

## 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:** "Aslan, You are Bigger..." (Discovering the Death of Kingdom Living)

**Text:** Mark 10:23-31

*"<sup>23</sup>And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!' <sup>24</sup>And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, 'Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup>It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.' <sup>26</sup>And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, 'Then who can be saved?' <sup>27</sup>Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.' <sup>28</sup>Peter began to say to him, 'See, we have left everything and followed you.' <sup>29</sup>Jesus said, 'Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, <sup>30</sup>who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. <sup>31</sup>But many who are first will be last, and the last first.'" Mark 10:23-31*

The rich young ruler "went away disheartened" (Mark 10:22) and the disciples found themselves puzzled with amazement (v. 24) and exceedingly astonished (v. 26) by the teaching of Jesus regarding the kingdom.

In the ensuing discussion, Jesus underscores the consuming depth of kingdom living.

*"The principle runs through all of life from top to bottom. Give up yourself, and you will find your real self. Lose your life and you will save it. Submit to death, death of your ambitions and favorite wishes every day and death of your whole body in the end; submit with every fiber of your being, and you will find eternal life. Keep back nothing. Nothing that you have not given away will be really yours. Nothing in you that has not died will ever be raised from the dead. Look for yourself, and you will find in the long run only hatred, loneliness, despair, rage, ruin, and decay. BUT LOOK FOR CHRIST AND YOU WILL FIND HIM, AND WITH HIM EVERYTHING ELSE THROWN IN." C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity, pg. 226-227*

*"Aslan," said Lucy, "you're bigger"  
"That is because you are older, little one," answered he (the lion).  
"Not because you are?"  
"I am not. But every year you grow, you will find me bigger." C.S. Lewis, Prince Caspian, pg. 136*

*"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's." Psalm 103:1-5*

(continued >>)

## Sermon.

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\*Longing for joy, purpose, and fulfillment is a universal desire.

\*Do not suppress this desire, deny it, or grow cynical but pursue it.

*"If we consider the unblushing promises of reward ... promised in the Gospels, it would seem that our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at sea. We are far too easily pleased." C.S. Lewis, Weight of Glory*

\*The deepest and most enduring happiness is found only in God. Not from God, but in God.

### I PURSUE JOY AS:

1. I am convinced that the triune God is all glorious and desires my happiness.

*"More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is GREAT REWARD." Psalm 19:10-11*

*"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*

2. The rewards that the Lord gives involve present day realities.

*"(the Holy Spirit) who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory." Ephesians 1:14*

3. Keep nothing back...

4. As I long for joy and purpose I desire to live out the kingdom mandates (Mark 8:35-36 and 10:31).

5. The unarguable reality of that which can be observed should underscore (i.e. change, joy, hope, laughter) kingdom values.

*"The gospel is not just the ABC's but the A to Z of the christian life. It is inaccurate to think the gospel is what saves non Christians, then Christians mature by trying hard to live according to biblical principles. It is more accurate to say we are saved by believing the gospel, and then we are transformed in every part of our minds, hearts, and lives by believing the gospel more and more deeply as life goes on." Tim Keller, Center Church*



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 [#ecbcharleston](https://twitter.com/ecbcharleston).

Listen to sermons online at [eastcooperbaptist.com/sermons](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/sermons)

MAY 28, 2023

# HAPPINESS

# REVEALED



[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

## Upcoming.

**GHANA**  
CROSS CULTURAL PROJECT  
JUNE 3-26, 2023

PLEASE PRAY:

- For their time with the leaders and congregation of Redeemer City Church, Accra, to be mutually encouraging.
- For students at the universities in Accra to joyfully respond to the gospel of grace.
- For wisdom about future long-term partnership between ECBC/CO and Redeemer City Church.

**LIVERPOOL, UK**  
JUNE 16-23, 2023

PLEASE PRAY:

- For the Lord to go before them and for gospel conversations with those He wants them to meet.
- For the team to be able to help pave the way for an ESL ministry with global partners, the Rices, as they work with asylum seekers.
- For God to be glorified by them and that they would be a blessing to our partners and the local believers.

**MEMBERSHIP CLASS**

We will be offering a 4-week Membership class on Sundays, June 4-25. If you are new and would like to become a member, we ask you to join us for our Membership Class. Meets in room B221 at 11:00am.

REGISTER ONLINE.  
eastcooperbaptist.com/classes

**SOUTH ASIA MISSION TRIP**

A small team will go to the mountains of South Asia to visit and encourage some of our global partners. They will also go to local villages to share the gospel with those who have never heard of Jesus before.

APPLY ONLINE.  
eastcooperbaptist.com/serve

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## Groups.

Connect To A Group Consistently.

### CONNECT IN A GROUP

Getting connected into a group provides a place to grow in your relationship with Jesus and be encouraged to pursue him. At East Cooper, we recognize that God created us to be in community with fellow believers and to be a family in our homes and across the generations within our church. We offer many different groups, from age and stage to groups that help you through some of life's most challenging experiences.

**COMMUNITY GROUPS** - Most of our groups take a break for the summer. Look for groups on the website beginning in August. Please email Sean Alford for options during the summer at [seana@eastcooperbaptist.com](mailto:seana@eastcooperbaptist.com).

**GRANDMOTHERS IN PRAYER** - Tuesdays at 8:00am

**COLLEGE GROUP** - Wednesdays at 6:30pm

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** - Starts June 6 at 9:30am.

**WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB** - Starts June 7 at 6:30pm.

**RE|ENGAGE** - New groups start August 16.  
*Registration is now open.*

Join A Group Today!  
[eastcooperbaptist.com/groups](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/groups)



361 Egypt Road • Mount Pleasant, SC 29464 • 843.856.3222

# 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 blue name-tag and let us answer any questions you may have. Thanks for being our guest.

**Buster Brown**, Senior Pastor  
[busterb@eastcooperbaptist.com](mailto: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.

### English Preston



#### KID'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR ON STAFF

English is from Charleston, SC. Although she grew up hearing the gospel, forgiveness, and grace were concepts she could not grasp. After years of hiding from God in shame and a few deep life circumstances, English surrendered her life to Jesus when she was 23. She joined the ECBC staff in 2018. English is married to David and they have three children, Vivian, Nathanael, and Alistair. She loves family movie nights and running.