

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Oct. 25, 2025 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:38

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Daniel Hammons

Presentation study—2:00 Daniel Hammons
(also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

Sermon Mark Weiss

Quick takes

1. Pastor's travel—Today, Dave Havir is giving two presentations in Rocky Mount, Va. Bea Gusner, who recently moved to North Carolina, is hoping to travel 80 miles to visit the congregation. (Tomorrow, Mr. Havir and his brother John are attending a NASCAR race at the short track in Martinsville, Va.)
2. Bulletin completed early—Because of Mr. Havir's church visit, this bulletin was completed on Thursday morning.
3. Dominoes tomorrow? Interested participants should contact Sue Jones.
4. Wednesday-night Bible study—Oct. 29 at 7:00.
5. Daylight-saving time ends in the early morning of Nov. 2, 2025.
6. Memorial service for Shirley West—The memorial service for Shirley West is scheduled on Sunday, Nov. 2, 2025, with grandson Aaron West scheduled to officiate.
 - When—Sunday, Nov. 2
 - Time—1:00 p.m.
 - Where—our building
 - Our congregation has offered to provide food.

Jerry Chalmers of Huntsville, Texas, died on Oct. 22. Please remember his wife, **JayDee**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Marquetta McMillan of Broken Arrow, Okla. (mother of **Brenda Marks**), died on Oct. 22. Please remember her family in your prayers.

Scriptures about faith and hope

Hebrews 11:1—"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Acts 24:14-15—"But this I confess to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect, so I worship the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the Law and in the Prophets. I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust."

Philippians 1:19-20—"For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death."

"Obey to Be Blessed Now—Part 1"

This article is from the "Among Friends" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website (churchofgodbigandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of Oct. 25, 2025.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I began a series. The presentation was related to the presentation that I gave on Saturday, Oct. 18 (which was titled "Reminder—Why Do You Obey God?"). In that presentation, I presented three reasons why we obey God.

Those three reasons were the following.

- To be blessed now
- To be blessed at the resurrection
- To glorify and to honor the Father and the Son

My plan is to give two presentations for each of those three concepts. (That will be a six-part series with two presentations in October and four presentations in November.)

The title of last Wednesday's presentation was "Obey to Be Blessed Now—Part 1."

An important reminder is that obeying God is wise, and disobeying God is stupid. The scriptures selected for the presentation

and for this article were chosen from the Pentateuch.

The creation

■ Genesis 1:31—God saw everything that He had made, and it was very good.

■ Genesis 2:1-13—God rested on the seventh day, blessed the seventh day and sanctified it.

■ Genesis 2:7—The Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground.

■ Genesis 2:16-17—The Lord God told the man that he could eat of every tree in the garden, except from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil—warning him about death if he ate from that tree.

■ Genesis 2:21-24—The Lord God made Eve.

The deception

■ Genesis 3:1-3—The serpent asked questions of Eve to manipulate her.

■ Genesis 3:4-6—The serpent misled Eve,

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The deception

■ Genesis 3:1-3—The serpent asked questions of Eve to manipulate her.

■ Genesis 3:4-6—The serpent misled Eve,

and she (and her husband) disobeyed.

■ Genesis 3:7—Now, they knew they were naked.

■ Genesis 3:8-12—They hid from the Lord God.

■ Genesis 3:13—She realized that the serpent deceived her.

■ Genesis 3:14-15—The serpent heard about consequences.

■ Genesis 3:16—The woman heard about consequences.

■ Genesis 3:17-19—The man heard about consequences.

■ Genesis 3:22-23—The Lord God decided to send them out of the garden before they ate of the tree of life.

■ Genesis 3:24—When the Lord God drove them out, He placed a cherub and a flaming sword to guard the tree of life.

Cain's sin

■ Genesis 4:4-5—The Lord respected Abel and his offering, but the Lord did not respect Cain and his offering. (Cain became angry.)

■ Genesis 4:6-7—The Lord asked Cain why he was angry, reminding him: “If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door.”

■ Genesis 4:8-15—When Cain killed Abel, Cain became a fugitive and a vagabond.

The giants

■ Genesis 6:1-4—Sons of God and the daughters of men bore children, and they were called giants (*nephilim*).

There are various speculative theories about what Genesis 6:1-4 means. Please be careful to avoid believing highly speculative theories. Please be even more careful to avoid promoting highly speculative theories.

Why the flood?

■ Genesis 6:5—The Lord saw the excessive wickedness and the evil hearts.

■ Genesis 6:6—“The LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.”

■ Genesis 6:7—The Lord said that He would destroy man, beasts, creeping things and birds.

■ Genesis 8:21—The Lord saw that “the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth.”

The Exodus

■ Exodus 12:7—The Lord gave Moses crucial instructions about the blood on the doorposts.

■ Exodus 12:13—The Lord stressed to Moses that the Israelites follow the instructions.

■ Exodus 12:22-23—Moses stressed to the elders that they follow the instructions.

■ Exodus 20:1-2—After the children of Israel were delivered by following instructions, the Lord gave them 10 specific instructions.

Choose life

■ Deuteronomy 5:28-29—Moses quoted the Lord saying: “Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear [respect] Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!”

■ Deuteronomy 6:24—Moses said: “The LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear [respect] the LORD our God, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive.”

■ Deuteronomy 8:1—Moses quoted the Lord saying: “Every commandment which I command you today, you must be careful to observe—that you may live and multiply and go in and possess the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers.”

■ Deuteronomy 8:2-5—The circumstances of spending 40 years in the wilderness were to help them to learn the following: “As a man chastens his son, so the LORD Your God chastens you.”

■ Deuteronomy 30:15-16—Moses quoted the Lord saying: “I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways and to keep His commandments, His statutes and His judgments, that you may live and multiply—and the LORD your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess.”

■ Deuteronomy 30:19—Moses quoted the Lord saying: “I call heaven and earth (as witnesses today against you) that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing. Therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live.”