# Announcements!

Weekly Bible Study We invite each of you to attend the mid-week Bible Study, held upstairs each Tuesday evening beginning at 6 pm. We encourage you to attend these vital and exciting studies!

Children's Church Children's Church is available upstairs on the 2nd-5th Sundays starting at 11:00 am. Ages 2-10 are welcome to attend. Please sign your children in and out. A snack is served. Please pick up your children promptly after services. ALL DONATIONS ARE WELCOMED. If you are interested in serving in Children's Church, please see Sarita Agee.

#### Words of Wisdom: Rules to Live By...

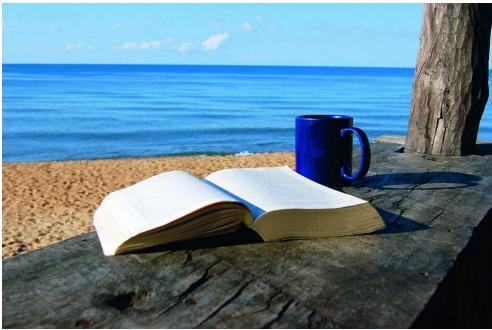
An Angel says, "Never borrow from the future. If you worry about what may happen tomorrow and it doesn't happen, you have worried in vain. Even if it does happen, you have to worry twice."

- 1. Pray
- Go to bed on time.
- 3. Get up on time so you can start the day unrushed.
- 4. Say No to projects that won't fit into your time schedule, or that will compromise your mental health.
- 5. Delegate tasks to capable others.
- 6. Simplify and unclutter your life.
- 7. Less is more. (Although one is often not enough, two are often too many.)
- 8. Allow extra time to do things and to get to places.
- 9. Pace yourself. Spread out big changes and difficult projects over time; don't lump the hard things all together.
- 10. Take one day at a time.
- 11. Separate worries from concerns. If a situation is a concern, find out what God would have you do and let go of the anxiety. If you can't do anything about a situation, forget it.
- 12. Live within your budget; don't use credit cards for ordinary purchases.
- 13. Have backups; an extra car key in your wallet, an extra house key buried in the garden, extra stamps, etc.
- 14. K.M.S. (Keep Mouth Shut). This single piece of advice can prevent an enormous amount of trouble.
- 15. Do something for the Kid in You everyday.
- 16. Carry a Bible with you to read while waiting in line.
- 17. Get enough rest.
- 18. Eat right.
- 19. Get organized so everything has its place.
- 20. Listen to a tape while driving that can help improve your quality of life.
- 21. Write down thoughts and inspirations.
- 22. Every day, find time to be alone.
- 23. Having problems? Talk to God on the spot. Try to nip small problems in the bud. Don't wait until it's time to go to bed to try and pray.
- 24. Make friends with Godly people.
- 25. Keep a folder of favorite scriptures on hand.
- 26. Remember that the shortest bridge between despair and hope is often a good "Thank you Jesus."
- 27. Laugh.
- 28. Laugh some more!
- 29. Take your work seriously, but not yourself at all.
- 30. Develop a forgiving attitude (most people are doing the best they can).
- 31. Be kind to unkind people (they probably need it the most.)
- 32. Sit on your ego.
- 33. Talk less; listen more.
- 34. Slow down.
- 35. Remind yourself that you are not the general manager of the universe.
- 36. Every night before bed, think of one thing you're grateful for that you've never been grateful for before. GOD HAS A WAY OF TURNING THINGS AROUND FOR YOU. "If God is for us, who can be against us?" - (Romans 8:31)

Welcome to the



## Everlasting Covenant Church



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Follow Us:



"The Everlasting Covenant Church", Birmingham, AL

"THE\_ECC2015"

#### Eric R. Agee, Jr., Pastor

July 22, 2018

#### **Vision Statement:**



Enhancing Our Knowledge of Jesus Christ, Empowering All Believers for Ministry, and Encouraging Continuous Dedication to the Lord.

# Order of Services

Fellowship | Refreshments – 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship Services — 11:00 a.m.
Announcements & Recognition of Visitors

Call to Worship: Scripture Reading & Prayer Tithes and Offerings; Prayer of Thanksgiving

Praise and Worship Selections

Sermon

Invitation to Christ

#### Benediction

Why Go to Church..

Taken from https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/why-should-i-go-to-church

It's Saturday night. If you don't usually attend a church service on the weekend, you may be thinking, Why even bother going to church this Sunday? I don't know or like any of those people. What would I get out of spending two hours sitting in a pew? Wouldn't I be better off watching the game with friends, helping someone in need, or advocating for a cause?

While connecting with people, helping those in need, fighting injustice, and resting are all necessary things, we should not prioritize them above God himself. God alone is preeminent (Colossians 1:18). These activities should flow from life-giving connection with Christ and his people. When we make good things central we give them God's position, and they become idols.

Five Reasons to Go to Church on Sunday - Our view of Jesus and his church is often filtered through historical, political, and pop-culture lenses. Many see the church as producing cookie-cutter people who follow dominant power structures rather than as a living organism with discipleship and merciful influence in our surrounding communities. But why should you go? Here are five reasons for gathering with believers this weekend.

- 1. To remind each other who and whose we are. In a world offering a multiplicity of viewpoints, there is one place that people can find truth (John 8:26). The church is a lighthouse in an ethical fog (Matthew 5:14–16). My jazz musician father often said of my elementary educator mother, "She always reminds me where 12:00 is." Who helps you find your bearings when you're unsure how to navigate an increasingly complex world? Are you bumbling your way through life, or do you have a steady compass and anchor for your soul (Hebrews 6:19)? We gather with other saints for discipleship, and then are scattered as salt and light in the world as missionaries where we dwell (Matthew 5:13–16; 28:18–20).
- 2. To remind us that temporal trials we face will have a joyful end. One of the most impactful funerals I've attended was to support a brother whose mother passed suddenly. Our pastor preached from Ecclesiastes 7:1–2 (NASB): "A good name is better than a good ointment, And the day of one's death is better than the day of one's birth. It is better to go to a house of mourning Than to go to a house of feasting, Because that is the end of every man, And the living takes it to heart." In those somber moments of reflection on God's word, we were reminded of our own fragility: we will all die, and it could be sooner than we expect. Yet, in that sweet, gracefilled meditation, we were also encouraged to live purposefully and with integrity, considering ultimate reality. We are not to live our best life now, as proclaimed by the prosperity gospel, but we live soberly and prudently to maximize our brief time on earth (Psalm 90:12; Ephesians 5:16). For Christians, our best life is yet to come (Psalm 16:11).

Read the rest online!

Page 2

### Sermon Notes

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