Church of God Big Sandy
ChurchofGodBigSandy.com
October 24, 2026 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:38

Bible studies

Interactive study–1:00 p.m.	Dave Havir
Presentation study–2:00	Dave Havir (also transmitted live)

Order of service–3:00 p.m.

Song leader	Reg Killingley
Scripture reading	Genesis 1:1-31
Sermon	Anthony Kimmons

Quick takes

1. More variety at 1:00 p.m. presentations – Dave Havir is making an adjustment to our Saturday schedule.
    - Some weeks – We will continue to have some interactive Bible studies
    - Other weeks – We will schedule seminars

2. Upcoming seminars – On two consecutive Saturdays, Barbara Lingle will conduct a two-part seminar about dealing with grief titled "A Journey Through the Valley."
    - October 31 – from 1:00 to 1:45 p.m.
    - November 7 – from 1:00 to 1:45 p.m.

3. Dominos tomorrow – Interested participants should contact Sue Jones.

4. Edifying the Body – "Upward, Not Inward" – by Max Lucado

5. Among Friends – "Book of Job – Part 2" – by Dave Havir

6. Eye on the World – Compiled by Dave Havir

Prayer updates

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Gary Wilson** moved into an assisted-living facility in Tyler ("Brookdale Tyler East" at 3505 University Boulevard – apartment #137) on Friday, October 16. When **Dave Havir** went to drop off something for Mr. Wilson, Mr. Wilson rolled his wheelchair into the front lobby and the two of them spent time visiting there.

On September 30, **Joyce Coleman** was diagnosed with uterine cancer. In the October 10 bulletin, we mentioned that Mrs. Coleman had a scheduled appointed in Longview on October 19. (If this doctor suggests any surgery, such surgery is conducted in the Dallas area.) On Friday, Mrs. Coleman heard from the doctor's office: "All the nurse could tell me about the CT scan was that the doctor uses it to decide how to proceed with surgery. He has me scheduled for a laparoscopic hysterectomy on November 11. Thanks for all the prayers and well wishes. I'm so blessed with my family and wonderful friends."

Here is a report from **Rocio Bailey** about her husband **Mike**: "Mike is still going to therapies [occupational, physical and speech] four days a week. His mobility is improving slowly, but steadily. His speech is still not progressing as fast as we want. But we are certainly thankful for the improvement that has occurred, and we anticipate more improvement to come. Thank you for saying prayers for us."

Following is an update about **Dixon Cartwright**. On Tuesday, a rehab caseworker evaluated that Mr. Cartwright was not a good candidate for rehab. So, plans were made to set up hospice care at their home. On Wednesday, Mr. Cartwright arrived at his home. On Friday, Mr. Cartwright was sleeping. He could not communicate with people.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Mark Searer** went to a rehab facility on Thursday, October 15. On Monday, **Nina** reported: "They had Mark walk with a cane yesterday and he was able to walk 200 feet. Today, he walked over 400 feet. There is still no movement in his right arm or face. But we are thankful for wonderful small victories."

In the October 10 bulletin, we mentioned a prayer request for **Richard Sooter** (who lives with his wife, **Tricia** in Fort Worth). Although the family had kept **Dave Havir** in the loop of his health challenges, Mr. Havir did not have permission to share the information. When Mr. Sooter gave permission, we mentioned some of his challenges. Mr. Sooter had been in and out of the hospital three times since May 19 and on October 7 he sent information about a recent episode with high blood pressure and a leaky heart valve. This past Thursday, Mr. Sooter sent the following health update: "Two days after I sent out a prayer request [on October 7], I was able to quit the extra blood pressure medication that had been prescribed as my blood pressure had gone back to normal. Yesterday, they did an echo cardiogram down my throat and the doctor told my wife Tricia that no further procedure would be necessary. Thank you for your prayers. I thank God for answering them."

Although some people will consider this a new prayer request (since we have not had details in the bulletin), this report about **Sharon Burgin** is being classified as a prayer update because many in the congregation are aware that Mrs. Burgin had some health difficulties during the Feast of Tabernacles. She was having pain in her spine. An x-ray during the Feast showed no major red flags, but it show arthritis and sciatica. The doctor said she had "acute right-side back pain with sciatica." Since that time, she has continued to have pain. The pain has caused her to use a walker and a cane. She has been to a chiropractor and she has been receiving acupuncture twice a week. The pain has reduced her driving to less than 30 minutes a day. Although she is still dealing with pain, she reports that she "is on the mend." Mrs. Burgin hopes to be at the church service today. She thanks you for your prayers.

New prayer requests

Mark Worthen sent a prayer request for his wife **Karen**. (Mr. and Mrs. Worthen attend a different Church of God congregation in East Texas on Saturdays, but they have been coming to our Wednesday-night Bible study – They even sang a song a capella last Wednesday night.) Mr. Worthen (who has deep roots in East Texas) and Mrs. Worthen (who is from Peru) were married in April 2026. Mr. Worthen reported: "On Friday, October 30, my wife will have an interview for an immigration visa. The in-person interview will include Karen, myself and the USCIS agent in Irving, Texas. Please pray for God's guidance, inspiration, and wisdom in preparation for and during the interview. Thank you!"

On Monday, **Martha McIver** a report: "**Neil** had an episode yesterday which he asked his doctor about today. The doctor said it could have been a blood clot. So, Neil is scheduled for a CT on November 6 to get more information and to rule out blockages. Prayers are appreciated."

