

EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH

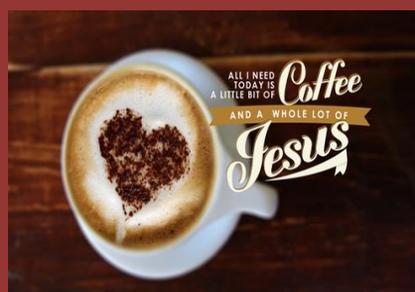
NEWSLETTER



**Happy
Valentine's Day!**
Wednesday, February 14th

**Coffee Social
After Morning Service**

Sunday, February 25th
After Morning Service





A Note from Pastor Seth

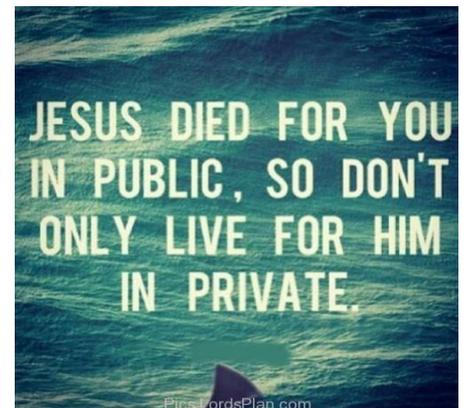
We have seen hope shine in the midst of darkness during our sermon series through Genesis. In each case, humanity plunged into sin, and while God judged the sinners, his grace shined through. In each instance, the hope points to the Savior of the world, Jesus. In Genesis 3:15, after the first humans sinned (and all humanity with them), the hope was that One would come to crush the serpent (Satan) and deliver humanity from his tyranny. At the end of Genesis 3, Adam and Eve were clothed with the skin of an animal that was sacrificed (Genesis 3:21). This covering of sinners would point ahead to Jesus Christ covering sinners with his sacrifice. So right after the darkest moment in human history, the fall of humanity into sin, we see great hope shine through. A few chapters later we saw the flood where the entire world was wiped out except for eight people. Noah and his family were the only ones who were spared. But in the midst of this darkness hope shined through. God gave humanity hope by preserving the human race through commanding Noah to build the ark. Noah's father, Lamech, also prayed that Noah would be used by God as a comforter to humanity to deliver them from their suffering brought on by sin (Genesis 5:28-29). God answered this prayer because through his line would come One who would deliver humans from their bondage to sin. This of course is Jesus Christ. So we once again see hope in the midst of tragedy in the flood account.

As we just crossed the bridge from world history (Genesis 1-11) to Israel's history (Genesis 12-50), we recently saw the hope once again. Several weeks ago we saw the darkness with the Tower of Babel. We saw humanity once again plunge to another low as they defied God by living lives of rebellion against him (Genesis 11:4).

God was furious with the human race and punished them by confusing their language and making a laughing stock out of this Tower they built. It once again looked bleak for the human race. But once again hope shines through. This time Moses shows us the hope by the insertion of a genealogy. This may seem odd at first glance, but his inclusion of the chosen line after the dark Tower of Babel account is incredible when you think about it! God, through the writing of Moses, is reminding us that his plan for a bright future for humanity still stands. His amazing faithfulness continues even though humanity plunges into darkness once again. The line at the end of Genesis 11 shows us that through Noah's son Shem, the chosen line would continue. It would take several thousand years, but finally the Savior of the world would come through this line. The Lord is patient with humanity throughout history because he planned to redeem them. The apostle Peter said, "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance" (2 Peter 3:9). The Lord has redeemed humanity through Christ dying and rising again for sinners. Thousands of years passed from God's first mention of rescuing sinners (Genesis 3:15, 21) until the cross, and now we stand two thousand years on the other side of the cross. From the outset of Scripture, we see why God puts up with the darkness of humanity. He is waiting for people to receive Jesus as their Savior (John 1:12). We should always thank the Lord that all who believe in Christ are "delivered from the domain of darkness and transferred to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins"

