

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Sept. 2, 2023 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 7:42

Bible studies

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

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Mark Weiss
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Revelation 3:1–6
Sermon Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Welcome to traveling speaker—The congregation welcomes Mark Weiss and thanks him for giving the 2:00 p.m. Bible study today.
2. David Coleman will be the Big Sandy Feast coordinator—Dave Havir asked David Coleman to be the Feast coordinator here. (Mrs. Avey will still be active at the Feast site here, but Mr. Havir wanted to reduce some of her stress. See the prayer request later in this bulletin.)
3. Wednesday-night Bible study this week—Sept. 6
4. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Our Sad Departure From Dr. King's Dream" by Star Parker.
5. Among Friends—This week's article is "God's Correction by Consequences and Mercy" by Dave Havir.
6. Eye on the World—The version of this week's "Eye on the World" that is distributed in the hall is 46 pages. (The number of pages on the website varies slightly due to a different layout program.) This edition has 376 headlines and four articles.

Prayer updates

On Tuesday, **Angela Dunnam** had a doctor appointment. Here is a brief report about how she was feeling that day: “My pain is really getting to me tonight. Every bone in my body aches. They feel brittle. The doctor said this is normal. Thank you for your prayers.”

Gary Wilson reports that the people at the physical therapy are planning to help him to become more mobile by his use of a walker.

Shirley Spearman is scheduled to have an ultrasound for her leg and kidney on Sept. 12.

Mary Sifuentes of Dallas (sister of **Shirley Spearman** who has been diagnosed with colon cancer) is scheduled for surgery on Sept. 6.

New prayer requests

On Friday, **Mickey Voyce** had abdominal surgery at 7:00 a.m. She came through the surgery fine around noon. She is expected to be recovering in the hospital or five to seven days.

In the Feb. 25 bulletin, we mentioned that **Martha McIver** fell off the bed while taking an afternoon nap—ending up with wounds on her temple and the top of her head. She ended up with a line of stitches and staples about eight inches long. As it turned out, that fall in February affected Mrs. McIver while she and **Neil** were on their recent trip to Colorado. While visiting family at the higher altitude, she went to a hospital where a doctor recognized the connection of the hard fall (months earlier) and the elevation. Since she got home, Mrs. McIver has been keeping an eye on her oxygen level.

In the May 27 bulletin, we mentioned that **Linda Avey** was diagnosed with a kidney infection. At the time, her eGFR number (Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate) was identified at 17. (As most people know, the number 5 indicates death, and the number 15 indicates dialysis.) On Thursday, Mrs. Avey heard that the results of her blood work looked good, but she also learned that the filtration number had dropped to 15. The doctor has scheduled two surgeries to insert a shunt into her arm in preparation for possible dialysis. If dialysis is recommended, it can be done at home or at a facility (rather than being admitted into a hospital).

Lou Ann McKay of Chatsworth, Ga. (sister of **Linda Cartwright**), is hospitalized due to suffering from an autoimmune disease, liver malfunction and blood loss.

On Wednesday, **Marsha Cartwright** of Edmond, Okla. (sister-in-law of **Dixon Cartwright**), suffered a stroke.

Corky Lingle of Big Sandy is in a hospital after experiencing chest pains.

Joanna Whitmore of Maryville, Tenn., suffered a stroke.

Feast speaking schedule in Big Sandy

Saturday, Sept. 30	Wynn Skelton
Sunday, Oct. 1	Ed Costanza
Monday, Oct. 2	Dean Roberts
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Bert Moers
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Ed Costanza
Thursday, Oct. 5	Dave Havir
Friday, Oct. 6	Jon Coffee
Saturday, Oct. 7	Dave Havir

