

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Nov. 23, 2019 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:15

Bible studies and classes

Interactive study (1:00) Jon Coffee

Bible study (2:00) Jon Coffee

Teen class Martha Mclver

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Reg Killingley

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading Hebrews 11:8–16

Sermon Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Community Thanksgiving church service tomorrow—Citizens of Big Sandy and surrounding areas are invited to the annual Big Sandy community Thanksgiving church service tomorrow.

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

2. Upcoming guest speakers—The congregation is pleased to announce that several guest speakers are scheduled to visit our congregation in the near future.
 - Nov. 30 John Dickerson
 - Dec. 7 Jim Johns
 - Dec. 21 George Crow
3. Interactive this week—The interactive Bible study today is scheduled to be “Who Are the 144,000?” moderated by Jon Coffee.
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 “What’s Behind Our World on Fire?” by Pat Buchanan.
6. Among Friends—This week’s article is “The Fifth Commandment” by Dave Havir.
7. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 20 pages.

Prayer updates

Eli Benedict had a good week. It was reported that he used the warmer weather on Thursday to do some mowing in the garden.

Vi Lehman remains positive and happy as she continues to deal with a lack of energy.

Sonny Rosenberger appreciates your ongoing prayers.

On Tuesday, **Laura Moran** is scheduled to see a rheumatologist.

Elaine Holloway continues to rehab at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater. She is in Room 109.

Ron Feaker continues to rehab at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater. He is in Room 412.

Dave and **Becky Bonilla** thank everyone for the kind thoughts and prayers. She wrote: “They are very much appreciated and they help us weather the trials now and more to come.”

New prayer requests

Months ago, we requested prayers for **Tom Mitchell** as he was dealing with heart problems. While that condition improved to a certain degree, he has now been diagnosed with cancer in his esophagus and other areas of the body.

John Worden requests prayers for an eye condition. Here are excerpts of his report: “I have a fast-growing form of cataracts. I am scheduled for surgery on Dec. 11 to replace my lens in one eye and to replace the other one the following week.”

On Sept. 30, **Robin Molloy** of Pittsburg (granddaughter of deceased **Marjorie Sharp**) was anointed while she was at ETMC in Tyler due to a combination of health challenges—including an erratic sugar level. The family reported that Mrs. Molloy died last Sunday (on Nov. 17). Please remember her husband, **Greg**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Stanley De Veaux of Garden City, N.Y., died on Nov. 15. Please remember his wife, **Jean**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

Revelation 7:4-8—“And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed: of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand were sealed.”

Revelation 14:1-5—“Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father’s name written on their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth. These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.”

Matthew 3:9—“And do not think to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.”

John 8:33—“They answered Him, ‘We are Abraham’s descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can you say, “You will be made free?”’ ”

Romans 9:6-8—“But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. For they are not all Israel who are of Israel, nor are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, ‘In Isaac your seed shall be called.’ That is, those who are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God; but the children of the promise are counted as the seed.”

Galatians 3:28-29—“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”

“The Fifth 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. 23, 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 Fifth Commandment.

Exodus 20:12—“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.”

Honor your parents with obedience

There are many scriptures that show the responsibility of children to honor their parents with their obedience.

The apostle Paul wrote about this concept in his letters to the congregations at Ephesus (Ephesians 6:1-3) and at Colosse (Colossians 3:20).

Honor parents with words

There are many scriptures that instruct children to avoid cursing their parents. Here is one example.

Exodus 21:17—“And he who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death.”

Honor parents with money

We realize that the Bible has various instructions about how parents should give money to their children and grandchildren.

Two important verses to read about this concept are Proverbs 13:22 and 2 Corinthians 12:14.

Yet we also see that the children and grandchildren also have responsibilities to give money to their aging parents and grandparents. Notice 1 Timothy 5:4,8.

Correcting the elders

One of the famous times that Jesus Christ corrected the elders had to do with when they discouraged people to avoid taking care of their parents.

The example is found in Mark 7:1-13. The overall context is how the elders influenced the people to place an emphasis on the traditions of the elders instead of focusing upon the commandments of God.

Jesus mentioned that He could have used many examples to make His point (verses 8, 13).

However, the specific example He used was to show how the elders influenced people to pay the corban (money for religion) instead of taking care of their parents (verses 11-12).

Mark 7:11-12—“But you say, ‘If a man says to his father or mother, “Whatever profit you might have received from me is Corban”—’ (that is, a gift to God), “then you no longer let him do anything for his father or his mother.” ’”

Did you notice that Jesus at this moment was not primarily correcting the neglectful children? He was correcting the elders for being such a horrible influence!

Honor your parents by remembering the fatherless

There are many scriptures that instruct believers to remember the fatherless (such as Psalm 82:3 and James 1:27).

Helping the fatherless honors the family name of your physical parents, but it does something more than that.

There are many scriptures that reveal that God is the helper of the fatherless (such as Psalm 10:14 and Psalm 68:5).

Helping the fatherless honors our Father in heaven.

Sterling example

There are many scriptures that demonstrated how Jesus Christ honored His Father (such as John 8:49).

And, by reading John 19:26-27, we see that one of His last acts during His crucifixion was to honor His mother.