

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Aug. 15, 2026 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:07

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Mark Weiss

Presentation study—2:00 Dave Havir
(also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading 1 Peter 2:4–10

Sermon Royce Mitchell

Quick takes

1. Welcome to guest speaker—We welcome Royce Mitchell from the Houston area. (Dave Havir checked his bookkeeping and was shocked to see that it had been so many years since Mr. Mitchell spoke here. Mr. Havir reported that Mr. Mitchell spoke here in 2002 and 2007.)
2. Dominoes—Interested participants should contact Sue Jones.
3. Wednesday-night Bible study—Aug. 19 at 7:00.
 - Last week was “1 Peter 2:4-5—Part 1”
“Christ was chosen by God to be a Living Stone”
 - This week is “1 Peter 2:4-5—Part 2”
“You are to be a Living Stone”
4. Feast of Trumpets—The congregation is scheduled to observe the Feast of Trumpets on Sept. 12.
5. Edifying the Body—“Smaller We Are = More Room for God” by Max Lucado.
6. Among Friends—“1 Peter 2:4-5—Part 1” by Dave Havir
7. Eye on the World—Compiled by Dave Havir.

Prayer updates

For several weeks, **Stan** and **Roxanna West** have given a report about **Brandi**. Here was the report given on Friday: “Brandi appears to be responding well to the chemo as her pain has ceased. She had her third round of chemo on Wednesday and has been able to work feeling energetic. The plan is for three more infusions of chemo, then back to M.D. Anderson for a colonoscopy and scan to see if tumors have reduced. If so, the doctors plan to do the HIPEC protocol by removing all visible cancer—then pouring hot chemo into her body cavity to kill off any microscopic cells that may have been missed. This is our prayer, that she continues to respond well and is able to qualify for the surgery—even though it is an aggressive surgery. God has blessed us with open doors and a clear path. Thank you all for the prayers and encouragement.”

In the July 18 bulletin, we mentioned that **Stan West** was diagnosed with prostate cancer. Here is an update that **Roxanna** gave on Friday: “Concerning Stan, we are waiting on more-specific tests to determine his treatment. Thank you for all the prayers and encouragement.”

In last week’s bulletin, we mentioned that **Mike Bailey** had a health episode on Aug. 7. He was diagnosed with a stroke, and a doctor sucked out a blood clot from his brain. On Friday, **Rocio** reported that his recovery has been slow.

Gloria Hoppe thanks you for your continued prayers.

In last week’s bulletin, we mentioned that **Lisa Smith** was dealing with a balance problem. On Friday, she reported that she still has some dizziness and is awaiting an MRI next week to help find the cause.

In last week’s bulletin, we mentioned that **Dwayne Gallia** was scheduled for prostatectomy surgery last Monday. On Tuesday, Linda mentioned that he returned home. She reported: “It will be a few weeks before he can go anywhere.”

In last week’s bulletin, **Bernice Burson** reported that **David Fisher** (her brother) went to a doctor because of three symptoms—an equilibrium problem, vomiting and hearing loss. If Mr. Fisher suffered a stroke, it was apparently not a brain bleed and was not affecting his speech. Strokes can affect hearing and equilibrium, which can then trigger nausea. The Fishers appreciate your prayers.

New prayer requests

Here is a report about **James Lynch** of Rocky Mount, Va. “Several weeks ago, Mr. Lynch fell off a wall while mowing and broke seven ribs and his collarbone. He is out of the hospital and in a rehab facility.”

Following is a prayer request for a friend of **Bert** and **Linda Moers** who also lives in Crockett. “**Marshall** (age 62) has been diagnosed with two masses on a kidney. The kidney will need to be removed, and he will require chemo afterwards. Thank you for your prayers on his behalf.”

“Smaller We Are = More Room for God”

The following quote is from the “Edifying the Body” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website (churchofgodbigssandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of Aug. 15, 2026. (It was originally posted at maxlucado.com on Aug. 13.)

By Max Lucado

SAN ANTONIO, Texas—The enemy of the saint is pride. We must fight it like the foe it is.

Take note of your “hat size.” Are you getting a big head?

Notice the following words.

- You are loved, but not indispensable.
- You are God’s child, but not God’s golden child.
- You have a place in God’s plan, but you are not essential to God’s plan.
- The smaller we are, the more room there is for God.

“1 Peter 2:4–5—Part 1”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website (churchofgodbigssandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of Aug. 15, 2026.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I began a five-part series about 1 Peter 2:4-5 before the Day of Trumpets. From time to time through the years, I had spoken about 1 Peter 2:4-5 by mainly concentrating upon three concepts mentioned there. (Those three concepts will be covered in this series as Parts 3, 4 and 5. But Parts 1 and 2 include additional information added to this series.)

