

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Jan. 20, 2024 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:41

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Don Smith

Presentation study—2:00 Reg Killingley
(Also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading Exodus 20:1–17

Sermon Don Smith

Quick takes

1. Pastor's travel—Today, Dave Havir is giving two presentations in Little Rock, Ark.
2. Welcome to traveling speaker—The congregation welcomes Don Smith as our traveling speaker.
3. Upcoming traveling speakers—The congregation is pleased that many traveling speakers work it into their schedule to visit us. Here is the tentative schedule.

■ Today	Don Smith
■ Feb. 3	Wynn Skelton
■ Feb. 10	Bill Crow
■ Feb. 24	Terry McAdams
■ March 16	Scott Hoefker
■ May 4	Ken Tate
4. Wednesday-night Bible study—Jan. 24 at 7:00.

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

■ Mickey Ashcraft	■ Annette Payne
■ Judy Biggs	■ Ruth Roe
■ Becky Bonilla	■ Ron Shirley
■ Angela Dunnam	■ Elaine Townsend
■ Timberly Dunnam	■ Mickey Voyce
■ Vi Lehman	■ Donna Weese
6. We don't generally cancel for bad weather—Since the beginning of this congregation, it has been our tradition to avoid canceling a church service due to weather. We expect each individual to use personal judgment and freedom for himself and his family. (Besides, you could join our Internet audience to watch our presentations online.)
7. Loss of electricity would slow us down—Although the circumstance would be rare, we would probably cancel a church service in the building due to a loss of electricity. (However, knowing our audience, anyone who showed up might enjoy a small Bible study—as long as we stayed warm enough.)
8. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Iran Conducts Deadly Strike on Pakistan Territory" by Paul Adams and Caroline Davies.
9. Among Friends—This week's article is "Positive Energy—Part 3" by Dave Havir.
10. Eye on the World—169 headlines and three articles.

Prayer updates

The doctor for **Benny West** (son of **Shirley West** and brother of **Stan**) has not yet proceeded with a hernia repair (before proceeding to have procedures to deal with kidney stones and a bladder blockage).

In recent bulletins, we mentioned the health challenges of **Gavin Forrestier** and the anticipation of a scheduled surgery. The family reports that the surgery has been scheduled for Feb. 20.

Last Saturday, **Dave Havir** went to visit **George Crow** in a dementia facility in the Houston area. Mr. Havir reported: "He recognized me, but he is very confused about matters past and present." Mr. Havir wanted to publicly acknowledge the loving care that sons **Richard** and **Bill** have given to their father during the past 10 months—following the death of their mother (and their father's wife), **Rosemary**.

New prayer requests

Veronica Beasley of Lindale is scheduled for a hysterectomy on Wednesday, Jan. 24.

Jean Ward of Excelsior Springs, Mo., has been diagnosed with congestive heart failure.

Linda Babb of Apache Junction, Ariz., has been diagnosed with meningitis (apparently caused by valley fever, which is a fungus inherent in the soil in the Southwest). This fever can get into the lungs. Although she has been diagnosed with a lesion on one lung, a test for tuberculosis came back negative.

Dorothy Railston of Yakima, Wash., recently fell and hurt her left hip (which had previously been replaced). An X-ray showed no fracture or soft-tissue damage. She has been using crutches at this time.

Steve Clement of Broken Arrow, Okla., died on Jan. 13. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Tim Roe of Ore City (60-year-old son of **Ruth Roe**) died on Jan. 15. (He had been in regular communication with Dave Havir concerning matters involving his mother.) Please remember Mrs. Roe in your prayers.

Cheri Blue of Winnsboro died on Jan. 18. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Thought for the week

“Every generation imagines itself to be more intelligent than the one that went before it, and wiser than the one that comes after it.”—*George Orwell*

“Positive Energy—Part 3”

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 Jan. 20, 2024.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with the short series about positive energy. In this particular presentation (Part 3), I discussed two reasons why we lose positive energy.

Two reasons

Here are the two reasons why we lose positive energy.

1. We lose positive energy because of sin—because we allow negative energy to replace our positive energy.

2. We lose positive energy to help people. (When we distribute positive energy to

others, we need to replace it with more positive energy—positive energy flowing in and positive energy flowing out.)

As we continue with this discussion, I want to discuss the second reason first.

To help people

Positive energy leaves us when we help people. Notice the example of the Son of God.

Positive energy left the Son of God as He was helping people.

When we distribute positive energy to others, we need to replace it with more positive energy—positive energy flowing in and positive energy flowing out.

■ Mark 5:25-27—A certain woman had a flow of blood for 12 years.

■ Mark 5:28—She said: “If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well.”

■ Mark 5:29—When she touched Him, she was healed of her affliction.

■ Mark 5:30—When the Son of God immediately knew that power had gone out of Him, He asked: “Who touched My clothes?”

■ Mark 5:31—The disciples wondered why He asked who touched Him.

■ Mark 5:32—When the Son of God looked around, He saw the woman who had touched Him.

■ Mark 5:33-34—When He saw that she was afraid, He reassured her.

■ Luke 6:17-18—People came to the Son of God to be healed of their diseases and to be freed from the torment of unclean spirits.

■ Luke 6:19—The people wanted to touch Him—for power to go out from Him and for them to be healed.

■ Luke 8:43-48—Luke repeated the event that Mark recorded in Mark 5:29-34 (that was mentioned earlier in this article).

■ Luke 8:46—The Son of God said: “Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me.”

Because of sin

Positive energy leaves us because of sin. Let’s notice three specific ways how sin saps our positive energy.

Sin we commit

When we sin, we lose positive energy and it is replaced by negative energy. (Confession and repentance to God will replace the positive energy.)

■ Psalm 51:1-19—It took David’s repentance to renew the positive energy in his life.

■ Matthew 26:75—Peter wept bitterly.

■ Matthew 27:3-5—Judas hanged himself.

Sin committed against us

When people sin against us, we often lose positive energy, and it is often replaced by negative energy.

While there are valuable actions that can help us be renewed in a positive spirit, connecting with our Heavenly Father is the most important action.

■ Psalm 6:8—Receiving the Father’s help in dealing with workers of iniquity.

■ Psalm 18:3—Receiving the Father’s help in dealing with enemies.

■ Psalm 55:3—Receiving the Father’s help in dealing with the voice of the enemy and the oppression of the wicked.

■ Psalm 57:4—Receiving the Father’s help in dealing with people who are set on fire, whose teeth are spears and arrows and whose tongue is a sharp sword.

Observing sin committed against others

When we see sin committed against other people, we often lose positive energy and it is often replaced by negative energy.

■ Nehemiah 1:1-3—When Jewish people returned to Jerusalem after the Babylonian exile, survivors were in great distress.

■ Nehemiah 1:4—The people wept and mourned for them.

■ Proverbs 29:2—When a wicked person rules, the people groan.

■ Romans 9:1-5—The apostle Paul had sorrow for his countrymen.

■ Hebrews 4:15—Since the Son of God experienced the emotions of the rest of society, He at times mourned for people.

■ Luke 19:41-44—The Son of God wept over Jerusalem.

■ Luke 23:27-28—The Son of God was concerned for the hurting people.

Remember the lessons

1. We lose positive energy because of sin—because we allow negative energy to replace our positive energy.

2. We lose positive energy when we help people. (When we distribute positive energy to others, we need to replace it with more positive energy—positive energy flowing in and positive energy flowing out.)

Reminders

■ Positive energy flows from God.

■ Positive energy flows toward other people.