

"Greeting Team"

For Sunday, May 18th

Remember: Meet in the coat room @ **10:30 am** for brief prayer & then go "welcome" people! **NOTE:** Keep an eye on the auditorium for those who slipped past!

Greeters this week:

Randy Ehlers Monday Night

- 1st— D Mastbergen Thursday Night;
- 2nd— Justin Taylor Sunday Night;
- 3rd—Randy Ehlers Monday Night;
- 4th—Curt Mastbergen Sunday Noon; Tackett Sunday Night

Small Groups @ MBC

Are committed to multiplying—while numeric growth alone does not make an effective Small Group, failure to grow numerically can be a sign of an unhealthy group in the body

Announcements

1. MBC "Book of the Month":
Blame It On The Brain by Edward Welch
(purchase @ MBC bookstore)
2. Looking For A New Podcast?
Check out "Gospelbound" with Collin Hansen (The Gospel Coalition)

The Mysteries Of God

In my lifetime, I've had several conversations with individuals who set themselves up as "judges" of God. *"If God is all-powerful and knows everything,"* they ask, *"then why doesn't He do something about all the bad things in the world?"* Job's story could be placed next to that question—he serves as the epitome of unanswerable questions like that! How does God determine His will? Why does He seem to step into certain situations but not others? Why does He permit wicked people, like ISIS, to continue ripping open pregnant women, beheading little children, and killing people just for loving Jesus? The Book of Job is an appropriate book for addressing the mysteries of God: *"Can you fathom the mysteries of God? Can you probe the limits of the Almighty? They are higher than the heavens—what can you do? They are deeper than the depths of the grave—what can you know? Their measure is longer than the earth and wider than the sea"* (Job 11:7-9). Scripture tells us that God's paths are beyond our ability to trace! So, what is an appropriate response on our part to His wisdom and knowledge? To His unsearchable and untraceable ways? The answer: humility! That is the only appropriate response—to humble ourselves before Him and admit we haven't got a clue! He alone knows it all, and He is under no obligation to share more answers with us than what He has revealed in His Word. We need to give God glory for His counsel: *"For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been His counselor? Or who has ever first given to Him and has to be repaid?"* (Romans 11:34-35). Who has ever known the mind of God? Who can truly understand what He's thinking? So, who could possibly offer God any useful counsel? Yet still, we try telling God what He should do with His universe, don't we? If you were God, would you do things differently? If your answer is "Yes," then that's exactly why the rest of us are glad you're not God! And you ought to be just as glad that I'm not God, either! Now, ponder this thought—because God knows everything that is knowable, that means He has already considered your ideas and dismissed them as an unacceptable response to the situation. Right?



The End From The Beginning

Because you and I don't know the end from the beginning like He does, we really can't offer Him any thoughts that He hasn't already considered! *"The secret things belong to the Lord our God..."* (Deuteronomy 29:29) and *"As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts,"* says the Lord (Isaiah 55:9). So, let us give God the glory He is due for His wisdom, knowledge, and counsel! And by faith, trust Him with all the things you don't have answers for. I love how Tony Evans says it: *"Everything is either caused by God or allowed by God, and there is no third category."* Paul concludes, *"To Him be the glory forever."* (Romans 11:36) Let's glory in God, His Son, and the cross!