



What Motivates You? *from the desk of Pastor John*

What motivates a person has long been the focus of certain psychologist and sociologists. Several theories of motivation have emerged over the years. There are five main theories. 1) *The Instinct Theory of Motivation*. It is no surprise that man's bent toward evolution resulted in this theory. In this theory man merely does what he does out of evolutionary instinct, like a migrating goose.

The man goes to work because he has an instinctive desire to work. 2) *The Incentive Theory of Motivation*. A

person does what he does because he believes that there is some intrinsic or extrinsic reward. The man goes to work because there will be a reward for going. 3) *The Drive Theory of Motivation*. Man has an internal drive for something, be it food, companionship,

achievement, etc. The man goes to work because he has an internal drive to accomplish something.

4) *The Arousal Theory of Motivation*. People do things to either increase or decrease their level of arousal.

The man goes to work in order to increase his need for stimulation or to decrease the pain of being unemployed. 5) *The Humanistic Theory of Motivation*. People are motivated by certain levels of needs. The man goes to work because he needs to

eat, or needs a place to live, or needs to be thought of as important.

Each of these theories was developed after researchers observed and questioned thousands of individuals, and while we may see the logic in some of these theories, we recognize that there is a major flaw in them—none of them considers the soul of a man. None of the the-



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ories considers that unregenerate man is depraved and is motivated by the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, or the boastful pride of life. Nor do the theories acknowledge that regenerate man has the indwelling Holy Spirit of God motivating him to pursue righteousness and Christlikeness, even at the expense of his own self-interest. The motivations of the Christian are divine in origin and require that we act by faith and in obedience to God's Word, to please our God and store up rewards in heaven. To put it simply, Christians

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are to be motivated by their love for God and for others.

When asked what the greatest commandment was, Jesus said, **“YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.’ This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’ On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets” (Matthew 22:37-40).**

That love for God and that love for others is to determine the way we live our lives. Here are three characteristics of the love we are to have for God and others.

It is a servant-like love. Loving God and loving others require a servant’s heart. At their last Passover meal together, Jesus washed the disciples’ feet and then He said to them, **“Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you.” (John 13:12-15).** Jesus modeled servant humility and told us to have that attitude toward each other. We can all identify certain people we do not mind serving, but it is important to remember that Jesus washed all of the disciples’ feet, including Judas Iscariot, who had not yet left the room. Jesus knew that Judas would leave the upper room with clean feet and a full stomach when he went to complete his betrayal.

In **John 13:34-35** Jesus added, **“A new command-**

ment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” Two important things stand out. First, we are to love one another the way Jesus loves us! How much does Jesus love you? How many times has Jesus forgiven you? What has Jesus done for you? You get the idea of what it means to love others the way Jesus loves us. Second, loving others is one of the greatest evangelistic tools we have available to us. You can learn evangelistic methodology and apologetics, but if you do not love your brothers and sisters in Christ, you are missing a major gospel

ally.

It is a self-sacrificing love. Jesus would go on to say in **John 15:12-14**, **“This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. You are My friends if you do what I command you.”**

While Jesus is not telling us that we must physically die to show love for someone else, He is saying that we need to die to self and selfish motives. It requires us to consider others to be more important than ourselves—not just some others, but *all* others. Paul said in **Philippians 2:3-4**, **“Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.”**

It is a sincere love. It is genuine. It is not phony. It is not pretend. It is not a love that exists only while the cameras are rolling then ceases as soon as the director yells “cut!” **Romans 12:9-10** says, **“Let**



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love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor.” Paul was saying that our love for God and others is to be the real thing. We are not to be those who hide behind masks, who portray one emotion to the audience while hiding our true disdain. Rather, we are to work on the relationships that are strained. We must make it our goal to love all our brothers and sisters in Christ. Peter said in **1 Peter 1:22, “Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your**

souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,” Notice that sincere love for others requires a purified soul. If there are brothers and sisters in Christ that you are NOT loving, you need to purify your soul through the confessing of your sin so that you can genuinely love them.

Love for God and love for others is to be the driving motivation of our lives and for our service. Will you ask God to help you practice servant-like, self-sacrificing, sincere love for one another, so that God will be glorified and the world will know that we are His disciples?

Easter at Eastridge

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
April 2, 2021 @ 6:30pm
In person and via livestream

Commemorating the day Jesus willingly suffered and died on the cross as the ultimate sacrifice for our sins!

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES
April 4, 2021 @ 8:30 & 10:30am
In person and via livestream

A glorious celebration of the day Jesus was raised from the dead, His victory over death and the promise of eternal life for all who believe in Him!

