

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

July 2, 2022 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:30

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Dave Havir

Presentation study—2:00 Richard Crow
(Also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading Six individuals

Music presentations Five individuals

Quick takes

1. Thank you—The Church of God Big Sandy thanks the Katy Christian Fellowship (west of Houston) for suggesting the combined service today.
2. Thank you—The Church of God Big Sandy welcomes Richard Crow as guest speaker at the 2:00 Bible study.
3. Wednesday-night Bible study on July 6—Dave Havir is scheduled to continue his series about Hebrews 11.
4. Thank you—Thank you to the congregation for participating in the board election. The congregation selected Reg Killingley and Neil McIver to return to the board. (The congregation thanks Kemmer Pfund for allowing his name to be included in the election process. Mr. Pfund is in place to serve in the event of an unexpected vacancy on the board occurring this year.)
5. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Will States Choose the Culture of Life?" by Star Parker.
6. Among Friends—This week's article is "Hebrews 11:4-12" by Dave Havir.
7. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 42 pages. (This edition has six articles and 305 headlines.)

8. Thank you—The Katy Christian Fellowship and the Church of God Big Sandy thank the following people who will be serving in the hall for the 3:00 church service.

- Scripture Stan West—2 Chronicles 7:8–22
- Vocal solo Roger Bryant CD—“If My People”
- Prayer Stan West

- Scripture Ron Avey—Deuteronomy 8:10–18
- Vocal solo Paula Hughes—“My Country 'Tis of Thee”
- Prayer Ron Avey

- Scripture Morris Foster—Daniel 9:3–19
- Vocal solo Wayne Woodring—“He Will Come”
- Prayer Morris Foster

- Scripture Wynn Skelton—Luke 22:19–32
- Vocal solos Amy Case—“God Is in Control” and “War on My Knees”
- Prayer Wynn Skelton

- Scripture Richard Crow—James 3:13 to James 4:10
- Piano solo Dixon Cartwright—“The Prayer”
- Prayer Richard Crow

- Scripture Neil McIver
- Vocal solo Paula Hughes—“How Great Thou Art”
- Prayer Neil McIver

Prayer updates

In last week’s bulletin, we mentioned that **Timberly Dunnam** was receiving treatment for her back and incorporating new exercises. This week, she had two treatments for her back. She is learning how to deal with the pain through exercise and meds.

In the June 18 bulletin, we mentioned that **Ron Crank** of Kansas City, Mo., had lost from 250 pounds to 129 pounds. The doctors were able to insert a feeding tube.

New prayer requests

Linda Avey fell on Tuesday. When the pain persisted, **Ron** took her to an ER in Longview, and she was diagnosed with two fractured ribs. While such injuries generally heal on their own, the process takes time (possibly four to six weeks). The Aveys appreciate your prayers.

Sonny Rosenberger reports that he is trying to stop losing weight. Although the weight loss does not presently reflect a major problem, he would like to stop the trend.

Norva Kelly of Duarte, Calif., died on June 11. Please remember her husband, **Ronald**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Les Cheesman of Philadelphia, Pa., died on June 25. Please remember his family in your prayers.

Jonathan Blackwell of Maui, Hawaii (51-year-old son of **Mike** and **Carol Blackwell**), died on June 29. Please remember his family in your prayers.

Calvin Burrell of Stayton, Ore., died on June 29. Please remember his wife, **Barbara**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Fred Wach of Campbell, Calif. (father of **Wendy Forrestier**), died on June 30. Please remember his wife, **Pat**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

2 Chronicles 7:14—“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

Deuteronomy 8:10—“When you have eaten and are full, then you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land which He has given you.”

Daniel 9:4-5—“I prayed to the Lord my God, and made confession, and said, ‘O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments, we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments.’ ”

Luke 22:24-26, 31-32—“Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest. And He said to them, ‘The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called “benefactors.” But not so among you; on the contrary, he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves’ . . . And the Lord said, ‘Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.’ ”

James 3:17-18—“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.”

Revelation 21:3-4—“And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, ‘Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away’. . . He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.”

Thought for the week

“It is interesting to watch people use prayer as a last resort—when it actually works better as our first option.”—*Dave Havir*

Hebrews 11:4-12

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandys website, churchofgodbig sandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of July 2, 2022.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with my series about Hebrews 11. This installment was a presentation titled “Hebrews 11:4-12.” I want to share some of my comments in this article.

Mentioned Abel

Hebrews 11:4—“By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.”

■ The story about Abel is found in Genesis 4:1-9.

■ Abel is mentioned only a few times in the New Testament—including Matthew 23:35, Luke 11:51 and Hebrews 12:22-24.

Mentioned Enoch

Hebrews 11:5—“By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, and was not found, because God had taken him; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God.”

■ The story about Enoch is found in Genesis 5:18-24.

■ Genesis 5:22 said that Enoch walked with God for 300 years.

■ Many religious people like to debate what Hebrews 11:5 meant when it said that Enoch “did not see death.” Hebrews 9:27 said that it is appointed for men to die once. If you enjoy that kind of discussion, have fun with that topic.

Hebrews 11:6—“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

Mentioned Noah

Hebrews 11:7—“By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.”

Noah is mentioned 50 times in the Old

Testament and three times in the New Testament.

Mentioned Abraham and Sarah

Abram (Abraham’s previous name) is mentioned 61 times in the Old Testament. Sarai (Sarah’s previous name) is mentioned 17 times in the Old Testament.

Abraham is mentioned 176 times in the Old Testament and 74 times in the New Testament.

Sarah is mentioned 43 times in the Old Testament and four times in the New Testament.

Abraham and Sarah went to a land

■ Hebrews 11:8-10 mentioned that Abraham went to a land of promise.

■ 1 Peter 3:6 shows that Sarah also went to a land of promise.

1 Peter 3:5-6—“For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror.”

(For the record, I don’t want my wife to call me lord. I have been blessed to marry a strong and capable person—and we have been on a joint journey for 48 years.)

All nations blessed

■ Hebrews 11:11-12 mentioned that Abraham and Sarah produced a promised lineage—physical and spiritual.

Galatians 3:6-9—“Just as Abraham ‘believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.’ Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, ‘In you all the nations shall be blessed.’ So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.”

Galatians 3:16—“Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, ‘And to seeds,’ as of many, but as of one, ‘And to your Seed,’ who is Christ.”