

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Nov. 28, 2020 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:14

Bible study and classes

Interactive study (1:00) Dave Havar
Bible study (2:00) Dave Havar

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Ron Avey
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Psalm 100:1–5
Sermon Dave Havar

Quick takes

1. Prayers for peaceful protesters—Please pray for the citizens who are maturely and responsibly exercising their right of peaceful protest.
2. Prayers for victims—Please pray for the citizens who are suffering from the criminals, mobs and thugs who are tormenting our country.
3. Reminders for attending—Here are some reminders for people who choose to attend the church service in the building.
 - We do not provide masks or gloves. If these are important to you, please bring your own.
 - We expect attendees to make good use of our spacious hall by spreading out.
4. Jim Johns postponed his Dec. 5 trip—Due to new covid restrictions in Pennsylvania (where Dr. Johns lives), he and his wife will not be visiting the area on Dec. 5. We look forward to his future visit.
5. Upcoming guest speakers—Dave Havar is pleased to announce that several guest speakers are planning to join us over the coming weeks. Following is the revised schedule—Bill Crow, Dec. 19, and Blake Silverstein, Dec. 26.
6. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Discrimination and Prejudice" by Walter Williams.
7. Among Friends—This week's article is "Amos 5:13" by Dave Havar.
8. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 28 pages.

Update about community Thanksgiving service

Last Sunday evening, Dave Havar attended the community Thanksgiving service in Big Sandy. Here is an update from him: “Last Sunday at 5:00 p.m., I went to the community Thanksgiving church service at the Baptist church. There were 25 people attending in the hall—with many others watching online. (Last year without the coronavirus, the attendance in our building was close to 100 people.) Since I wasn’t sure if I would be in town for the event, I had not submitted my name to participate in the program. However, when Pastor Bill Weaver welcomed me at the door, he asked me to participate and I agreed. When it came my turn, I mentioned the two great commandments—and then briefly talked about Onesiphorus (2 Timothy 1:16–18). I encouraged people to thank God and to thank the people who come to us in our time of need. Then I said a prayer.”

Prayer updates

Please remember to pray for the following people who live at home but are not able to regularly attend our church service—**Sonny Rosenberger, Laura Moran, Annette Payne, Ronnie Shirley** and **Timberly Dunnam**.

Please remember to pray for the following people who are rehabbing at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater—**Ron Feaker** and **Elaine Holloway**.

Eli and **Jean Benedict** thank you for your ongoing prayers.

In recent bulletins, we mentioned **Laura Moran** had trouble with new dentures that caused her to have an infection in her mouth. On Monday, she returned to the dentist, but the problem was not corrected. One of the side effects of the faulty dentures and of the infection in her mouth was that Mrs. Moran lost six pounds. As you might remember, many months ago we asked you to pray that she would gain weight. On Monday, she is scheduled to see a dietitian. (Another problem this week was that Mrs. Moran dealt with abdominal pain on Thursday. She felt better on Friday.) She appreciates your prayers.

Grace Kouniadis of Carrollton (sister of **Laura Moran**) is now anticipating moving into Park Place in Tyler.

Please remember **Jerry Jones** of Ojai, Calif., who was diagnosed with lymphoma.

In the Nov. 14 bulletin, we mentioned that **Jeannette Reinoso** of Sachse was scheduled for surgery (a lumpectomy from each breast to remove both masses) on Nov. 25. Following is an excerpt from her husband, **Pedro**: “Everything went well according to the doctor. She is now back home recovering and was able to eat a meal. She is enjoying time with family. We will send another update after we get the pathology report. Thank you for the prayers of support and encouragement.”

Rodger Sandsmark of Simsbury, Conn., died this week. Please remember his wife, **Louisa**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

New prayer requests

Jo Lee Ferguson of Longview has been diagnosed with tumors in her spinal column, cancer in her skull and metastatic breast cancer.