Children's Church and nursery will be offered during both services. No Sunday school for any age.





Thank you so much to all the Eastridge attenders and members who completed the recent survey on the Eastridge Communicator newsletter and other forms of communication at EBC. We had over 125 people complete the survey! Thank you, also, to Mike Osterman for compiling the results so the staff had a clear picture of the responses.

For the remainder of 2021, we will continue with our quarterly newsletters. After this edition, we will publish an August and a November newsletter. In between publications, we will use Realm to send out information such as birthdays and anniversaries and event details in a timely manner.

Then, based on your feedback in the survey, we'll make some changes to the newsletter starting in 2022:

- Return to monthly publications
- Pared down number of pastors' articles each month
- Inclusion of articles such as:
 - News from the missionaries we support (those who are not classified)
 - "Getting to know our members" articles
 - Post-event articles on church ministry events
 - Testimonials from small group Bible study members on how their study has impacted them
 - Service opportunities

If you have any questions about the Eastridge Communicator, contact the church office at 253-630-2327 or email kim@eastridgebaptist.org.

CHURCH WORK DAYS

Saturday, April 24
and
Saturday, May 15
9:00am to 2:00pm
Eastridge Baptist Church

Come when you can and stay as long as you like.

Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

If possible, please bring a trowel and kneeling pad

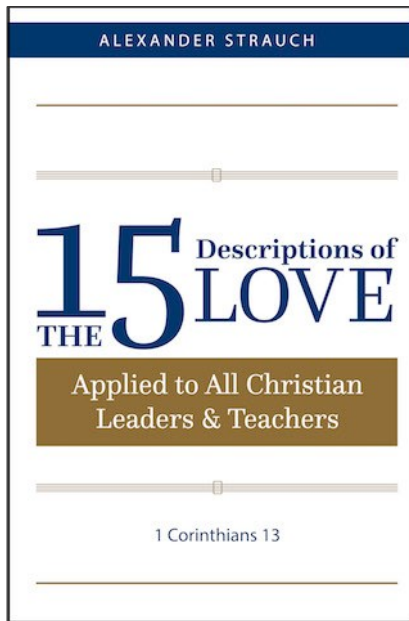
Watch for sign-ups in the foyer and in Realm

For more information, contact Cheryl Boston at 253-653-3541 or crboston12@gmail.com

Book Review: The 15 Descriptions of Love from the desk of Pastor Paul

The aim of the Christian life is to glorify God (1 Cor. 10:31). One of the most significant characteristics of a life that honors the Lord is love (1 Cor. 13; Gal. 5:22; 1 John 4:7). The Apostle Paul helpfully challenges us with a description of Christlike love in 1 Corinthians 13. If we are honest with ourselves, we must admit that we have room for growth when it comes to displaying love towards one another. Beyond that, imagine how much more responsibility the Christian leader and teacher carries to model love for others. To be able to say like Paul, “be imitators of me, as I am of Christ” (1 Cor. 11:1), requires one to live in a way worthy to be followed.

In his short book, *The 15 Descriptions of Love: Applied to All Christian Leaders & Teachers*, Alexander



Strauch walks through 1 Corinthians 13 to show how love impacts a leader’s ministry. He states, “the New Testament is perfectly clear that love is indispensable to the gifts of leading and teaching” (Strauch, 7). This book narrows in on the descriptors of love that

the Apostle Paul gives and then applies them to the life of a person in some form of influence or leadership. It is a serious point that those who set the spiritual pace in the church and discipleship must be modeling what biblical love looks like. Strauch writes, “leaders and teachers set the spiritual tone for the church” (Strauch, 7). The character of the Christian will overflow onto others. It is of the utmost importance that we “pattern our love and leadership” after our Lord (Strauch, 21).

If you are in any form of ministry leadership or teaching role, whether formal or informal, or if you are looking to know how to minister better to others, this book is a challenging help to stir you on to grow in love that permeates all your labor.

Service Opportunities

Manage the Church Library

Eastridge is in need of a church librarian. The librarian is responsible for sharing their love of books with others, promoting the library, maintaining the library catalogs and book shelves in an orderly manner, and other duties as needed. *Training will be provided!*

If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Pastor Ryan at ryant@eastridgebaptist.org.

Set Out the Communion Elements

We are looking for a couple of people to prepare

the communion elements on the last Sunday of each month for our communion services. This involves filling the communion cups with juice and wafers and setting out the collection baggies in the auditorium. Typically this work takes two people about 45 minutes and can be done on Saturday or early Sunday morning. Then, on Sunday, you’ll need to collect the filled baggies after first service and replace them with empty ones before second service starts. *Training will be provided!*



If you are interested in serving in the important ministry, please contact the church office at 253-630-2327 or email kim@eastridgebaptist.org.

