

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Nov. 16, 2019 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:19

Bible studies and classes

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

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader	.....	Ron Avey
Pianist	.....	Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading	.....	Hebrews 11:1–7
Sermon	.....	Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Upcoming guest speakers—The congregation is pleased to announce that several guest speakers are scheduled to visit our congregation in the near future.

■ Dec. 7	Jim Johns
■ Dec. 21	George Crow

2. Community Thanksgiving church service on Nov. 24—Citizens of Big Sandy and surrounding areas are invited to the annual Big Sandy community Thanksgiving church service on Sunday, Nov. 24.

Date:	Sunday, Nov. 24
Time:	5:00 p.m.
Where:	In our church building
Program:	Individuals from various congregations express appreciation through words and music
Our history:	Two years ago, Dave Havir said a few words and presented a YouTube music video (Celine Tam and Jeffrey Li singing “You Raise Me Up.”) Last year, Shirley West talked about how her mother rejected the recommendation to abort her.
Afterwards:	Finger foods

3. Interactive this week—The interactive Bible study today is scheduled to be “The Ninth Commandment” moderated by Dave Havir.
4. Interactive next week—The interactive Bible study next week is scheduled to be “The Tenth Commandment.”
5. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “America Is Not a Democracy, and We Don’t Want It to Be” by David Weinberger.
6. Among Friends—This week’s article is “The Fourth Commandment” by Dave Havir.
7. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 24 pages.

Prayer updates

In recent weeks, we have mentioned that during the recent drop in temperature **Sonny Rosenberger** was having a difficult time staying warm in his house. (Some have asked if the problem was the heating unit in his home, but we can report that the heating unit in the home works fine.)

Laura Moran reports three items. First, she has gained a little weight. Second, she is scheduled to see a rheumatologist on Nov. 26. Third, she is scheduled to hear the results of her recent sleep study on Jan. 28. (She and many of her friends find it odd that the doctor is waiting so long to give her the results of her recent sleep study.)

New prayer requests

Theresa Semian of Ville Platt, La. (aunt of **Lisa Smith**), reports that she has been falling a lot lately. Her family is concerned about a possible brain tumor.

Roy Dove of Haslet has been diagnosed with a lung disease.

Harley Rightmire of Tulsa, Okla., is scheduled to have triple-bypass surgery this coming week.

Betty Tilton of Houston (a 92-year-old widow who had been a longtime participant on our DVD program) died on Nov. 10. Please remember her family in your prayers.

Jackie Ballew of Dalhart (sister of **Donna Weese**) died on Nov. 12. Please remember the family in your prayers.

The Ten Commandments in the New Testament

Matthew 22:36-40—“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?” Jesus said to him, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Matthew 22:31-32—“But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.”

1 Thessalonians 1:9-10—“For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.”

2 Timothy 2:19-21—“Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: ‘The Lord knows those who are His,’ and, ‘Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.’ But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.”

Matthew 12:7-8—“But if you had known what this means, ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned the guiltless. For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”

Ephesians 6:1-3—“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ‘Honor your father and mother,’ which is the first commandment with promise: ‘that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.’ ”

Matthew 5:21-22—“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.’ But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, ‘Raca!’ shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, ‘You fool!’ shall be in danger of hell fire.”

Matthew 5:27-28—“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

Ephesians 4:28—“Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.”

Matthew 5:43-48—“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.”

Luke 12:15—“And He said to them, ‘Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.’ ”

Thought for the week

“Pray without ceasing.”—*Apostle Paul*

“The Fourth Commandment”

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. 16, 2019.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—We as believers are thankful that we are saved by grace. In fact, we should reflect our appreciation by giving much thought and attention into recognizing God’s expectations for us.

We can reflect back to the time in the Old Testament when the children of Israel were brought out of the land of Egypt—the house of bondage (Exodus 20:1-2)—and remember that God gave them instructions about how to live (verses 3-17).

Let’s spend some time considering the Fourth Commandment.

Exodus 20:8-11—“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.”

Remember the Sabbath day

In Exodus 20:11 and Exodus 31:17, we read that the Sabbath day is a weekly reminder about the creation as explained in Genesis 2:2-3.

When we read that God rested on the seventh day, none of us thinks that God had to rest because He was tired. Therefore, why did He rest? He rested to emphasize a lesson for us.

In Deuteronomy 5:15, we read another lesson to learn by observing the Sabbath. God instructed His people to remember how they were delivered from the bondage of Egypt.

In our modern world, we can use the Sabbath day to remember how God delivered us from the bondage of sin.

Keep it holy

In Genesis 2:3, we read that God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it.

It is common for people to ask: What activities are acceptable for a believer to do on the Sabbath day?

An important verse to consider in determining Sabbath behavior is found in Isaiah 58:13.

Isaiah 58:13—“If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy day of the LORD honorable, [you] shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words.”

A believer is to avoid his own pleasure, his own ways and his own words. And yet a believer is encouraged to consider the Sabbath a delight. Is God asking a believer to be a stoic? Is God expecting a believer to enjoy being a stoic?

The Moffatt translation of the Bible uses the English word *business* instead of *pleasure*. So, while believers often avoid doing their professional business on the Sabbath, they do not avoid all pleasurable activities.

Each believer gives account to God about how he observes the Sabbath (Romans 14:12). Each believer must make his decisions based upon personal faith (Romans 14:22-23).

Christ’s example

There are many example of Jesus doing good things on the Sabbath. Here are a few examples—Luke 6:1-5; Luke 6:6-10; Luke 13:11-17; Luke 14:1-6; John 5:2-18 and John 9:1-7,14.

Because Christ did kind gestures on the Sabbath, the religious leaders accused Him of breaking the Sabbath (John 5:18) and of not keeping the Sabbath (John 9:16).

The religious leaders were wrong and Jesus was right. He demonstrated a sterling example to mankind about honorable behavior on the Sabbath.

Mercy or sacrifice?

Here’s an extremely important lesson about the Sabbath.

Matthew 9:13—“But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice.’ For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.”

Someone could ask: What does the subject of mercy and sacrifice have to do with the Sabbath?

When Jesus defended the actions of His disciples to the Pharisees (Matthew 12:1-6), He referred back to the subject of mercy and sacrifice.

Matthew 12:7—“But if you had known what this means, ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned the guiltless.”