Feast speaking schedule in Destin

Saturday, Sept. 30	Ken Tate and Bill Crow
Sunday, Oct. 1	Dave Havir and “Music Fest”
Monday, Oct. 2	Dave Havir and Neal Parker
Tuesday, Oct. 3	John Havir and “Music Fest”
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Chad Tate and Stan West
Thursday, Oct. 5	Ben Franklin and Bill Crow
Friday, Oct. 6	Daniel Hammons and Neil McIver
Saturday, Oct. 7	“Music Fest” and Ken Tate

Thought for the week

“Do you know what is so amazing about soldiers and police officers? Many are willing to risk so much for people who care so little.”—*Dave Havir*

“God’s Correction by Consequences and Mercy”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website (churchofgodbigandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of Sept. 2, 2023.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with my series about God’s correction. This particular study was titled “God’s Correction by Consequences and Mercy.”

Following are some of the scriptures from that Bible study.

Value of consequences

Since human parents understand the value of children learning valuable lessons through

experience (dealing with consequences), it is obvious that our heavenly Father helps us learn lessons through the consequences of our life.

Notice a few of the early consequences in the book of Genesis.

■ Genesis 3:14-15—The serpent faced consequences for his role in influencing Adam and Eve to sin.

■ Genesis 3:16—Eve faced consequences for her actions.

■ Genesis 3:17-19—Adam faced conse-

quences for his actions.

Notice another example of consequences—this time it is Moses having a request denied by God.

■ Deuteronomy 3:23-25—Moses described how he requested to see the Promised Land.

■ Deuteronomy 3:26—Moses described that his request was denied—as a consequence of previous behavior.

■ Deuteronomy 3:27—Moses described that God instructed him to climb to a high place and to view the land from afar.

The account in Ezekiel 18:1-29 shows that connection of consequences to behavior.

■ Ezekiel 18:4—This verse (which is repeated in verse 20) says: “The soul who sins shall die.”

This phrase means that individuals have consequences for their actions.

■ Ezekiel 18:5-9—Each person deals with consequences from his behavior—both obedience and sin.

■ Ezekiel 18:10-13—If a child disobeys, the child suffers the consequences.

■ Ezekiel 18:14-18—If a parent disobeys, the parent suffers the consequences.

■ Ezekiel 18:19—People ask: “Why should the son not bear the guilt of the father?”

■ Ezekiel 18:20—The answer: “The soul who sins shall die.”

■ Ezekiel 18:21-23—If a wicked person changes, he shall surely live.

■ Ezekiel 18:24—If a righteous person sins, he will suffer consequences.

■ Ezekiel 18:25-29—God deals with people in a fair manner, because of His use of consequences.

Value of mercy

Before you leave Ezekiel 18, consider verses 30-32 to soak up the concept of the Father’s desire to extend mercy.

Ezekiel 18:30—“Repent, and turn from

all your transgression, so that iniquity will not be your ruin.”

Ezekiel 18:31—“Cast away from you all the transgression which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel?”

Ezekiel 18:32—“For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies . . . Therefore turn and live!”

The Bible is filled with scriptures about the mercy of the Father and the Son.

Consider a few verses.

■ Matthew 9:12-13

■ Matthew 12:1-8 and 1 Samuel 21:1-6

■ Luke 23:39-43

■ John 8:1-11

Consequences and mercy

Let’s notice two famous examples about the combination of consequences and mercy.

■ 2 Samuel 12:11-23—After the Lord pronounced the severe penalty for David’s sin, David repented—and, while that repentance opened the door for David to receive the mercy of forgiveness, God still enacted the consequence of the child dying.

■ Luke 15:11-19—The father in the parable allowed his son to learn lessons through consequences.

■ Luke 15:20—The father expressed deep love before the son had the chance to express his apology and to show his appreciation.

■ Luke 15:21-24—After the son expressed his apology and showed his appreciation, the father organized a huge celebration.

Remember that your heavenly Father loves you even before you repent.

Your repentance does not increase the love of the heavenly Father toward you.

Your repentance expands your relationship with your heavenly Father.

Thought for the week

“Even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.”—*Martin Luther King Jr.*