

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

May 3, 2025 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:01

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 Reg Killingley

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading Revelation 7:13–17

Sermon Anthony Kimmons

Quick takes

1. Welcome to Anthony Kimmons—The congregation welcomes Anthony Kimmons today. Mr. Kimmons (who has given technical support to our congregation since the founding of our congregation in 1995) is scheduled to give the sermon today.
2. Guest speaker on May 10—We are pleased to announce that Ben Mauldin III is scheduled to give two presentations in our building on May 10.
3. Annual board-nomination process begins today—The annual election for the board of the Church of God Big Sandy begins today. (The nomination portion of the process occurs in May, and the election occurs in June.)
4. Wednesday-night Bible study—May 7 at 7:00
5. Community functions in the building—We are pleased that the Big Sandy school system will be having two of its annual banquets in our building in May. It is an opportunity for our congregation to use our building to serve our community.
 - Thursday, May 8—Athletic banquet
 - Tuesday, May 13—FFA banquet

6. Community baccalaureate celebration for Big Sandy graduates—Everyone is invited to a gathering to honor Big Sandy graduating seniors. Besides hearing a guest speaker, community churches provide a gift card to seniors who are chosen by a random drawing. (Last year our congregation was one of the three churches that participated in providing a gift card to three seniors. This year, there are five congregations providing gifts cards of \$250. The five churches are: Church of God Big Sandy, Cowboy Church, First Baptist Church, Grace Communion Church, and Refuge Church.)
- Sunday, May 18—6:00 p.m.—Big Sandy Civic Center
7. Probable guest speaker in June—Dave Havir gave the following report about his friend Don Smith: “It was good to see Don Smith at our church service on the first day of Unleavened Bread. (He has spoken here in the past.) We graduated in the same class from Ambassador in 1974. We participated together in an archeological dig in Israel in the summer of 1972. He informed me that he will be taking a new trip to Israel (his first time back there in 53 years). I asked him to speak at our congregation (with slides) in June. God grant him safety on his trip.”
8. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “Can Anyone Make Government Efficient?” by Star Parker.
9. Among Friends—This week’s article is “Deliverance From Egypt—Part 5” by Dave Havir.
10. Eye on the World—Not available at bulletin deadline.
11. Please remember to pray for the following people who are not able to regularly attend our church service.
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| ■ Mickey Ashcraft | ■ Ronnie Shirley |
| ■ Judy Biggs | ■ Elaine Townsend |
| ■ Angela Dunnam | ■ Mickey Voyce |
| ■ Timberly Dunnam | ■ Donna Weese |
| ■ Ruth Roe | ■ Shirley West |

Prayer updates

The following update about **Linda Avey** did not arrive in time for last week’s bulletin, so we are publishing it this week. Daughter **Sheila** reported: “Mom had her neurologist appointment yesterday [April 24] to review her tests. The MRI showed that she had a bleeding stroke at the hospital in October and she has had another one since then (we are thinking in February). It showed two significant hemorrhages in her brain. She also has cerebral amyloid angiopathy that has caused multiple small bleeds in her brain. These can cause seizures and memory loss. She will need to be closely monitored by the neurologist and has an appointment for memory testing on May 13 to see how much her memory has been affected and to get a baseline. There is no cure. It’s just about prevention by keeping her blood pressure in check and staying on her seizure meds. We are relieved to have answers and a plan in case of health issues. Thanks for all your prayers.”

On Thursday, **Roseann Terhorst** got home following her hip surgery. She is making progress, but she is dealing with a variety of issues (including edema). She was told that it will be another four weeks of making progress.

Brenda Kennebeck reports that her mother (**Wanda Klepfer**) is weak but doing fairly well. (The doctor is trying to moderate the level of her medications.) Thankfully, her heart is staying in rhythm.

New prayer requests

Lupe Gonzales Sr. of Big Sandy died on April 30. Please remember his wife, **Josie**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Joyce Lindley of Paoli, Ind. (sister-in-law of **Jean Benedict**), died on April 30. (On Friday, Mrs. Benedict and her son **Toby** flew to Indiana.) Please remember her husband of 59 years, **Jack**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

Matthew 19:16-17—“Now behold, one came and said to Him, ‘Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?’ He said to him, . . . ‘If you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.’”