On Thursday, **Jared Ingram** sent the following prayer request for his grandmother **(Brenda Johnston** who lives in Abilene): "My Granny is on hospice care and is not doing well at all. She is not eating and is barely drinking. It is very difficult for her kids to see her like this. Prayers for peace for her and for her family would be much appreciated."

On Thursday, I received a prayer request from **Scott Hofker** about **Jimmy Whiteside**, who lives in North Carolina. (Mr. Hoefker had introduced me to Mr. Whiteside when he lived in the Fort Worth area. Mr. Whiteside had given a presentation in our congregation on May 31, 2025. And now Mr. Hoefker had given me the prayer request for Mr. Whiteside.) On October 12, Mr. Whiteside (age 49) had a proctocolectomy ("the surgical removal of the entire colon and rectum – the large intestine"). When **Dave Havir** read that procedure, he commented: "I don't know how to process that information." The report on Thursday said that Mr. Whiteside went by ambulance to an ER. On Friday, we heard that the doctors planned for surgery, but they changed their minds because his blood pressure was higher than they wanted.

"Upward, Not Inward"

The following quote is from the "Edifying the Body" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website (churchofgodbigsandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of October 24, 2026. (It was posted at maxlucado.com on Oct. 21.)

By Max Lucado

SAN ANTONIO, Texas–We'd rather be spared the storm. Or if the storm comes, let it be mild and our deliverance be quick. Let the job dismissal come with a severance package and an offer of a better position. Let the marital strife turn quickly to romance.

Sometimes it does. But when it doesn't, when we are thorax-deep in turbulance, Jesus wants us to know His name and hear Him saying: "I am coming."

Such was the experience of the disciples. The moment they invited Christ into their boat was the moment they reached their destination. Follow the example of the disciples. Welcome Jesus into the midst of this turbulent time. Don't let the storm turn you inward. Let it turn you upward. Remember my friend, you are never alone.

"Book of Job – Part 2"

This article is from the "Among Friends" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website, (churchofgodbigsandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of October 24, 2026.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas–At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with a five-part series about the book of Job. The title of that presentation was "Book of Job – Part 2."

Following are the five anticipated parts of the series.

1. God Started the Trial – (chapters 1-3).

2. Job Responded to His 3 Friends – (chapters 4-11).

3. Elihu Confronted Job – (chapters 32-37).

4. God Confronted Job Twice – (chapters 38-41).

5. Comparison between Job 40:2 and Job 42:1-6.

Conversation with 3 friends

Following is the chapter breakdown of the discussion.

- Eliphaz – chapters 4-5
- Job – chapters 6-7
- Bildad – chapter 8
- Job – chapters 9-10
- Zophar – chapter 11
- Job – chapters 12-14
- Eliphaz – chapter 15
- Job – chapters 16-17
- Bildad – chapter 18
- Job – chapter 19
- Zophar – chapter 20
- Job – chapter 21
- Eliphaz – chapter 22
- Job – chapters 23-24
- Bildad – chapter 25
- Job – chapters 26-31

Lord's evaluation

- Job 42:7-8 – After the Lord had spoken to Job, He said to Eliphaz: "My wrath is aroused against you and your two friends – for you have no spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has."

Wrong approach

- What was the wrong approach of the three men?

- They wanted to find the cause of Job's mistake.

- For the record – seeking to find the cause of a problem is a noble approach for parents, friends, pastors, teachers, counselors and therapists.

- 1 Peter 4:15–If we are suffering for our mistakes, shame on us.

- 1 Peter 4:16–If we are suffering as a Christian, that can glorify God.

Exchange with Eliphaz

- Job 4:7–Eliphaz asked: "Who ever perished being innocent? Where were the upright ever cut off?"

- Job 4:8–Eliphaz said: "If you plow iniquity and sow trouble, you shall reap the same." (That sounds like Galatians 6:7.)

- Galatians 6:7–"Whatever a man sows, that is what he will reap."

- Job 5:17–Eliphaz said: "Happy is the man whom God corrects. Do not despise the chastening of the Lord." (That sounds like Hebrews 12:5.)

- Hebrews 12:5–“Do not despise the chastening of the Lord.”

- Job 4:12-16–Eliphaz had visions of the night, and a spirit passed by.

- Job 7:14–Job said: “You scare me with dreams and terrify me with visions.”

Exchange with Bildad

- Job 8:2–Bildad said: “How long will you speak these things? The words of your mouth are like a strong wind.”

- Job 8:3–Bildad asked: “Does God subvert judgment? Does the Almighty pervert justice?”

- Job 8:5–Bildad said: “You would earnestly seek God.”

- Job 9:17–Job said: “God crushes me, He multiplies my wounds without cause.” (God was crushing him, but God had a reason.)

- Job 9:21–Job said: “I am blameless.” (It is true that God started the trial, but Job was not handling it well.)

- Job 9:32-33–Job asked: “Who mediator could judge between God and me?”

Exchange with Zophar

- Job 11:2–Zophar asked: “Should the multitude of words be answered? Should a man full of talk be vindicated?”

- Job 11:7–Zophar asked: “Can you search out the deep things of God?”

- Job 12:2-3--Job said: “You undoubtedly know how to deal with people (and have wisdom), but I am not inferior to you.”

How did Job see himself?

- Job 32:1–So these three men ceased answering Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes.

- Job 33:9-11–Elihu heard Job say: “I am pure, without transgression.”