Vernon Ellison of the local United congregation fell on Sunday and went to the hospital. It is reported that he still struggles with confusion. His wife, **Shirley**, was told by her doctor that her gallbladder should be removed.

Fredd Mewborn of Urbandale, Iowa, had a biopsy of his liver and was diagnosed with cancer.

Sarah Aust of Kennesaw, Ga., was diagnosed with a large tumor in her abdomen.

Beverly Babb of Medford, Ore., was diagnosed with a blood clot behind her knee. She is anticipating surgery (removal or stent) on Monday.

Donna Hampton of Ronald, Wash., has been diagnosed with sepsis (a bacterial infection in her bloodstream) and lingering effects of a clot in her right lung.

On Tuesday, **Laura Slack** of Gold Hill, Ore., fractured her femur in multiple places. On Wednesday, she had surgery.

Suffering of the Son

Luke 11:53-54—And as He said these things to them, the scribes and the Pharisees began to assail Him vehemently, and to cross-examine Him about many things, lying in wait for Him, and seeking to catch Him in something He might say, that they might accuse Him.

Luke 20:20—So they watched Him, and sent spies who pretended to be righteous, that they might seize on His words, in order to deliver Him to the power and the authority of the governor.

Luke 22:44—And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

Luke 22:48—But Jesus said to him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

Luke 22:61—And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.”

Hebrews 4:14-15—Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Hebrews 5:7-8—Who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.

“Amos 5:13”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgodbig sandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Nov. 28, 2020.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—On Nov. 14, I began a series of articles about the book of Amos. The first article was titled “Overview of the Book of Amos.”

Since that time, I chose to write about various verses from the book of Amos. This article will discuss Amos 5:13.

Reason for choosing

Someone could ask: Why did you choose to write about Amos 5:13?

My answer: The time may come when Amos 5:13 is good advice for disciples to follow, so I thought that we should be aware of what it says.

Light of the world

Before we read Amos 5:13, let’s review an important Christian goal.

The Son of God instructed His disciples to be lights in this dark world.

Matthew 5:14-16—“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

A time for Amos 5:13

Although it is important for disciples to reflect the light of God, they should not ignore the valuable piece of advice found in Amos 5:13.

Amos 5:13—“Therefore the prudent keep silent at that time, for it is an evil time.”

An act of a coward?

There are some people who have an aversion to keeping quiet. In their mind, they believe that a Christian should always be willing to speak up. In fact, they believe that the absence of speaking up is the act of a coward.

Would you call the Son of God a coward if you found out that He hid from people?

■ John 8:59—When the crowd took up

stones to throw at Him, He hid Himself and went out of the temple—going through the middle of the crowd.

■ John 10:39-40—When the crowd sought to seize Him again, He escaped out of their hand and went into the remote area beyond Jordan to the place where John was baptizing people.

■ John 12:36—After He spoke to them, He departed and was hidden from them.

Why did the Son of God hide? He was not a coward. But it was not His time to assert Himself.

Talkative and silent

It is interesting to see how the Son of God could be talkative at times and silent at other times.

■ Some of His more-talkative times were Matthew 23:1-39 and John 8:12-58.

■ Some of His more-silent times were Luke 23:1-9 and 1 Peter 2:19-25.

Characteristics of the time

Looking back to Amos, let’s notice the characteristics of the evil time during the time of Amos.

Amos 5:10-12—“They hate the one who rebukes in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks uprightly. Therefore, because you tread down the poor and take grain taxes from him, though you have built houses of hewn stone, yet you shall not dwell in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink wine from them. For I know your manifold transgressions and your mighty sins: afflicting the just and taking bribes; diverting the poor from justice at the gate.”

Valuable advice

Notice God’s words of valuable advice during the time of Amos.

Amos 5:14-15—“Seek good and not evil, that you may live; so the LORD God of hosts will be with you, as you have spoken. Hate evil, love good; establish justice in the gate. It may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.”