

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

April 26, 2019 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 7:56

Welcome to our guests

Members of the Church of God Big Sandy and the Church of God International welcome all guests as we worship on the seventh day of Unleavened Bread. Here is the schedule for today.

- 1:00 p.m. Bible study by Dave Havir
Teen class by Neil McIver
Kids' class by Brandi Cartwright
- 2:00 Church service
- 3:00 Potluck meal

Order of service

- Song leader** Reg Killingley
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Offertory Vocal selection
Sermon Larry Watkins

Quick takes

1. Thank you—Thank you to all the members of the congregation who have served at the various functions in the building during the spring feast days.
2. Help with cleanup—We appreciate any help with the cleanup in the building following the potluck meal today.
3. Information about the spring feast days—Although members of the congregation have correctly noticed that our pastor (Dave Havir) is very comfortable with people observing the commemoration of the suffering and death of our Lord privately in their homes (as shown in the Bible), we still had a nice crowd at our functions in the building—74 people were in attendance in the building on the night commemorating the suffering and death of our Lord, and 63 people attended a meal in the building on the evening following the time picturing the death of our Lord (at 3:00 p.m. earlier that day).

4. Regular schedule tomorrow—This is to remind the audience that tomorrow's schedules will be at their usual times.
 - Church of God International (Tyler)

9:30 a.m.	Interactive study
11:00	Church service
 - Church of God Big Sandy

1:00 p.m.	Interactive study
2:00	Bible study
3:00	Church service
5. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Redemption and Hope for a New Life" by Lenny Cacchio.
6. Among Friends—This week's article is "We Love Him Because He First Loved Us" by Dave Havar.
7. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is xx pages.

New prayer requests

Dave Bonilla suffered a stroke on Wednesday. Following is an excerpt from his wife, **Becky**, on Thursday: "Dave is able to use his right side now. He passed a swallow test so he is able to eat food (although he says food doesn't taste good). Today, they are doing more tests and looking for other possible blood clots. His speaking is limited. The doctors are very hopeful." He is presently at UT Health Center on Beckham (formerly called East Texas Medical Center).

Please remember **Timberly Dunnam**, who is dealing with severe anxiety and fatigue.

Sharon Garrison of Des Moines, Iowa (sister of **Joyce Coleman**), died on April 21. Please remember the rest of the family in your prayers.

Scriptures about Christ's resurrection

Peter (left column) and Paul (right column) discussed the resurrection of Christ.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Acts 2:22-36 ■ Acts 3:12-18 ■ Acts 3:26 ■ Acts 4:2 ■ Acts 4:10 ■ Acts 4:33 ■ Acts 5:30-31 ■ Acts 10:34-43 ■ 1 Peter 1:3-5 ■ 1 Peter 1:18-21 ■ 1 Peter 3:21-22 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Acts 13:16-41 ■ Acts 17:2-3 ■ Acts 17:18 ■ Acts 28:23-31 ■ Romans 4:24-25 ■ Romans 6:3-6 ■ Romans 8:11 ■ Romans 8:34 ■ 1 Corinthians 6:14 ■ 1 Corinthians 15:12-23 ■ 1 Corinthians 15:35-58 ■ 2 Corinthians 4:14 ■ Ephesians 1:20-23 ■ Philippians 3:10 ■ Colossians 2:12 |
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Saved by grace

Before the commemoration of the suffering and death of Christ, we focused upon God's grace.

- Ephesians 2:8-9—saved by grace
- Titus 3:4-7—justified by His grace

Reaction to grace

After the commemoration of the suffering and death of Christ (as we observe the Days of Unleavened Bread), we focus upon our Father's expectations of us.

- Ephesians 2:10—since saved, good works
- Titus 3:8—since justified, good works
- Exodus 20:1-17—since delivered, Ten Commandments
- Romans 6:1-2—since saved by grace, should we sin?
- Romans 6:3—baptized into Christ's death
- Romans 6:4-5—likeness of His death and of His resurrection
- Matthew 5:14-16—good works to glorify the Father
- Matthew 19:17—keep the Commandments
- Matthew 19:21—give to the poor
- Matthew 22:36-40—two great Commandments
- Romans 12:1—become a living sacrifice
- Romans 12:2—transformed by the renewing of the mind
- Romans 12:9-21—many positive characteristics
- 1 Corinthians 10:5-11—five sins in the wilderness
- Galatians 5:19-21—avoid works of the flesh
- Galatians 5:22-23—reflect fruit of the Spirit
- Colossians 3:1-2—seek those things that are above
- James 1:25—perfect law of liberty
- James 1:26—bridle the tongue
- 1 Peter 2:11-12—good works to glorify God

Three biblical definitions of sin

- 1 John 3:4—based on the law
- James 4:17—based on what we know
- Romans 14:23—based on faith

Three reasons why we obey

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| ■ To avoid consequences | Ezekiel 33:10-11 |
| ■ To receive recompense later | Luke 14:12-14 |
| ■ To glorify our Father | Matthew 5:14-16 |

“We Love Him Because He First Loved Us”

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 April 27, 2019.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—As many Church of God congregations approached the spring feast days, I began a series of six articles discussing principles that can be rehearsed at this time of year.

Here is the list of articles in this series that have been written.

- March 23—“Overview of Passover in Book of Exodus.”

- March 30—“The Night in Which He Was Betrayed.”

- April 6—“Do This in Remembrance of Me.”

- April 13—“Are You Worthy?”

- April 20—“Reaction to Grace”

- April 27—“We Love Him Because He First Loved Us”

Transition from last week

In last week’s article, I concluded with the following two paragraphs.

“The spring feast days are a yearly reminder about the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord. Thank God for truth about God’s grace.

“As you observe the Days of Unleavened bread, allow that appreciation for God’s grace to remind you about the various expectations that your Heavenly Father has of you.”

Father analogy doesn’t help everyone

By now, people who read my articles know that I regularly mention that a disciple should view God as a father figure. To me, that is the picture that can best help us in our relationship with Him.

However, you and I are aware that a wonderful depiction does not work the same for everyone. You can recognize some of the obvious challenges of seeking to have physical fathers picture a perfect God.

- Some fathers have never been around.

- Some fathers have been around sporadically, but not engaged physically or emotionally.

- Some fathers view their children as possessions to dominate.

- Some fathers use excessive force.

- Some fathers view their children as possessions to show off—thereby believing the appearance is much more important than the actual benefits to the child.

- Some fathers use excessive emotion.

The list could go on.

I want to conclude this article (and this series of six articles) with the following two concepts.

Recognizing God’s motive

Do you view the correction of God as He truly intends it?

Hebrews 12:5-11 does a good job in describing the superior motives of our Heavenly Father. Notice verses 9-11.

Hebrews 12:9-10—“Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.”

Hebrews 12:11—“Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.”

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.”

Accepting God’s love

Do you remember the time in your life when you truly began to understand God’s love toward you?

The spring feast days are an annual reminder of that wonderful relationship that we can have with our Heavenly Father.

1 John 4:19—“We love Him because He first loved us.”