■ Part 1—“Christ was chosen by God to be a living stone.”

■ Part 2—“You are to be a living stone.”

■ Part 3—“You are being built up as a spiritual house.”

■ Part 4—“You are being built up as a holy priesthood.”

■ Part 5—“You are to offer spiritual sacrifices—acceptable to God.”

Chosen to be a living stone

This article will focus upon part 1—“Christ was chosen by God to be a living stone.”

■ 1 Peter 2:4—“Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious.”

Old Testament prophecies

To talk about Christ being a living stone,

I wanted to look at some Old Testament prophecies about Him. When I looked back at previous presentations that I have given through the years, I saw a seven-part series that I gave at the Wednesday-night Bible studies from March 5, 2008, through April 23, 2008, titled “Prophecies about Christ’s First Coming.”

The material of the presentations in that seven-part series included the following.

1. Prophecies about Christ’s Sovereignty
2. Prophecies about Christ’s Ancestry
3. Prophecies about Christ’s Birth
4. Prophecies about Christ’s Ministry
5. Prophecies about Christ’s Suffering
6. Prophecies about Christ’s Death
7. Prophecies about Christ’s Resurrection

When I decided to refer to those seven concepts in the presentation about Christ being the living stone, I was restricted by time to mention the volume of material to support each concept. But I chose to mention a few scriptures for each point.

Christ’s sovereignty

■ Genesis 3:15—While the serpent did manage to bruise Christ’s heel, Christ definitely bruised the serpent’s head.

■ Psalm 110:1—“Sit at My right hand, until I make Your enemies Your footstool.” (This verse was referenced in Matthew 22:

41-46, Acts 2:34-35 and Hebrews 1:13.)

■ Psalm 110:4—"You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." (This verse was referenced in Hebrews 5:6, Hebrews 5:10, Hebrews 6:20, Hebrews 7:11, Hebrews 7:17 and Hebrews 7:21.)

Christ's ancestry

■ Genesis 49:10—"The scepter shall not depart from Judah."

■ 1 Chronicles 5:1-2—"The ruler came through Judah, but the birthright was given to Joseph."

Christ's birth

■ Isaiah 7:14—"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

■ Micah 5:2—"Though you [Bethlehem] are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel."

Christ's ministry

■ Isaiah 40:3-5—"A messenger would prepare the way of the Lord."

■ Isaiah 9:1-2—"Christ's ministry would begin in Galilee. (Christ referred to Isaiah 9:1-2 in Matthew 4:15-16.)"

Christ's suffering

■ Psalm 22:1—"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (Christ spoke those words on the cross.)

■ Psalm 22:7-8—"All those who see Me ridicule Me." The witnesses said: "He trusted in the Lord. Let Him rescue Him. Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him."

■ Psalm 22:11—"There is none to help." (Matthew 26:56—they all forsook Him.)

■ Psalm 22:15—"My tongue clings to My jaws. (John 19:28—Christ said: "I thirst!")"

■ Psalm 22:18—"They divided My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots." (Read Matthew 27:35.)

■ Isaiah 53:1-10—"These verses described the sorrows, griefs, afflictions, wounds, bruises and chastisement of the Lamb."

Christ's death

■ Exodus 12:1-13—"These verses talked about the Passover lamb—the blood came from a lamb without blemish. (Read 1 Peter 1:19.)"

■ Exodus 12:46—"There was to be no broken bone for the Passover lamb. (Read Numbers 9:12, Psalm 34:20 and John 19:32-36.)"

Christ's resurrection

■ Psalm 2:7—"You are My Son. Today I have begotten You." (Read Acts 13:30, 33.)

■ Psalm 16:8—"Because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved." (Read Acts 2:34-35.)

■ Psalm 16:10—"For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption." (Read Acts 2:27 and Acts 13:35.)

■ Psalm 16:11—"In Your presence is fullness of joy. At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore." (Read Acts 2:28.)

Final scriptures

After giving those scriptures for the seven concepts, I concluded the Bible study with three sections of Scripture.

■ Psalm 118:22-23—"The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the Lord's doing. It is marvelous in our eyes."

■ Isaiah 28:16—"Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation. Whoever believes will not act hastily."

■ Ephesians 2:19-22—"Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God; having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone; in whom the whole building being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit."

Thought for the week

"The man who reads nothing at all is better educated than the man who reads nothing but newspapers."—*Thomas Jefferson*