

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Oct. 20, 2018 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:42

Bible studies and classes

Interactive study (1:00)	.....	Dave Havir
Bible study (2:00)	.....	Dave Havir
Teen class	.....	Martha Mclver

Order of service

Song leader	.....	Reg Killingley
Pianist	.....	Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading	.....	Acts 11:1-18
Sermon	.....	Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Thank you for your continual service—The congregation does not want to be remiss in thanking the people who serve—including people who serve in clear view and people who serve behind the scenes. Many hands make light work.
2. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Socialism Destroys" by John Stossel.
3. Among Friends—This week's article is "Matthew 5:8" by Dave Havir.
4. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 34 pages.

Prayer updates

Vi Lehman continues to deal with a lack of energy.

Elaine Holloway continues to deal with swelling in her legs.

Marilyn Boston, who continues to rehab in Room 218 at Park Place Rehabilitation Center in Tyler (2450 E. Fifth St.), learned on Monday that a branch fell during a recent storm and punched two holes in the roof of her trailer. Her daughter **Kathleen** is communicating with the insurance company.

Ron and **Gracie Feaker** continue to rehab at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater. They are in Room 306.

On Tuesday, **Sonny Rosenberger** went to a doctor and had excess wax removed from his ears. He continues to deal with a variety of challenges—including breathing challenges.

Vonda Ouellette appreciates your prayers for her continued improvement at home.

On Thursday, **Jennifer Faulkner** of St. Louis, Mo. (wife of **Jim Faulkner** and sister-in-law of **Carol Bald**), received round six of her aggressive treatment. Next week, she is scheduled for some scans to determine the current status of the tumors. Also, she is scheduled to receive a daily shot to help her low-white-blood-cell count.

In the Sept. 15 bulletin, we mentioned that **Mark Elliott** of Fort Worth was hospitalized due to complications with diabetes and a nasty wound on his left foot. He has been diagnosed with a staph infection of his left toes and foot.

New prayer requests

On Thursday, **Angela Dunnam** is scheduled to have surgery for a total replacement of her right knee at Longview Regional Hospital.

On Monday, **Paul Porter** of Rusk had replacement surgery of one knee.

Bill Grams of San Marcos, Calif., recently went to a hospital and was diagnosed with renal failure. Apparently, a heart medication was negatively affecting his kidneys and liver. On Wednesday, Mr. Grams went from the hospital to a rehab facility. (He was still battling a urinary-tract infection.)

Danny Parrish of Port Orange, Fla., was diagnosed with cancer in many parts of his body.

Carol Wallauch of Southern California, who was recently diagnosed with stage-3 cancer, went to a hospital to deal with a “liver-bile blockage.”

David Kerlin of Wyanet, Ill., died on Oct. 7. Please remember his wife, **Ramona**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Parables to consider

Matthew 20:1-16	parable of the laborers in the field
Matthew 20:10	workers received the same reward
Matthew 20:11-15	workers complained

Matthew 25:14-30	parable of the talents
Matthew 25:15	3 people were not given the same
Matthew 25:16-25	3 people did not have same results
Matthew 25:28	reward of the 3rd given to the person who earned the most

Giving is biblical

■ Giving to the stranger

Leviticus 19:33-34	not mistreat a stranger
Leviticus 24:22	no special treatment for stranger

■ General principles of justice

Exodus 23:3	no partiality to a poor man
Exodus 23:6	no injustice to a poor man
Deuteronomy 1:16-17	hear the small and the great

■ Excess food

Exodus 23:10-11	land sabbath—food for the poor
Leviticus 19:9-10	leave some food
Leviticus 23:22	leave some food
Deuteronomy 24:19-24	food for need

■ General reminders

Deuteronomy 14:28-29	tithe of the 3rd year
Deuteronomy 15:7-11	generosity to the poor
Deuteronomy 26:12-13	tithe of the 3rd year
Psalms 112:9	paraphrased in 2 Corinthians 9:9
Galatians 6:2	bear one another's burdens

■ The Bible teaches private giving

Matthew 6:1-4	avoiding giving to be seen by people
Matthew 19:21	give to the poor
Matthew 25:34-40	help the needy
Luke 3:11	give to him who has none
1 Timothy 5:8	taking care of your family
James 1:27	pure religion
1 John 3:17	showing the love of God

■ The Bible described group giving

Acts 2:44-45	divided among themselves
Acts 4:32-34	divided among themselves
Acts 4:35	the apostles divided
Acts 4:36-37	Barnabas gave
Acts 11:27-30	Antioch brethren sent gifts to Judea
Romans 15:27-30	gentiles sent gifts to Jewish brethren
2 Corinthians 9:1-15	gentiles sent gifts to Jewish brethren

Socialism is theft

Ephesians 4:28	don't steal—work—give to those in need
2 Corinthians 9:7	giving is choice—not be done out of necessity

"Matthew 5:8"

This article is from the "Among Friends" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Oct. 20, 2018.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Many Bible students enjoy reading scriptures from the section that is generally called the Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5 through 7 in the book of Matthew).

When Christ saw the multitude, He went up on a mountain (Matthew 5:1). When He was seated, His disciples came to Him (same verse). Then, He began to teach them (verse 2). Today, let's look at Matthew 5:8.

Matthew 5:8—"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

Pure in heart

The Bible has scriptures that mention a negative perspective about the nature of people. Some of those verses are Genesis 6:5; Genesis 8:21; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 8:7; and 1 John 2:16.

Let's look at the Greek word that is translated "pure" in Matthew 5:8. The Greek word *katharus* (No. 2513 in *Strong's Concordance*) has been translated in the King James Version of the Bible as "pure" (17 times) and as "clean" (10 times).

Some of the examples that describe people as pure and clean are listed below.

■ Pure heart—1 Timothy 1:5; 2 Timothy 2:22; and 1 Peter 1:22.

■ Pure conscience—1 Timothy 3:9 and 2 Timothy 1:3.

■ Clean linen (righteous acts)—Revelation 19:8.

It is a wonderful experience when a person can be cleansed.

Titus 1:15—"To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled."

They shall see God

Seeing God is fulfilled in two ways.

■ First, people appreciate the opportuni-

ties to see glimpses of God during their physical life on earth.

Many Bible students notice apparent contradictions in the Old Testament about whether people saw the face of God.

I recommend that those students begin with Exodus 33:18-23.

Exodus 33:18-23—"And he said, 'Please, show me Your glory.' Then He said, 'I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.' But He said, 'You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live.' And the LORD said, 'Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen.'"

With that as a foundation, I recommend that people can find plausible explanations to discuss scriptures like the following—Genesis 32:30; Exodus 3:1-6; Exodus 19:9; Exodus 33:11; Numbers 12:6-8; Deuteronomy 5:24-26; Deuteronomy 34:10; Judges 6:22; and Judges 13:22-23.

1 Corinthians 13:12—"For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known."

■ Second, many people also look forward to receiving eternal life in God's Kingdom and to see Him as He is.

1 John 3:2—"Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

Revelation 22:4—"They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads."