

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Dec. 21, 2019 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:17

Bible studies and classes

Interactive study (1:00) Dave Havar
Bible study (2:00) George Crow
Teen class Dave Havar

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Reg Killingley
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Hebrews 12:1–13
Sermon George Crow

Quick takes

1. Welcome to guest speaker—The congregation welcomes George Crow from the Houston area. Mr. Crow is scheduled to give the Bible study and the sermon today.
2. Upcoming guest speaker—The congregation is pleased to announce that another guest speaker is scheduled to visit our congregation in the near future.
 - Jan. 11 Wynn Skelton
3. Interactive this week—The interactive Bible study today is scheduled to be “Dealing With the Season” moderated by Dave Havar.
4. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “Morality of Free Markets” by Walter Williams.
5. Among Friends—This week’s article is “The Ninth Commandment” by Dave Havar.
6. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 16 pages.

Prayer updates

Since this bulletin was prepared during the middle of the week, it does not contain the latest updates or the latest new requests.

Please remember to pray for the following people who are not able to regularly attend our church service—**Vi Lehman, Sonny Rosenberger, Laura Moran** and **Timberly Dunnam**.

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.

On Tuesday, **Bea Gusner** reported that her husband, **Willie**, had a surgery to have a tracheotomy and a stomach peg put in. Even with the dialysis, his kidneys were still bad.

New prayer requests

Charlyne Scott of Panama City, Fla., went to a cardiologist to evaluate the blood flow to her heart. She was evaluated as needing bypass surgery.

Roman Borek of Pasadena, Calif., died on Dec. 9. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Resurrection of the Son

Acts 2:24—“Whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.”

Acts 2:32—“This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses.”

Acts 3:15—“And killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses.”

Acts 3:26—“To you first, God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities.”

Acts 5:30—“The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree.”

Acts 10:40—“Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly.”

Acts 13:30—“But God raised Him from the dead.”

Acts 17:31—“Because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

Romans 4:24—“But also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead.”

Romans 5:9-10—“Much more then, having now been justified—by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.”

The Son at the Right Hand

Acts 2:33—“Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.”

Acts 5:31—“Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.”

Acts 7:55-56—“But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and said, ‘Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!’”

Romans 8:34—“Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.”

Ephesians 1:20—“Which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places.”

Colossians 3:1—“If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.”

Hebrews 1:3—“Who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.”

Hebrews 8:1—“Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens.”

Hebrews 12:2—“Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

1 Peter 3:22—“Who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.”

“The Ninth 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 Dec. 21, 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 Ninth Commandment.

Exodus 20:16—“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.”

Listed twice on sin list

Although most people quote the Ninth Commandment as “You shall not bear

false witness,” some people quote it as “You shall not lie.” Are they the same?

Both concepts are listed among the seven characteristics that God hates (Proverbs 6:16-19).

The second item was listed as “a lying tongue” (verse 17). The sixth item was listed as “a false witness that speaks lies” (verse 19).

■ A lying tongue could be interpreted as spoken lies in many situations for various reasons.

■ A false witness could be interpreted as using lies in more-specific situations where a person gives a false testimony to harm another person.

The obvious scenario about a false witness is an official legal setting.

However, the principle would still apply where a person gives a false testimony in an unofficial legal setting. An unofficial judicial setting might be parents questioning children about an event that happened in the family or employers questioning employees about an event that occurred on the job.

Corresponding consequence

Have you ever noticed the fair consequence that the Old Testament administration of the law placed upon false witnesses?

Deuteronomy 19:19, 21—“Then you shall do to him as he thought to have done to his brother . . . Your eye shall not pity: life shall be for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.”

Ancient principle

One of the most valuable principles found in the Old Testament administration of the law was the concept of “in the mouth of two or three witnesses.”

This concept is found in many scriptures in the Old and New Testament—including Numbers 35:30; Deuteronomy 17:6-7; Deuteronomy 19:15; Matthew 18:16; John 8:17; 2 Corinthians 13:1; 1 Timothy 5:19; and Hebrews 10:28.

God hates lying

There are many scriptures to show God’s view about lying and about God’s

expectations about believers to avoid lying.

When talking to the Pharisees in John 8, Jesus made it very clear that He viewed the devil as the father of lies (verse 44).

While it is crystal clear that a believer should avoid the character flaw of lying, there is one example that demonstrates an acceptable time to lie.

Rahab’s famous lie

Do you remember the story of Rahab? It is my opinion that Rahab told the same lie four different ways in Joshua 2:4-5.

■ “The men came, but I didn’t know from where.”

■ “When it came time to close the gate at dark, the men left.”

■ “I don’t know where the men were going.”

■ “Pursue after them quickly. You can catch them.”

Rahab made those comments, even though she had hidden the men on her roof (verse 6).

Biblical view of Rahab’s lie

Were you surprised when you first realized that the Bible uses Rahab’s lying as a good example?

Rahab was listed in Hebrews 11—which is often identified as the faith chapter—specifically in verse 31.

Rahab was one of the two examples used by the apostle James to explain the concept of “faith without works is dead” (James 2:14-26).

Rahab was memorialized for receiving the spies and for sending the pursuers away (verse 25).

Take special note about her reason for lying. She did not lie to gain a personal advantage, to fulfill a hidden lust or to hurt other people. She lied to save lives.

You may never have a situation arise where you have to imitate Rahab’s example. But please recognize the honor of Rahab’s example.