Bridging the Generations Through Fellowship & Service



Eastridge is excited to introduce its new **55Plus Fellowship Ministry!** This ministry replaced our Primetimers ministry starting March 1, 2021. It is led by Mark Yarnold, with Pastor Ryan as the elder overseeing the ministry. As the name suggests, this ministry is generally aimed at those 55 years of age and up.

So, is this new ministry simply the Primetimers with a new name? The answer is yes and no: yes in the sense that 55Plus is still primarily focused on being a ministry for those of a certain demographic (46% of the congregation of Eastridge is aged 55 and over). However, 55Plus is not the same ministry as Primetimers because we want to increase our efforts to intentionally strengthen the connections within this group and take advantage of the unique opportunities for ministry and service. Quite often this group of people have the time, wisdom, and resources to minister to a broad range of generations in the church. The key, then, to a thriving 55Plus ministry, is to involve group members not only in fellowship

with each other, but in actively serving the congregation.

So, the focus of the 55Plus group will be two-fold: **fellowship** with each other and **service to the congregation**. The fellowship will happen through quarterly events which will include devotions, fun activities, and yes—food! Group members will also be encouraged to look for opportunities to serve others in the congregation, whether it be through mentoring young people, working with children, visiting and helping shut-ins, helping with church projects, or more.

The first quarterly fellowship event is scheduled for Saturday, March 27 at 4:00—7:00pm. This will be a dinner and game night. The group's second fellowship event will take place in August.

If you have specific questions about the 55Plus Fellowship ministry, please contact Mark Yarnold at mark.g.yarnold@gmail.com.

We look forward to ramping up this adult ministry at Eastridge and hope all those 55 and over will join us as we fellowship and serve together.



Know What and Why

From the desk of Pastor Samuel

I just recently finished reading a book about a missionary who spent his life smuggling Bibles behind the Iron Curtain when communism controlled much of eastern Europe (*God's Smuggler* by Brother Andrew). In some countries, direct military force kept Bibles from being distributed or produced. In others, a more indirect approach was taken, where the authorities worked to equate love of God with love of the state. In this way, many young people grew up hearing more about the state and communism than about the Bible within their own churches. This caused the church's influence for Christ to dwindle along with young people's interest in the Bible, and many faithful Christians struggled on without assurance that the church would carry on after them.

I fear that we are encountering a similar indirect attack on Christianity today. So many things are vying for our attention every single day, and each one of them is actively working to exert its worldview upon us. The most obvious offenders are industries like the news and social media, but it doesn't stop there. Retail stores try to get you to buy certain products by organizing their store in a particular way. TV shows work to instill their ideology into you as you watch. Even music is an influential tool to a lot of people!

What you surround yourself with has a direct correlation to how you think and act. And the scariest part about this is that we are regularly blind to that influence. We know *what* we believe, but we're far less clear on *why* we believe it. Our strong convictions may be built on a man-made foundation. We might claim to be wise without realizing our folly, trusting in doctrines that may sound Christian but aren't (see Romans 1:21ff). The ideas and corporations that try to shape your worldview do so by crowding out the Bible from your thoughts.

So what's the cure for this understated attack on our minds? Simple: study the Bible. Become so familiar with its contents that it flows off of your tongue every time you speak. Because the Bible is the Word of God, deep study of its pages will form your mind towards God's perfect worldview. You will understand *what* God has called you to do as His child, and you will clearly see *why* it is important.

There are a great many books and other resources available that can help you become familiar with the Bible (one strong recommendation would be *A Gospel Primer for Christians* by Milton Vincent), but none of those books can compare with actually sitting down and becoming better acquainted with the Bible itself. As Charles Spurgeon put it so well, "Visit many good books, but live in the Bible." Read and reread Scripture as much as you are able so that you may know what you believe and why you believe it.



Family News

Drew and Alysha Majer welcomed their second child, Paul Andrew Majer, on February 2 at 2:13am. Paul was born eight weeks early and weighed 3 lb. 9 oz. Both Paul and mom, Alysha, have faced some serious health issues since Paul's birth, but the Lord has graciously sustained them through the roller coaster of life and death situations. Paul and Alysha are on the road to recovery and are now together as a family. Baby Paul is a brother to 2-year-old Lyndee and a grandchild to Eastridge attendee Linda Majer.



