

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

June 19, 2021 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:28

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Dave Havir
Presentation study—2:00 Dave Havir
(Also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Ron Avey
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Psalm 119:97–112
Sermon Jim Johns

Quick takes

1. Welcome to our guest speaker—The congregation welcomes Jim and Sue Johns. Dr. Johns is scheduled to give the sermon during the 3:00 church service.
2. Subject of 1:00 interactive study—For those who are reading this bulletin Friday night on the our website, the subject of the interactive study is “Who Is Modern Babylon?” (Revelation 18:4 says, “Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.” Attendees at the interactive study are invited to discuss their ideas concerning from where believers come out.)
3. Baptism—Dave Havir reports: “At 3:00 on Thursday, I had the privilege of baptizing Donna Worthen (wife of Wes Worthen). Although they live in Tyler and do not regularly attend with us, I have been a part of their lives over the years. They are considering a move to another part of the country. If they stay in the area, they are welcome to attend with us.”
4. Upcoming guest speakers—We are pleased to announce that a few guest speakers will be visiting us in the coming weeks.
 - Today Jim Johns
 - June 26 Wynn Skelton
 - July 10 Morris Foster

5. Wednesday-night Bible study on June 23 at 7:00—People are encouraged to attend in the building or via a live transmission.
6. Feast of Tabernacles housing—Destin and Myrtle Beach have community activities during our time at the Feast of Tabernacles. Please book your Feast housing for the Feast sites in Destin and Myrtle Beach.
 - Destin Pelican Beach Resort
 - Myrtle Beach Avista Resort
7. Feast coordinators—Here are the Feast coordinators for the three sites that are presently planned for this year.
 - Big Sandy Ron and Linda Avey
 - Destin Ken and Janice Tate
 - Myrtle Beach Lyle and Kathy Kerby
8. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Examples of True Injustice" by Dave Havir.
9. Among Friends—This week's article is "Prayer—Faith and God's Will" by Dave Havir.
10. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 38 pages.

Prayer updates

Please remember to pray for the following people who live at home but are not able to regularly attend our church service—**Sonny Rosenberger, Laura Moran, David Bonilla, Annette Payne, Ronnie Shirley** and **Timberly Dunnam**.

Please remember to pray for the following people who are rehabbing at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater—**Ron Feaker** and **Elaine Holloway**.

Following are some updates about **Laura Moran** (who suffered a stroke on May 27). It is important to mention that the stroke was considered serious—but family members appreciate the help that God has given to them. The doctor reported that, since the original stroke, Mrs. Moran has not been diagnosed with any other brain bleeds. Also, she has not been diagnosed with any blood clots in her legs. (While she has been diagnosed with a blood clot in her right arm, the doctor was not addressing it at this time.) Through this week, the doctor weaned her off sedation and completely off a ventilator. The doctors have discussed moving her out of ICU. Members of her family appreciate your prayers for Mrs. Moran and for them.

Here is an update about **David Bonilla** from his wife, **Becky**: "Dave is doing better. Although he has a loss of movement in his right arm, he is able to lift his arm in a limited way and can move some of his fingers. He is using a wheelchair with assistance for mobility. He has a good attitude and is not ready to give up." Mr. and Mrs. Bonilla greatly appreciate the prayers and other expressions of love.

Becky Bonilla reports that she is doing well following her rotator-cuff surgery (months ago). She is scheduled to return to work on Monday.

"Prayer—Faith and God's Will"

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 June 19, 2021.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—One of the greatest lessons in life is for a person to learn how to effectively pray. And one of the greatest services that a friend can provide to other people is to influence them to have a better prayer life.

On June 12, I started a seven-part series about prayer. Today, is part two.

- Part 1—Talking to a Perfect Father
- Part 2—Faith and God's Will

Importance of faith

In his book in the Bible, James made a powerful statement.

James 5:16—"The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

The Son of God taught a valuable lesson about the importance of faith.

Mark 9:23—"Jesus said to him, 'If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.'"

Mark 11:22—"So Jesus answered and said to them, 'Have faith in God.'"

Mark 11:23-24—"For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them."

Whatever you ask?

Bible students are aware that Mark 11:23-24 is not the only place where the Son of God uses the word *whatever*.

John 14:13-14—"And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it."

John 15:16—"You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you."

John 16:23—"And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you."

God is not a genie

Children of God are well aware that God is not a genie in a bottle who is required to grant wishes by a believer. God is not required to fulfill all requests or demands of His children—no matter how much the child believes and has faith.

The child does not have jurisdiction over the heavenly Father.

The child does not command the heavenly Father.

The child does not have better judgment than the heavenly Father.

God sometimes says "no"

The book of James gives two reasons why people do not receive answered prayer.

James 4:2—"You do not have because you do not ask."

James 4:3—"You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures."

God is a parent who is not required to give His children whatever wish, request or demand that they make.

God is a heavenly Father who does what is best for His children. (In a future article, we will look at some of the examples where God said "no.")

Importance of God's will

1 John 5:14—"Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us."

If you want to read two examples about how faith and God's will work together, I recommend that you read the following two sections of Scripture. (We will talk about them in upcoming articles.)

- Daniel 3:17-18
- Matthew 26:36-44