

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

June 1, 2024 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:22

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Daniel Hammons

Presentation study—2:00 Daniel Hammons
(Also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Reg Killingley

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading Psalm 139:1–12

Sermon Jim Bald

Quick takes

1. Cake from the Havirs—Dave and Pam Havar (who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary today) have provided a cake of appreciation for the congregation today—to snack on it throughout your time here today. The Havirs said: “Thank you for your friendship.”
2. Nomination process concluded last Saturday—The board thanks all of you who participated in the nomination process.
3. Election process occurs in June—Today begins the annual election process for the board. In this election cycle, there is only one spot on the board to be voted upon this year. There would normally be two candidates to fill the one spot. Because there was a tie in the nomination process, there are three candidates for one spot. Congratulations to the three candidates.
 - Sue Jones
 - Carol O’Brien
 - Lisa Smith
4. Wednesday, June 5—Bible study at 7:00 p.m.

5. Day of Pentecost—Sunday, June 16

- 1:00—Interactive study, Dave Havir
- 2:00—Presentation study, Dave Havir
- 3:00—Church service, sermon by Stan West
(Mr. West will also be speaking on the day before Pentecost)

6. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Harrison Butker: 'Courage Under Fire'" by Daily Wire.

7. Among Friends—This week's article is "Recognize Negative, Dwell on Positive" by Dave Havir.

8. Eye on the World—146 headlines and two articles

9. Please remember to pray for the following people who are not able to regularly attend our church service.

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| ■ Mickey Ashcraft | ■ Ruth Roe |
| ■ Judy Biggs | ■ Ronnie Shirley |
| ■ Angela Dunnam | ■ Elaine Townsend |
| ■ Timberly Dunnam | ■ Mickey Voyce |
| ■ Annette Payne | ■ Donna Weese |

Prayer updates

Last Saturday, **Linda Benton** came to our church service to deliver a car to one of our members. After she was enjoying the fellowship, she had an episode that influenced her to call an ambulance to check on her symptoms. After going to an ER, the doctor confirmed that she was extremely dehydrated. She was able to return home. She appreciated the kindness of her friends here in the congregation. She good-naturedly said: "I would say that, if you are going to pass out in a church parking lot, this congregation is a good place to do it."

New prayer requests

Joyce Coleman requests prayers from a friend in Iowa (**Sherry**) who requested prayers for her husband (**Emory McDonald**). Mr. McDonald presently can't eat much and recently lost 83 pounds. Doctors are trying to determine the cause of the weight loss.

Although **Dave Havir** gave two presentations last Saturday (at 2:00 and 3:00), he kept his distance from everyone because he had a rash and did not know if he was contagious. Mr. Havir was suspicious of poison ivy (which he has not had in 50 years) or a spider bite. On Monday, he went to the ER in Lindale. Since it was not crowded, he got in quickly and was diagnosed quickly. The ER personnel said he had shingles (which he had never had before). He reports he has not had the typical pain from shingles, but he has had the common exhaustion.

“Don’t make things worse”

When an elderly woman walked into the local country church, the friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps.

“Where would you like to sit?” he asked politely.

She replied: “The front row, please.”

The usher tried to be helpful by saying: “You really don’t want to do that. The pastor is really boring.”

The elderly lady was shocked and asked: “Do you happen to know who I am? I’m the pastor’s mother.”

The quick thinking usher asked: “Do you know who I am?”

“No,” she said. “Good,” he answered.

“Recognize Negative, Dwell on Positive”

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 June 1, 2024.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Since I did not give the Bible study on Wednesday evening, I did not continue with my recent pattern of writing about my Wednesday-night presentations for the next weekend article.

Rather, I decided to write about the two presentations that I gave at our church service last Saturday (May 25). The titles of those oral presentations were “Recognize Negative, Dwell on Positive,” parts 1 and 2. I combined the material for those two presentations into this one article.

Importance of order

I want to begin this article by citing Numbers 13:17-33 to focus upon an important concept—the order of recognizing negative and of dwelling upon positive is crucial.

In fact, it is the key.

Some seem to espouse that believers should always be positive. You might be surprised to learn that there is an important role for recognizing negative.

