous living. Why do some say that "tithing is the training wheels of generous living"?



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)

MARCH 20, 2022

## — THE JOY OF — STEWARDSHIP



**EAST COOPER**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

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





**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.

Candace Dellinger

### FINANCE MANAGER ON STAFF

Candace is from St. George, SC. Growing up in church and a Christian home, she heard the gospel regularly, but her faith in Jesus really deepened when she started attending ECBC as an adult. Through community and Biblical training, Candace understood the grace of Jesus and that He was worthy to be trusted with all things. She joined the ECBC staff in 2019. Candace is married to Craig and they have two daughters, Reese and Clara. She enjoys visiting Edisto Beach with her family and watching Gamecock or Citadel baseball.



## Groups.

For detailed information, please go online.

### COMMUNITY GROUPS

At East Cooper, we seek to offer meaningful ways to be a part of our family—young and old, man or woman, married or single. Community Groups provide spaces to love one another and live out the gospel of Jesus together.

Groups are open at these locations: Mount Pleasant, Hanahan, West Ashley, North 17, North Charleston, and James & Johns Island.

### AGE & STAGE GROUPS

Walking through some of life's challenges with others in a similar life stage can be beneficial! This is why we offer age and stage classes, where you can find a group to get plugged in with and do life-on-life discipleship together!

1. Grandmothers in Prayer - Tuesday mornings at 8:00am
2. Women's Bible Study: God of Freedom - Tuesday's at 9:30am, Wednesday's at 6:30pm, or Thursday's at 6:30am
3. re|engage (marriage group) - Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm
4. Man2Man - Friday mornings at 6:20am





### CARE GROUPS

When circumstances require help beyond Christian friendships developed within a Community Group, the primary places that we work out care and counseling, we offer biblical counseling in meeting the emotional and spiritual needs of the church.

1. DivorceCare - Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm
2. Friends Caregivers - Sunday mornings at 11:00am
3. Women's Sophron (alcohol support group) - Email Rose to sign up: [rosea@eastcooperbaptist.com](mailto:rosea@eastcooperbaptist.com)
4. GriefShare - Sunday mornings at 11:00am

## Join A Group Today!

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



361 Egypt Road • Mount Pleasant, SC 29464 • 843.856.3222

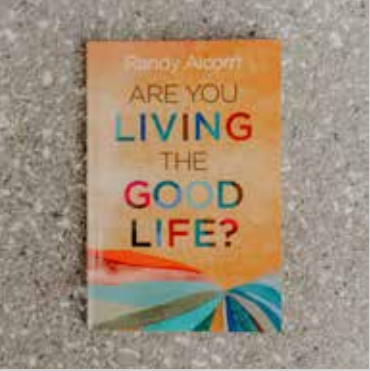
## Upcoming.

For detailed event information, please go online.  
[eastcooperbaptist.com/events](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/events)

### PICK UP YOUR BOOK!



Today we will have free stewardship books for every family located on the round tables as you exit. It is our hope that you will use this book to better steward your family.

TAKE ONE AS YOU EXIT.



### SEND UKRAINE RELIEF


Give today to bring help and healing to the hurting in the Ukraine!



### CITY SERVE

Join us on March 26 from 8:00am-2:00pm to serve our city. We will be serving with our local partners to help bless them with various needs at their different locations. Meet us in the gym for breakfast before teams head to their serve sites.


REGISTER ONLINE.



### EASTER SUNDAY

You are invited to celebrate our Risen Savior on Easter Sunday at East Cooper! There will be combined services in the Sanctuary at 8:30, 9:45, & 11:00am. Nursery for children birth to two years old will be available at 9:45 & 11:00am.

INVITE A FRIEND!



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

SCAN DIGITAL CONNECT CARD



Hello.

3.20.22

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

Interested in the following:

☐ Become a Christian

☐ Join the Church

☐ Meet with a Pastor

☐ Subscribe to newsletter

☐ Other