

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Aug. 7, 2021 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:12

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 Ron Avey

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading Psalm 35:1–28

Sermon George Crow

Quick takes

1. Welcome to guest speaker—The congregation welcomes George and Rosemary Crow. Mr. Crow is scheduled to give the sermon during the church service.
2. Wednesday-night Bible study on Aug. 11 at 7:00—People are encouraged to attend in the building or via a live transmission.
3. Upcoming guest speakers—We are pleased to announce that a few guest speakers will be visiting us in the coming weeks.
 - Today George Crow
 - Aug. 21 Ben Mauldin III
4. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "An Unexpected Journey" by Shirley West.
5. Among Friends—This week's article is "Armor of God—Breastplate of Righteousness" by Dave Havir.
6. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 36 pages.

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, David Bonilla, 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.**

On Thursday, **Laura Moran** was moved to the Providence Park rehab facility in Tyler. (This encouraged the family because you might remember that she was originally scheduled to be moved to a facility in Mesquite.) However, her oxygen level dropped to 83, and she was sent back to the hospital.

Please remember **Herman Stevenson** (husband of **Dorothy Stevenson**), who is recovering from a stroke.

In the June 19 bulletin, we mentioned that **Willis Hogg** was scheduled to get a cast to help the healing of the broken bones in his foot. **Brenda** reports that her husband is out of the cast and wearing a boot for the next six weeks. He is able to put some weight on his foot and is walking more each day. Family members appreciate the prayers and other acts of kindness that were shown to them.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Jimmy Rogers** of Denton was dealing with health challenges. In this bulletin, we will mention three challenges. First—Mr. Rogers had a doctor's appointment on Monday to learn more about a small spot in the lower part of his right lung. The visit was not conclusive. The doctor acknowledged that the spot was getting larger, but he did not confirm that it was cancer. The doctor declined to do a biopsy because the area is too close to the diaphragm. There will be another CT scan in the future. Second—when Mr. Rogers had an angiogram on Wednesday, he learned that there were no major blockages but there was a "bad link" in a heart valve. No surgery is presently scheduled. Third—on Friday, Mr. Rogers was scheduled to visit a urologist to discuss symptoms of an enlarged prostate. He and his wife, **Jean**, appreciate your prayers.

New prayer requests

Makayla Burkett of Big Sandy (who is pregnant) went to a hospital this week with severe stomach pain. Apparently, she has a bladder infection.

Gary and Kim Petty of Nashville, Tenn., have been diagnosed with covid.

Mark Elliott of Fort Worth has been dealing with health issues related to diabetes.

Laura Kersey of Dover, Idaho, is a 40-year-old who has been diagnosed with multiple myeloma (a type of blood cancer).

Lisa Warren of Allendale, Mich., had a tumor removed from her kidney.

Ondrea Donley of South Bend, Ind., has been diagnosed with a tumor on her adrenal gland.

Lambert Thamel of Negombo, Sri Lanka, died on July 19. Please remember his wife, **Virginia**, in your prayers.

Recent topics at Wednesday-night study

The following list of topics at the recent Wednesday-night Bible study is given for two reasons. First, this will give members of the congregation the opportunity to listen to subjects that they may have missed. Second, the pastor thinks that it is important for the congregation to see what subjects are on his mind.

- July 7 Revelation 12:9—Who Is the Devil?
- July 14 Revelation 12:9—Who Are the Devil's Angels?
- July 21 Revelation 12:9—The Devil and His Angels Were Cast Out
- July 28 Armor of God—Belt of Truth
- Aug. 4 Armor of God—Breastplate of Righteousness

Tentative Feast speaking schedules

Big Sandy, Texas

Tuesday, Sept. 21	Reg Killingley and Ed Costanza
Wednesday, Sept. 22	Ed Costanza
Thursday, Sept. 23	Bert Moers
Friday, Sept. 24	Ed Costanza
Saturday, Sept. 25	Reg Killingley
Sunday, Sept. 26	Ron Avey
Monday, Sept. 27	Stan West
Tuesday, Sept. 28	Reg Killingley

North Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Tuesday, Sept. 21	Lyle Kerby
Wednesday, Sept. 22	Stan West
Thursday, Sept. 23	Arnold Stamey and John Havir
Friday, Sept. 24	Dave Havir
Saturday, Sept. 25	Dave Havir
Sunday, Sept. 26	Jim Johns
Monday, Sept. 27	Ed Costanza
Tuesday, Sept. 28	Neil McIver and John Havir

Destin, Fla.

Tuesday, Sept. 21	Dave Havir and Chad Tate
Wednesday, Sept. 22	Bill Crow and Ramon Coleman
Thursday, Sept. 23	Steven Gibson and Steve Andrews
Friday, Sept. 24	Ben Franklin and Ken Tate
Saturday, Sept. 25	Chad Tate and Bill Crow
Sunday, Sept. 26	Terry Post and Steven Gibson
Monday, Sept. 27	Danny Miller and Ken Tate
Tuesday, Sept. 28	Dave Havir

“Armor of God—Breastplate of Righteousness”

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 Aug. 7, 2021.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—One of the most encouraging sections of Scripture is found in the book of Ephesians. In that letter, the apostle Paul described a spiritual battle (Ephesians 6:10-13) and the spiritual weapons (verses 14-17) available for the children of God to use.

In this article, we will discuss the second weapon—called the breastplate of righteousness (verse 14).

Different from holiness

For the sake of this article, I want to mention how I view the difference between righteousness and holiness.

■ Although righteousness and holiness are similar, there is some difference.

■ Since many sources defined righteousness as “what is right,” I like to define righteousness as “doing what is right.”

Romans 6:19—“I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness [doing what is right] for holiness.”

Ephesians 4:23-24—“Be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness [doing what is right] and holiness.”

Good works

■ Titus 3:4-7—Paul wrote about our relationship with God *not* being due to our works (actions) of righteousness (doing what is right).

■ Titus 3:8—However, Paul clearly instructed people (who have been called to God) to be zealous to maintain good works (doing what is right).

■ James 2:14-26—James talked about faith and action.

James 2:14—“What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but

does not have works? Can faith save him?”

James 2:21—“Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?”

James 2:25—“Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way?”

They thought they were right

Matthew 5:20—“For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Luke 18:9-14—“Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, “God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.” And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, “God, be merciful to me a sinner!” I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” ’ ’

Romans 10:3—“For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.”

Motive, emphasis, priority

Righteousness is more than doing what is right. It certainly includes motive, emphasis and priority.

■ Philippians 3:3-6—The apostle Paul described the error of allowing confidence in the flesh to be the reason for obedience.

■ Philippians 3:7-11—Paul described the motive, emphasis and priority of his obedience.