Some believers actually say that, if believers have enough faith, they will never face anything negative and they will never feel negatively. That is ridiculous and even dangerous.

The truth is: We should recognize neg-

ative and then dwell on positive. And it should be done in that order.

Notice how Numbers 13:17-33 makes that point.

■ Numbers 13:17-20—The chosen spies were sent to evaluate—how many people were there, whether the people were strong or weak, whether the cities were strongholds, what the land was like (rich or poor), were there forests, what was the fruit like, etc.

■ Numbers 13:25—The spies evaluated (recognizing negative and positive) for 40 days.

■ Numbers 13:26-27—The spies began talking about the positive.

■ Numbers 13:28-29—Then, the spies became consumed with the negative.

■ Numbers 13:30—Caleb saw the folly of their reporting, and he encouraged them to focus on the expected success.

■ Number 13:31-33—But the people remained focus upon the negative.

■ Numbers 14:6-9—Two spies (Joshua and Caleb) continued to focus upon the positive.

■ Numbers 14:24—Caleb was mentioned as a person with a different spirit.

■ Numbers 14:30—Joshua and Caleb were mentioned as having the correct approach.

■ Numbers 14:38—Joshua and Caleb

were blessed for their approach.

Recognize negative and dwell on positive.

Old Testament

■ Genesis 50:20—Joseph recognized evil done against him, but he dwelled upon God’s positive involvement.

■ 1 Samuel 20:33—David recognized Saul’s intent toward him when he recognized Saul throwing a spear at him.

■ 1 Samuel 22:1—David recognized that he should hide from Saul in a cave.

■ 1 Samuel 26:21-24—When Saul offered to have David “return” to a relationship with him, David remembered the evil that Saul had consistently shown toward him and continued to keep his distance from Saul.

■ Proverbs 14:15—The simple believe every word, but the prudent consider their steps.

■ Proverbs 27:12—The prudent foresee the evil and hide when necessary.

■ Jeremiah 6:11-14—The Lord was upset when the prophets promised peace, when that message was inaccurate.

■ Jeremiah 14:11-12—The Lord instructed the people that there were times when a positive approach was not available.

■ Exodus 14:10-14—When people have a reason to be afraid, they should turn to God.

■ 2 Kings 20:1-3—Hezekiah recognized that God intended to let him die, but he turned to God.

■ Daniel 3:17-18—Shadrach, Meshack and Abed-Nego recognized that God could let them die, but they trusted Him.

Count the cost

■ Luke 14:26—The Lord taught disciples to put Him above everything—even family.

■ Luke 14:27—The Lord taught disciples to bear their cross (deal with negative).

■ Luke 14:28-30—The Lord used the example of a building project to teach disciples to “count the cost” (recognize negative).

■ Luke 14:31-32—The Lord used the example of going to war to teach disciples to “count the cost” (recognize negative).

■ 1 Thessalonians 5:3—Paul said a positive message about peace can be misleading to the actual truth.

Recognize traps

■ Matthew 4:3-4—The Son of God recognized the attempted trap and followed the plan of God.

■ Matthew 4:5-7—The Son of God recognized the attempted trap and followed the plan of God.

■ Matthew 4:8-10—The Son of God recognized the attempted trap and followed the plan of God.

■ 2 Timothy 4:14-15—Paul recognized the danger of Alexander the coppersmith, wanted the Lord to correct him and was willing to beware of him.

■ Acts 9:23-25—When the disciples recognized the plot of the Jews to kill Paul, they protected him (by letting him down the wall in a basket).

■ Romans 12:17-21—When disciples recognize evil against them, they should seek to let God deal with the evil people.

Trust in the Father

■ 2 Corinthians 1:3-7—Disciples recognize suffering, but they look to the Father for comfort.

■ 2 Corinthians 1:8-10—Disciples recognize hardship, but they seek to trust in God who delivers them.

■ Matthew 26:37-46—In the Garden of Gethsemane the Son of God recognized the challenging circumstances, expressed His feelings openly to His Father and continued to follow the plan of the Father.

Thought for the week

“My heart says chocolate and wine, but my jeans say please, please eat a salad.”