Matthew 19:18—“He said to Him, ‘Which ones?’”

Matthew 19:20—“The young man said to Him, ‘All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?’”

“Deliverance From Egypt—Part 5”

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 May 3, 2025.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with the series that led up to the Spring Feast days and also continued beyond them. The title of the presentation was: “Deliverance From Egypt—Part 5.”

The subtitle was “Reminder of Expectations.”

Foundation for Ten Commandments

Most Bible students appreciate the importance of the Ten Commandments given by the Lord. But I am not sure if Bible students recognize the foundational value of the verse that preceded the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20.

■ Exodus 20:2—“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.”

■ Exodus 20:3-17—The wonderful Ten Commandments.

Old Testament lesson = After God delivered them from Egypt, He reminded them of His expectations from them.

New Testament lesson = When God offers His bountiful grace to New Testament disciples, He still has expectations of them (Romans 6:1-2, Ephesians 2:8-10 and Titus 3:4-8).

Reminder means “already known”

When I say that the Ten Commandments are a reminder of the Father’s expectations,

that implies that the Ten Commandments were already known.

So I ask: “Were the Ten Commandments known before Exodus 20?”

Knowledge about sin before Exodus 20

Notice a few verses that talk about the knowledge of sin before Exodus 20.

■ Genesis 26:4-5—The Lord announced the blessing upon Isaac because “Abraham obeyed My voice, and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.”

■ Genesis 13:13—The Bible reported: “The men of Sodom were exceeding wicked and sinful against the LORD.”

■ Genesis 18:20-21—The Lord said: “Because the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah is very grave, I will go down now . . .”

■ Genesis 50:17—A messenger from Joseph’s brothers said to Joseph: “Please forgive the trespass of your brothers and their sin, for they did evil to you.”

Examples about each Commandment

Now, let’s notice a few specific examples before Exodus 20.

■ First and Second Commandments—Genesis 35:1-4

■ Third Commandment—Job 1:5

■ Fourth Commandment—Genesis 2:3

■ Fifth Commandment—Genesis 28:6-7

■ Sixth Commandment—Genesis 4:7-11

■ Seventh Commandment—Genesis 19:4-5 and Genesis 39:7-9

■ Eighth Commandment—Genesis 44:8-9

■ Ninth Commandment—Genesis 37:29-36 and Genesis 42:22

■ Tenth Commandment—Genesis 3:6

Looking to the New Testament

Now that we looked back before Exodus 20, let’s take a minute to look ahead into the New Testament.

■ Matthew 19:16—A person asked the Son of God: “What good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?”

■ Matthew 19:17—The Son of God replied: “If you want to enter into life, keep the Commandments.”

■ Matthew 19:18—The person asked: “Which ones?”

■ Matthew 19:18-19—The Son of God listed the following five Commandments—Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Fifth—which He identified as “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Question—Did our Savior want His disciples to keep *only* these five Commandments identified as “You shall love your neighbor as yourself?”

Correcting a detail—Well, there are actually six Commandments often identified as “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

So revised question—Did our Savior want His disciples to keep *only* the six Commandments identified “You shall love your neighbor as yourself?”

Answer: The answer to that question can be found in Matthew 22:36-40.

Great Commandment

■ Matthew 22:36—A lawyer asked: “Which is the great Commandment in the law?”

■ Matthew 22:37-40—The Son of God answered: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Added thought

Although I ended the Wednesday-night Bible study in Matthew 22:36-40, I want you to consider two additional verses in Matthew 19.

■ Matthew 19:20—When the young man heard the importance of the Ten Commandments, he said: “All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?”

■ Matthew 19:21—To which the Son of God pointed out a specific deeper instruction for this particular man to consider—He told the man to help the poor.

Congratulations for making a commitment to following the Ten Commandments.

But after you have committed your life to following the Ten Commandments, what deeper instruction would the Son of God specifically mention to you?