(Colossians 1:13-14). We see hope shine at the beginning of Genesis, and we see God's gracious commitment to humanity throughout the rest of Scripture as he shows this bright future through Christ for humanity.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Seth



Eureka Baptist Church

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www.eurekabapchurch.com

Sunday Morning Service: 10:00am

*Kid's Church during Service

Adult Sunday School: 9:00am

Bible Study Wednesdays: 6:30pm



SNOW FUN



A Sledding Event was held on Saturday, January 27th at Skonewood Christian Retreat. It was a fun day for families to get out and enjoy the beautiful weather! Lunch and Hot Cocoa were served.





Children's Answers to "What Is Love?"

"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe when they say it. Billy – age 4

"Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out to eat." Karl – age 5

"Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs." Chrissy – age 6

"Love is what makes you smile when you're tired." Terri – age 4

"Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK." Danny – age 7

"Love is when you kiss all the time. Then when you get tired of kissing, you still want to be together and you talk more. My Mommy and Daddy are like that. They look gross when they kiss" Emily – age 8

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen." Bobby – age 7

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate," Nikka – age 6

"Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it every day." Noelle – age 7

"Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well." Tommy – age 6

"During my piano recital, I was on a stage and I was scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore. He must love me." Cindy – age 8

"My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night." Clare – age 6

"Love is when Mommy gives Daddy the best piece of chicken." Elaine-age 5

"Love is when Mommy sees Daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Brad Pitt." Chris – age 7

"Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day." Mary Ann – age 4

"I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones." Lauren – age 4

"When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands gets arthritis too. That's love." Rebecca- age 8

"When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you." Karen – age 7

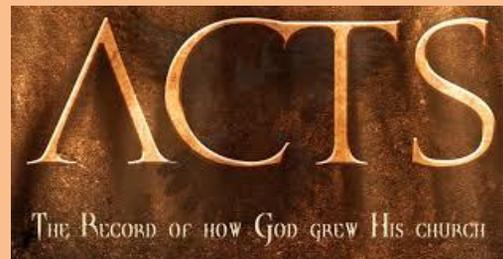
"You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget." Jessica – age 8

2018 Pot Luck & Annual Meeting

The 2018 Pot Luck and Annual Meeting were held on January 21st. A great meal was served after Morning Service and the Annual Meeting was held after.



Pictured: Roger Swanson cuddled with Susan Matson after the meal.
Thank you to all that contributed!



**New adult Sunday School series
starting in February**

**Join us!
9 AM**



Last Sunday of the Month!
Join us after the Sunday Morning Service
Coffee and Sweet Treats
Sunday, February 25th



Let's face it. When we invite people to church, the idea of it can be nerve-wracking.

There's a lot of inner dialogue that happens. How do I bring it up in conversation? What if I come across as judgmental? What if I get rejected? What if I make them uncomfortable?

The tendency is to ask a lot of "what if" questions that focus on the negative side. But what if you reminded yourself of the potential, instead?

What if God has been preparing their heart and has been waiting for me to invite them?

What if they say yes?

What if they're hurting and find healing at church?

What if they give their life to Christ because of me, and future generations are changed because of it?

Use the tips below to overcome any fears you might have!

How do you bring it up in conversation?

Approach #1 – When you're not sure whether they attend a church.

Lead with this simple question.

I was wondering, do you go to church anywhere?

If they answer yes, then the follow-up conversation is easy.

That's great! So happy to hear you have a church home.

What church do you attend?

This approach works because it celebrates the church they're connected to and shows them you're not trying to recruit them to your church.

If they answer no, you can follow up with an invite.

Well, if you're ever looking for a great place to go, I go to Eureka Baptist Church and would love to see you there!

This language is simple, casual, and friendly in tone. It doesn't assume they're looking for a church and leaves the decision up to them.

