

Epping Bible



STATE OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, January 2, 2022

Proverbs 27:23-27

*Know your sheep by name; carefully attend to your flocks;
(Don't take them for granted; possessions don't last forever, you know.) And then,
when the crops are in and the harvest is stored in the barns, You can knit sweaters from
lambs' wool, and sell your goats for a profit; There will be plenty of milk and meat to
last your family through the winter. The Message*

Covid has divided many brothers and sisters- even spouses who see things differently- masks, social distancing and vaccines.

The 'new' legalism!

Ill.- What if I see God's direction differently than yours?

What is happening at EBC?

Churches do not just happen. Every church has a different personality. An effective church has leaders that take the call of God on their lives seriously.

Leadership stability and commitment to the Bible.

✦ Faith based philosophy (no borrowed money)

Topical versus exegetical- What is the best?

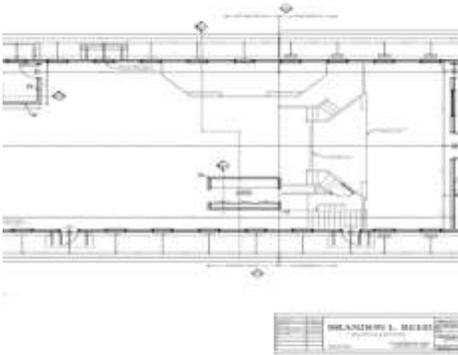
I am committed to application.

The issue to me is more is the Word being faithfully taught.
Faith Bible Institute- a great program for all!

New families

Families who have moved

Children galore! AWANA
The Building story



other pictures

It's always about your love for God and your love for people

Programs can be misleading

ie. youth group, men's ministry, women's ministry, building program

1 Thessalonians 1: 2 We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, 3 remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father, 4 knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God. 5 For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake. 6 And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, 7 so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe. 8 For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.

➤ **YOU have chosen not to be critical**

Titus 3:2

➤ **YOU love each other** * Good role models

1 Thessalonians 3 1Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, 2 and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith, 3 that no one should be shaken by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this. 4 For, in fact, we told you before when we were with you that we would suffer tribulation, just as it happened, and you know. 5 For this reason, when I could no longer endure it, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter had tempted you, and our labor might be in vain.

11 Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. 12 And may the Lord make you increase and **abound** in love to one another and to all, just as we *do* to you, 13 so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

perisseuō, per-is-syoo'-o; to superabound (in quantity or quality), be in excess, be superfluous; also (transitively) to cause to superabound or excel:—(make, more) abound, (have, have more) abundance (be more) abundant, be the better, enough and to spare, exceed, excel, increase, be left, redound, remain (over and above).

➤ **YOU welcome others well**

1 Thessalonians 4 Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort *you* by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would **abound** more and more. 2 For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus. 3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, 5 not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord *is* the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. 7 For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. 8 Therefore he who rejects *this* does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit. 9 But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught

by God to love one another; ¹⁰ and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you **increase** more and more; ¹¹ that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, ¹² that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and *that* you may lack nothing.

5: ²⁶ Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.

➤ **YOU are generous**

- It is more blessed to give than to receive.
- God loves a cheerful giver.

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” Luke 6:38

2 Corinthians 9:11

➤ **YOU are prayerful**

Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; -Colossians 4:2

Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.’ - Jeremiah 33:3

Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. For “He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit. Let him turn away from evil and do good; Let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.” 1 Peter 3:8-12

➤ **YOU are faithful servants**

on Sundays and during the week

□ What could use improvement?

- Mission's emphasis
- Using our gifts to minister to others
- Prayer

And the Lord make you to increase and **abound** in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you: 1 Thessalonians 3:12

Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would **abound** more and more. 1 Thessalonians 4:1

And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, that ye **increase** more and more; 1 Thessalonians 4:10

□ Where do I fit in?

- > Elderly
- > Young people- **You are the next generation!**
- > Long term members you have shaped and continue the heart of EBC
- > Short term members
- > Non members
- > New families

Giving Hope!!!!

Days may be darkest
But Your light is greater
You light our way
God You light our way

When evil is rising
You're rising higher
With power to save
With power to save

You keep hope alive
You keep hope alive

From the beginning to end
Your word never fails

You keep hope alive
Because You are alive
Jesus You are alive
Death had a stronghold
But Your life was stronger
Rose from the grave
Rose up from the grave

When evil is rising
You're rising higher
With power to save
With power to save

You keep hope alive
You keep hope alive
From the beginning to end
Your word never fails

You keep hope alive
Because You are alive
Jesus You are alive

There's hope in the morning
Hope in the evening
Hope because You're living
Hope because You're breathing

There's hope in the breaking
Hope in the sorrow
Hope for this moment
My hope for tomorrow

There's hope in the morning
Hope in the evening
Hope because You're living
Hope because You're breathing

There's hope in the breaking

Hope in the sorrow
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You keep hope alive
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What does the future hold?

- Building program which will lead to further ministry and connection in the Kingdom of God.

You can and you will make a difference in this world. Your life, your family, your legacy in this world. Don't quit! Don't give up! Don't live a defeated life! THIS IS YOUR 2022!!!

- Prayer generated Goals
- Gospel and Bible emphasis
- Team leadership strength
- Ministering to families in a greater capacity.
- Impacting many lives for the cause of Christ.

2022- the possibilities are endless!