Congratulations to the families on the birth of this little miracle! Thank you for all your prayers on behalf of this dear family.



Wesley Scott Blakey was born on February 20 at 4:41am to Pastor Samuel and Shannon Blakey. He was 9 pounds exactly and 22.5 inches long. This is the Blakey's second child and Samuel and Shannon are so grateful that the Lord provided a safe delivery and for the rich blessing of their son.

Wesley is a baby brother to Jane, age 2, who is very enthusiastic about helping Mom and Dad take care of Wesley!

Congratulations to Jason and Janelle McArdel on the birth of their third child, Evelyn Claire McArdel! Evelyn was born on Thursday, March 4 at 10:18pm. She was 7 lb. 9 oz. and 20 in. long. Janelle says that Evelyn's brothers (Henry age 4 and Benjamin age 2) are very excited to have a little sister and she and Jason are excited to welcome their little girl to the family!



Janelle reports that Jason has gone back to work so she's solo parenting their 3 little ones during the day. Evelyn recently slept through the night for the first time, so that's a huge blessing for Janelle!

Congratulations, also, to grandparents Mike and Karen McArdel and Jeff and Gina Robinson.

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

Cindy Rutherford 4/1
Abby Williams 4/1
Wendy Martinez 4/2
Shannon Blakey 4/2
Christian Lopez 4/3
Sam Reeves 4/3
Josiah Swenson 4/3
Laurie Tolonen 4/4
Abby Hansen 4/4
Ryan Weller 4/4
Daná Freeland 4/5
Jordan Olson 4/8

Caleb McArdel 4/9
Graham Schrock 4/9
Caleb Cummings 4/9
Sandy Crawford 4/10
Angelina Elliott 4/10
Eden Hammett 4/10
Mark Zaveruha 4/13
David Dudley 4/15
Brandon Elliott 4/16
Dean Peyton 4/16
Kendrick Elliott 4/17
Bill Thomas 4/18

Jacob Reeves 4/18
Karin Kerr 4/18
Brad Meeuwse 4/20
Sarah Kearney 4/20
Tim Tolonen 4/21
Bob Yates 4/22
Bret Turnbull 4/25
Luke Sundvall 4/27
Cheryl Benjamin 4/29
Ezykiel Latta 4/29
Joe Pratt 4/30

Anniversaries

Max and Shanna Carlton
4/13
Tyler and Susan Anderson
4/14
Mike and Karen McArdel
4/21
Chris and Emily Reed 4/27

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:00–11:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7:00pm College/ Career Bible Study	2 8:00am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Good Friday Service (Auditorium; livestream)	3
4 Easter Sunday services 8:30am 10:30am (Auditorium; livestream) No Sunday School for any age	5 2:00–3:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30–8:00pm Ladies' Bible Study	6 5:00pm–8:30pm Taekwondo 6:30pm Intro to Biblical Counseling Class 7:00pm Young Marrieds' Bible Study 7:00pm Ladies' Bible Study	7 6:30pm Youth Group 6:30–7:30pm Adult Bible Study	8 10:00–11:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7:00pm College/ Career Bible Study	9 8:00am Men's Bible Study	10
11 6:30pm Monthly Prayer Meeting	12 2:00–3:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30–8:00pm Ladies' Bible Study	13 10:30am Missions Prayer Meeting 5:00pm–8:30pm Taekwondo 6:30pm Intro to Biblical Counseling Class 7:00pm Ladies' Bible Study	14 6:30–8:00pm Adventure Club 6:30pm Youth Group 6:30–7:30pm Adult Bible Study	15 10:00–11:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7:00pm College/ Career Bible Study	16 8:00am Men's Bible Study	17 5:00–8:00pm Marriage Matters
18	19 2:00–3:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30–8:00pm Ladies' Bible Study	20 5:00pm–8:30pm Taekwondo 6:30pm Intro to Biblical Counseling Class 7:00pm Young Marrieds' Bible Study 7:00pm Ladies' Bible Study	21 6:30–8:00pm Adventure Club 6:30pm Youth Group 6:30–7:30pm Adult Bible Study	22 10:00–11:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7:00pm College/ Career Bible Study	23 8:00am Men's Bible Study	24 9:00am— 2:00pm Church Work Day
25 Communion	26 2:00–3:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30–8:00pm Ladies' Bible	27 5:00pm–8:30pm Taekwondo 6:30pm Intro to Biblical Counseling Class 7:00pm Ladies' Bible Study	28 6:30–8:00pm Adventure Club 6:30pm Youth Group 6:30–7:30pm	29 10:00–11:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7:00pm College/ Career Bible Study	30 8:00am Men's Bible Study	