If they don't ask a follow-up question or engage further, then you'll want to leave the conversation at that. If they ask a question or share a bit of their faith journey, then it's a good sign they're open to hearing more.

Take the opportunity to share more about your church: why you love it, how God's used it in your life, give them an invite card, etc.

Approach #2 – When you know someone doesn't attend a church.

Try leading with this question:

I'm curious—did you ever go to church when you were growing up?

The key with this question is how you follow up.

This question is an easy way to start a conversation, but the real value is learning more about a person's background with church, faith, and Christianity.

There could be many reasons why someone doesn't currently attend a church. They could've had a bad experience growing up. Been hurt by people. Maybe they've always wanted to but never made it a priority.

Whatever the reason, you're trying to understand why. So don't be afraid to ask follow-up questions.

Have you ever thought about attending a church (again)?

If you don't mind me asking, how come you don't see yourself going to church?

The answers to these questions will help you tailor a more personal invite at the right time. Use what you learn, and ask God for wisdom on how best to invite them to church. That could be during this conversation or another time.

Is there something about your church they'd like? Is there a specific message series you can share that speaks to a situation they're going through? Do you apologize on behalf of other Christians or churches that have hurt them? Remember, you don't have to invite a person the very first time you talk about church. That can be something you work toward.

How do I avoid making a person feel judged or uncomfortable?

It's all in the approach. Notice the "posture" the conversation starters above take. They're casual and friendly. They don't assume anything and don't force any type of answer. Pay attention to the conversation and engage as much or as little as you feel the other person is comfortable with.

That's the key to inviting someone (or having a conversation about faith) without the person feeling judged or uncomfortable. And don't forget to always invite with kindness.

How you end the conversation will be how they remember your invite. So be kind, gracious, and understanding no matter the response.

What if I get rejected?

You will, but don't let it discourage you. It's not the end of the world, and it's not personal. A "no thanks" won't negatively impact your life. But a "yes" could change someone's life forever. Press through any fears of rejection and keep inviting! You'll never get a "yes" if you never ask.

Another common fear is getting a negative reaction. Almost everyone will accept your invite graciously whether they're interested or not. As you invite more people, you'll find most of your fears are not reality. Rejection isn't as bad as you think. People generally avoid confrontation. They're not going to be hateful toward you or feel judged by you.

Now let's play the what if game again.

What if they say yes?

What if they experience authentic community and love for the first time?

What if the church renews their faith and hope in Christ?

What if they find their identity in Christ and walk in greater confidence?

God wants to use you. And often, it's through a simple invite. If we do our part, God will do His part. We just have to plant the seed.

What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. 1 Corinthians 3:5-6

Who will you invite this week?

An elderly lady who had accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her Savior when she was a child could repeat many verses from the Bible. She had memorized them when she was a child and continued memorizing more verses all her life. She would often say that of all the verses she knew, her favorite was 2 Timothy 1:12: "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day."

In the last years of her life, her memory began to fail. Many of the things she used to remember clearly were now all confused. Even her favorite verse slipped from her memory. Finally, the only part of it she could remember was, "that which I have committed unto Him."

Just before the Lord took her home to heaven, her loved ones noticed her lips moving. They bent down to hear what she was saying, and she was repeating what she could remember of her verse, which was only one word, and she kept repeating, "Him, Him, Him." That one word was all she needed, for in Him we have everlasting life.

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38,39.

We know that all things work together
for the good
to those who love God.

(Romans 8:28)

Jesus Loves Me This I Know... For the Bible Tells Me So...

Have you stopped to think why this hymn would cheer up old people when they are sick and weak and about to die? Why would they want to sing something so simple in their last moments on earth? I'll tell you why — because the love of the Lord Jesus is the most important thing we can know in all the world! Fun times, friends and even family can completely fade away, but the love of the Lord Jesus never changes and will last when everything else is gone. Do you know about the love of Jesus? You may have sung the hymn many times, but can you say, "The Son of God [the Lord Jesus], who loved **me**, and gave Himself for **me**?" (Galatians 2:20). The Lord Jesus proved how much He loves us when He died on the cross. Accept Him as your Savior and you will begin to enjoy His great love. Then you can truly understand and sing, "Yes, Jesus loves **me**."



