



EMMAUS BAPTIST CHURCH

## SERMON NOTES

**Kingdom Connection: The Book of Matthew**  
**Matthew 26:31-46 // Contending Prayer**

\*\*\*Is church more like a cruise ship or battleship?  
(I heard this question from Watermark Church in Dallas)

### Defining Contending Prayer

- Contend = battle, engage, endure
- Opposite is Consumerism = focus on the externals and what I can gain
- Contending happens on the inside, in the hidden and hard places with God
- Requires sacrifice, commitment, patience, abiding ("Contending Prayer" phrase comes from Mark Sayers)

### Causes of Contending Prayer

- A. Crisis/Suffering
- B. Holy Discontent with yourself or the world around you
- C. Sudden, unexpected awakening to God's power & love

### Keys to Contending Prayer

1. Humble Trust in God's Word
  - a. Especially the pattern of suffering then restoration
  - b. Contrasted with Peter's pride in 33-35
2. Getting Away...both regularly and in urgency
3. Praying with Others
4. Emotional Honesty (Holy Anguish/Passion)
5. Foundational Theology
  - a. God as Father
  - b. Pray against Temptation
  - c. Trust and Submit to God's Will
6. Spiritual Alertness
7. Endurance, even when others falter or betray you
8. Courageous and Obedient Faith

### A Call to Contending Prayer

- \*40 Days of Prayer (coming via email; printed guide in lobby)  
Leading to Holy Week Walk-Thru Event (Apr 8-9)  
Easter is on April 12th = Pray, Invite, Share
- \*May 3rd Night of Prayer - 5pm in Worship Center
- \*Small prayer groups and one-on-one prayer
- \*Emmaus Prayer Room ([email info@emmausokc.org](mailto:info@emmausokc.org))
- \*Personal Renewal

03.01.20

## SERVICE ORDER

*Beautiful One*

**WELCOME**

*Glorious Day*

*At The Cross*

*In Christ Alone*

**MESSAGE**

*Dr. Owen Nease*

*I Surrender All*

**OFFERING**

02.23.20

**ATTENDANCE**  
**629**

**OFFERING**  
**\$34,363**

## TODAY

**SUN 5PM** *Financial Peace Class*  
*Sunday Night Flex*

## THIS WEEK

**TUE 10AM** *Nest*

**WED 5:15PM** *Fellowship Meal*  
**6:30PM** *Wed Night Worship*

**THU 6:30PM** *Women's Bible Study*

**FRI** *Compass Open Enrollment*

**SAT 8AM** *Generation Why?*

**SUN Daylight Savings Begins**  
**9:15AM** *New Member Info Mtg*  
*Combined Sunday School*  
**5PM** *Dr. Bobby Kelly Bible Study*



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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1.What would be some different characteristics of a “cruise ship” church and a “battleship” church?
- 2.What does your prayer life currently look like?
- 3.What does “contending prayer” look like?
- 4.How can you grow in contending prayer?
- 5.In what ways can we participate in prayer as a community?

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