May 2021

Sunday, May 2	Monthly Prayer Meeting	6:00pm (Auditorium)
Tuesday, May 11	Missions Prayer Ministry	10:30am @ Alaire Irish's
Saturday, May 15	Church Work Day	9:00am—2:00pm

June 2021

Sunday, June 6	Monthly Prayer Meeting	6:00pm (Auditorium)
Tuesday, June 8	Missions Prayer Ministry	10:30am @ Alaire Irish's

July 2021

Monday, July 5 - Friday, July 9	Youth Summer Camp	Cascades Camp
Sunday, July 11	Monthly Prayer Meeting	6:00pm (Auditorium)
Tuesday, July 13	Missions Prayer Ministry	10:30am @ Alaire Irish's



“Be Kind to People” from the desk of Pastor Ryan

Conviction of sin is hard enough, but I find that it hurts more when something in the world reveals a lack in my Christian walk. Recently I went to coffee with a friend and as I was ordering my drink I noticed that the server was wearing a shirt that read, “Be Kind to People.” Now my first thought was, “Good for her, she is reminding people about the importance of being kind. We could all practice a little more kindness these days.” But my next thought was, “Her shirt is telling me to be kind. How kind have I been lately?” Then boom! In comes the conviction as I began to think of all the ways I lacked kindness, just on that day. The server may not have realized it, but the phrase on her shirt is borrowed from the Bible. Ephesians 4:32 says, “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”

“Be kind to one another.” Five simple words to say, but five very difficult words to practice. In order for us to get a full grasp of what is being called for here, we need to back up a bit in the context of Ephesians 4. In verses 22–24, Paul succinctly explains how Christians become more godly through the process of putting off sin and putting on righteousness. He then gives a series of real life examples of what that looks like. Liars are to stop lying and tell the truth (v. 25), thieves are to stop stealing and start using their hands to give (v. 28), and those who once used their words to tear down are now to use their words to give grace and build up (v. 29). And before Paul gives the command to “be kind,” he says, “Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice” (v. 31). Christians are to stop being bitter, angry, full of wrath and malice, but instead be kind, tenderhearted, and forgiving. In other words, stop being self-focused and hurtful, and start being others-focused and helpful.



What does it mean to be kind? Kindness could also be understood as being good, gracious, helpful, merciful, gentle, or profitable. It means to do good, providing some sort of benefit to another. It is acting in such a way to create a positive situation for that person. A wrong way to think about kindness is to assume that we are being kind as long as we are not doing anything harmful; that as long as we are neutral, then we are kind. What Ephesians 4:32 tells us is that kindness is not just an absence of harm, but a proactive effort to do something good and useful.

Why are we to be kind? Well the first reason is because we are commanded to do so. Ephesians 4:32 is not a suggestion; Paul is not saying that it might

be a good idea to be kind. No, he is giving an imperative, telling the followers of Christ what they must do. A second reason is because of the kindness that we have received from the Lord. Romans 2:4 tells us that it is God’s kindness that leads to repentance.

The fact that God saved us from our sin is evidence of His kindness to us, and He has given us His kindness so that we can share His kindness with others. So in practicing kindness we are reflecting our heavenly Father to others.


What does kindness look like? There are a million and one ways to show kindness, whether it is through an encouraging word to a coworker, a birthday card to a friend, a gift to your spouse, helping someone with their homework, responding to an angry person with a gentle answer (Prov 15:1), simply smiling more, or any number of actions that bring good into someone’s life. Showing kindness comes from answering this question, “How can I do good/be a benefit to that person?” Ephesians 4:32 lets us know that kindness is to be a hallmark of the believer’s life, so take the hint from my server’s shirt and “Be Kind to People.”

Eastridge Baptist Church
PO Box 6014
Kent, Washington 98064

Return Service Requested

Senior Pastor: John LeProhon
Associate Pastor: Ryan Trzeciak
Associate Pastor: Samuel Blakey
Associate Pastor: Paul Cummings
Address: 12520 SE 240th St., Kent, WA 98031
Phone: (253) 630-2327
www.eastridgebaptist.org

Sunday Service Times:
8:30am and 11:15am
10:00am Sunday School for all ages

A scenic landscape photograph of a mountain range under a clear blue sky with scattered white clouds. The foreground shows a dense forest of evergreen trees. The mountains in the background are partially covered in snow.

**For I consider that the sufferings
of this present time are not worthy to be compared
with the glory that is to be revealed.**

Romans 8:18

SusanRehberg