Thank you to Susan Matson
for contributing this word
game from 1962!

the word VALENTINE with the missing
words in the Bible verses below.

--- V -----
-- A --
L ---
- E --
-- N _
-- T ---
---- I ----
N ---
- E

1. "The Lord is my light and my ____; whom shall I fear?" (Ps. 27:1)
2. "And the ____ of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:7).
3. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting

4. "But ____ ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33).
5. "And be ye ____ one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Eph. 4:32).
6. "And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your ____ also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses" (Mark 11:25).
7. "Let brotherly love ____" (Heb. 13:1).
8. "I have manifested Thy ____ unto the men which Thou gavest Me out of the world" (John 17:6).
9. "If ye love ____, keep My commandments" (John 14:15).

by NINA COOMBS PYKARE

answers:

9-Me; 5-kind; 6-Father; 7-continue; 8-name; 1-salvation; 2-peace; 3-life; 4-see;

★
A Valentine Message

ON ST. VALENTINE'S DAY we like to send loving messages to each other. To find this valentine message from God's own Word, fill in the blanks in

Counselor

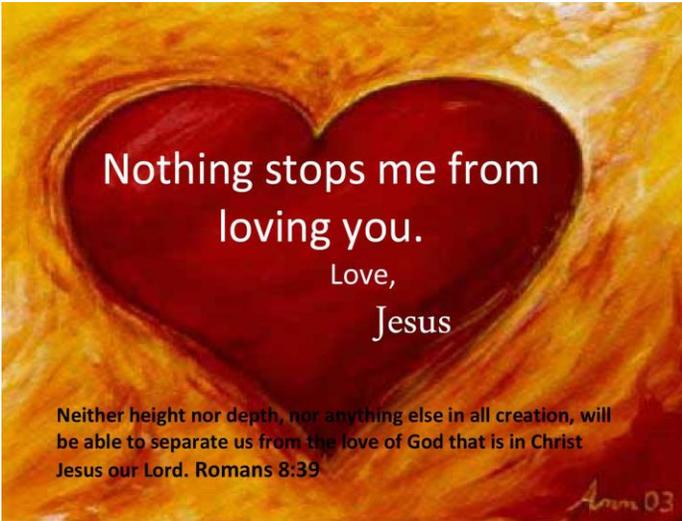
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Happy Birthday!!

Julianna Johnson 2/7

Betty Jensen 2/7



Women's Bible Study
Saturday, February 3rd
9:00am

Men's Breakfast Group
Saturday, February 10th
8:00am

Words About...Love

The best way to find LOVE
is to find GOD.

The steadfast love of the Lord
never ceases,
His mercies never come to an end
They are new every morning
Great is His faithfulness.
-Lamentations 3:22

The great thing to remember is that though our feelings
come and go, God's love for us does not. *-C.S. Lewis*

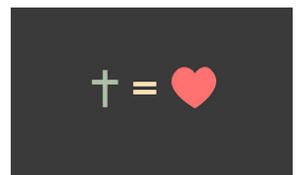
God loves each of us as if there were
only one of us.

-St. Augustine

The first duty of love is to listen. *-Paul Tillich*

No matter where you are in life,
if you let LOVE and KINDNESS be your guide,
you'll always find your way.

LOVE is patient
is kind
does not envy
does not boast
is not proud
is not rude
is not self-seeking
is not easily angered
keeps no record of wrongs
does not delight in evil
rejoices with the truth
always protects
always trusts
always hopes
always perseveres
Never Fails



Submitted by Barbara Trombley



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