

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Feb. 4, 2012 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:54

Service next Sabbath: 1:00 p.m.

Order of service

Song leader	.....	Clay Forrestier
Pianist	.....	Dixon Cartwright
First sermon	.....	Ron Feaker
Teen class—Library	.....	David Fisher
Bridges class—Classroom #1	.....	Carol Bald
Kids' class—Classroom #2	.....	Mindy Forrestier
Interactive Bible study—Foyer	.....	Bernie Monsalvo
Second sermon	.....	Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Thank you—Thank you to all the members of the congregation who participated on the budget committee last Saturday evening.
2. Chili potluck today—There is a chili potluck scheduled immediately after the church service today. There will also be a potato bar and a salad bar.
3. Football party tomorrow—Some members in the congregation will be at the building watching a football game on Feb. 5. Some people will arrive at 4:00 p.m. The game starts at about 5:30. Everyone is invited. We anticipate having chili for the event. Feel free to bring snacks.
4. Cajun meal on Feb. 11—There is a Cajun meal (prepared by the Forrestier family) scheduled at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 11.
5. Variety show on Feb. 11—There is a variety show scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 11. Please let Dave or Pam Havir know if you plan to participate.
6. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "The Choice: The Power of Self-Esteem" by an anonymous 20-year-old.
7. Among Friends—This week's article is "#7—Sowing Discord Among Brothers" by Dave Havir.

8. Eye on the World—This week's Eye on the World is 22 pages.
9. Wednesday-night Bible Study—This past Wednesday Dave Havir gave a study titled "Jude 11—Way of Cain."

Prayer updates

James Moran reports that he had a fairly good week following his chemo treatment at the UT Health Center (north of Tyler) on Tuesday.

Vonda Ouellette is scheduled to return home from the rehab facility tomorrow.

New prayer requests

Judy Haines, who has been experiencing some colon challenges, was scheduled for surgery in Shreveport yesterday. She was anointed last Saturday. Since the doctor wasn't sure what procedure to undertake until she was on the operating table, we were not sure at the printing deadline of this bulletin of her recovery time in the hospital.

Ken Westby of Federal Way, Wash., went to his cardiologist on Thursday and learned that his pacemaker/defibrillator "had mysteriously gone dead." The doctor scheduled him for an emergency procedure on Friday. Mr. Westby reported that "the pacemaker unit does about 90 percent of my pacing and is needed, and the defibrillator is a backup in case."

Olga Johnson of Germantown, Pa. (sister-in-law of **Laura Moran**), who had experienced a stroke more than 30 years ago, recently suffered a ministroke. She appreciates your prayers.

Synopsis of board meeting

Here is a synopsis of the board meeting on Monday, Jan. 30.

- In the treasurer's report, treasurer Don Mischnick presented that the year-to-date income for 2011 showed a 9 percent increase.
- In old business, the following three items were covered: (1) Dave Havir gave a report about the 2011 Feast of Tabernacles. (2) The board "reactivated" the Web-site committee. (3) David Havir III gave an update about the Frontier Girls.
- In new business, the following three items were covered: (1) The board unanimously accepted the 2012 budget. (2) J.L. Roden and Ron Feaker gave a report about the proposed safety policy for the congregation. (3) The board chose Mr. Feaker as the chairman of the election committee.
- In the pastor's report, Dave Havir mentioned the following five items: (1) To demonstrate his effort to balance his time speaking in our home congregation and speaking in other congregations, he showed that he gave 36 sermons in our home congregation and went to 21 congregations as a guest speaker. (2)

He showed the sermon distribution of the eight men who regularly give sermons in our home congregation. (3) He showed the sermon distribution by the seven men who were guest speakers in our congregation in 2011. He also mentioned that the two men who have visited our congregation as guest speakers the most years through our history are Dennis Moulard (11 years) and George Crow (10 years). (4) He gave an update about the 2011 Feast of Tabernacles. (5) He gave plans for the 2012 Feast of Tabernacles.

"The Choice: The Power of Self-Esteem"

This article is from the "Edifying the Body" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's Web site, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Feb. 4, 2012.

Anonymous

EAST TEXAS—"Mirror mirror on the wall, who is the fairest one of all?" Society's standard for body image and the importance of beauty is promoted everywhere. Beauty is often seen as a symbol of success, love and happiness, yet more often than not it causes pain, loneliness and low self-esteem.

How many times have you heard someone say, "I want to look like that" or "I wish I were as pretty as she is"?

It does not matter where you go, whether to the local mall or your public high school, phrases like this are often heard. Whether we admit it or not, self-esteem affects all of us in one way or another.

I am no exception. When I was 13 years old, I was like any other girl my age. I liked makeup and stylish clothes. I complained about too much homework, and I hated when my little brother ate the last cookie in the box.

I guess I looked like any other girl my age too. I wore jeans and designer T-shirts—the typical junior-high fashion.

However, inside I harbored a secret that made me feel different and weird. From an early age I had been verbally abused by my father. I remember countless times when he would yell at me at dinner for something trivial or tell me I was "ugly" and "worthless." I would end up crying and be unable to eat anything.

It became so bad at one point that I had to go to the doctor because I would get terrible stomachaches and was unable to swallow anything for fear that he would yell at me again.

Eventually my parents divorced and the

abuse stopped, but the damage had already been done. Because of the things my dad had said to me, I never saw the pretty young girl with potential that other people saw. Instead, all I saw was ugliness and imperfection.

I would wake up in the morning and wonder what I had done to deserve this face that caused me so much grief.

Everywhere I looked other girls my age were surrounded by friends and laughter. I walked alone through the halls of my school wishing I could be like them.

To make matters worse, I lived in an age when everyone wanted to look like models. Each time someone said something hurtful to me, I would put on a mask and pretend to be someone I was not. I became obsessed with beauty, and in doing so I lost sight of my real self. That was the biggest mistake I ever made.

I am 20 now.

Looking back, I realize that I let people who knew nothing about me decide who I was. I lost sight of the real me, and now my low self-esteem ruled my life. Now that I am older I realize that beauty inside is what counts.

If people were perfect, then they would never be able to learn from their mistakes. And, if people did not learn from their mistakes, they would never realize that all the things they want to be they already are.

We cannot control what happens to us in the strange medley of life. However, we can control how we handle each situation and what we will do with the opportunities presented to us. That is what really counts in the end.

“#7—Sowing Discord Among Brothers”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s Web site, churchofgodbig sandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Feb. 4, 2012.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—One of my favorite sections of Scripture is Proverbs 6:16-19. The reason is that I can clearly identify seven traits that God hates and seven traits that God loves.

It is important to notice that the devil reflects the seven traits that God hates.

This week, let’s look at some verses that discuss “sowing discord among brothers” (verse 19).

One third of the stars

When believers read the biblical accounts of the fallen angels, they know that the angels must face consequences for their actions.

Jude 6—“And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day.”

But believers also know the devil was instrumental in influencing the sin of the angels.

Revelation 12:4—“His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth . . .”

Nurturing anger

One of the great devices of the devil is to promote anger. We have learned that the devil has great wrath (Revelation 12:12). We understand that the devil likes to influence people to nurture their wrath.

Ephesians 4:26-27—“Be angry, and do not sin’: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil.”

Hurtful motives

While it is possible for a person to sow discord by naive words and actions, much discord is accomplished with malicious intent.

Notice two different motivations for sowing discord.

- Some people sow discord because of envy. They don’t like seeing someone else experience success and prosperity.

- Some people sow discord because their own wounded pride causes them to be angry and to seek revenge.

While some discord is done boldly in the open, much discord is done subtly in darkness. Remember the devil’s subtle approach in sowing discord between God and the first couple (Genesis 3:1-5).

A few examples

It should come as no surprise that the devil successfully influences people to behave like him.

Genesis 27:6-10, 41-43—“So Rebekah spoke to Jacob her son, saying, ‘Indeed I heard your father speak to Esau your brother, saying, “Bring me game and make savory food for me, that I may eat it and bless you in the presence of the LORD before my death.” Now therefore, my son, obey my voice according to what I command you. Go now to the flock and bring me from there two choice kids of the goats, and I will make savory food from them for your father, such as he loves. Then you shall take it to your father, that he may eat it, and that he may bless you before his death’ . . . So Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father blessed him, and Esau said in his heart, ‘The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then I will kill my brother Jacob.’ And the words of Esau her older son were told to Rebekah. So she sent and called Jacob her younger son, and said to him, ‘Surely your brother Esau comforts himself concerning you by intending to kill you. Now therefore, my son, obey my voice: arise, flee to my brother Laban in Haran.’ ”

1 Timothy 6:4-5—“He is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself.”

3 John 9-10—“I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us. Therefore, if I come, I will call to mind his deeds which he does, prating against us with malicious words. And not content with that, he himself does not receive the brethren, and forbids those who wish to, putting them out of the church.”