

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

May 24, 2025 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:16

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Dave Havar
Presentation study—2:00 Dave Havar
(also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading 1 Corinthians 10:1–11
Sermon Wynn Skelton

Quick takes

1. Last chance for board nomination—The nomination portion for the board (which occurs in May) concludes today. (The board election occurs in June.)
2. Dominoes—Tomorrow at 11:00 a.m.
3. Wednesday-night Bible study—May 28 at 7:00.
4. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "What Is the Golden Dome Missile Defense Shield?" by Chris Sanders and Mike Stone.
5. Among Friends—This week's article is "Second Commandment—Part 1" by Dave Havar.
6. Eye on the World—Not available at bulletin deadline.
7. Please remember to pray for the following people who are not able to regularly attend our church service.

■ Mickey Ashcraft
■ Judy Biggs
■ Angela Dunnam
■ Timberly Dunnam
■ Ruth Roe

■ Ronnie Shirley
■ Elaine Townsend
■ Mickey Voyce
■ Donna Weese
■ Shirley West

Prayer updates

Here are excerpts from **Kayla Swenson** about **Jon Swenson** (of Coatesville, Ind.) last Monday: “We are at Jon’s appointment this morning and she [the doctor] poked and prodded at his wound—and it is bleeding. That is a good sign. It’s not robust, though, so we are going to be doing some more waiting before deciding to do another skin graft. I will be going back to dressing changes every day again for him. He has a follow-up appointment for May 29 and is booked in the OR tentatively for May 31, as a ‘just-in-case’ thing. If the cadaver skin is working and healing fine, they may not do anything other than remove staples and ex fix at that time. We are feeling encouraged and optimistic. Thank you for your prayers.”

New prayer requests

Last weekend, people were watching the tornadoes that were landing in Missouri, Indiana and Kentucky. One of the worst spots was in London, Ky.—where **Ray Cowan** (an unpaid elder for decades in the Church of God, who was recently serving in the United Church of God) died when a tornado caused damage to his home. His wife, **Norma**, was taken to the hospital. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Sid Gandy of Houston died on May 15. Please remember his wife, **Mary**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Linda LaMae Daniels (mother of **Roger Daniels**) died on May 20 at the age of 103. Her funeral service will be held in her home state of California. There are plans for a memorial service to be held in Longview. The family will announce the day and location when plans are finalized. Please remember the family in your prayers.

2025 Feast of Tabernacles

1. We are hosting a small site in Big Sandy for the 31st consecutive year with David and Joyce Coleman as coordinators.
2. We are hosting a small site in Destin, Fla., for the 28th consecutive year with Neil and Martha as coordinators. We apologize that there has been an increase in housing costs at the Pelican Beach Resort. (We remind you that booking through our church exempts you from paying sales tax.)
3. Message from Dave Havar to previous speakers—“If you have spoken at one of our Feast sites in the past and if you are planning to attend at either site this year, please let me know.”
4. We recommend that you consider a Feast site in Myrtle Beach, S.C. In the past we cosponsored a site there for 20 years. Although we have not been involved at the site for a few years, we continue to recommend the site. Jamie Wetherington and Ralph Hanahan are the coordinators.

Scriptures to consider

1 Corinthians 8:5-6—"For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as there are many gods and many lords), yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live."

1 Corinthians 15:24—"Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power."

1 Corinthians 15:28—"Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all."

1 Timothy 2:3-5—"For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus."

1 Timothy 4:10—"For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe."

Hebrews 8:1—"Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens."

"Second Commandment—Part 1"

This article is from the "Among Friends" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website (churchofgodbigsandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of May 24, 2025.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with our series. The topic is the Ten Commandments. The presentation was titled "Second Commandment—Part 1."

As I mentioned last week, the plan was for most of the Ten Commandments to have their own individual Bible studies—but the topic of the First Commandment expanded into two parts. As it turns out, the Second Commandment has also expanded into two parts.

Foundational scripture

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

Then, the Lord proceeded to remind the children of Israel about the 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).

Second Commandment

■ Exodus 20:4-6—"You shall not make for yourself a carved image (any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth); you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God [with God mentioning the consequences for those who hate Him and love Him]."

Some Hebrew words for "jealous"

Have you ever noticed how many scriptures there are in the Bible that talk about being jealous?

Let's notice three Hebrew words that refer to being jealous.

■ The Hebrew word *qana* (identified in *Strong's Concordance* as No. 7064) is used about 28 times. It can mean “to be jealous, be envious” (a negative attitude) or “to be zealous” (a positive attitude).

■ The Hebrew word *qina* (identified in *Strong's Concordance* as No. 7068) is used about 43 times. It can mean “jealousy and envy” (which are negative) and “zeal” (which is positive).

■ The Hebrew word *qanno* (identified in *Strong's Concordance* as No. 7072) is used two times. It means “jealous” and is negative in both scriptures.

Notice another Hebrew word

Now, let's look at a fourth Hebrew word that refers to being jealous.

■ The Hebrew word *qanna* (identified in *Strong's Concordance* as No. 7067) is used only six times. But notice the following description of the meaning: “Jealous; an adjective or title used exclusively of God, focusing on His desire for exclusive relationships.”

Following are the first four scriptures using this particular Hebrew word.

■ Exodus 20:5—Listed as part of the Second Commandment: “I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God.”

■ Deuteronomy 4:24—“For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.”

■ Deuteronomy 5:9—Listed as part of the Second Commandment: “I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God.”

■ Deuteronomy 6:15—“The LORD your God is a jealous God among you.”

The information mentioned in Deuteronomy 6:15 is also mentioned in Exodus 34:14. But the Exodus verse has more detail—mentioning *qanna* twice.

■ Exodus 34:14—“For you shall worship no other god, for the LORD (whose name is Jealous) is a jealous God.”

How is the Lord's name identified as “jealous”? Some sources identify the following name (Jehovah Kanna, the Jealous God) to be associated with Exodus 34:14. (Many Church of God students would prefer to say Yahweh Kanna, the Jealous God.)

It is the worship of idols that provokes God to jealousy.

■ His jealousy is His expected response.

■ His jealousy is His righteous reaction.

No idols made with hands

Now, let's look at scriptures that discuss the concept of avoiding idols made with hands.

■ Acts 7:41—When Stephen gave his history lesson before his martyrdom, he included a comment about the idol in Exodus 32:1-6.

■ Exodus 32:1-6—Aaron requested golden earrings to use an engraving tool to make a molten calf—which the people declared as the “god” who brought them out of Egypt.

■ Acts 7:43—When Stephen gave his history lesson before his martyrdom, he included a comment about the tabernacle of Moloch, the star of their god Remphan (Chiun) and images that they made to worship—found in Amos 5:25-27.

■ Amos 5:26—You also carried the tabernacle of Moloch and Chiun your images—the star of your god, which you made to yourselves.

■ Deuteronomy 29:16-18—When they dwelt in the land of Egypt, they saw the abominations and idols among them (wood, stone, silver and gold)—causing people to serve the gods of those nations.

■ Isaiah 40:18-20—Nothing compares to God—not images of gold and silver of the rich and not the wood items of the poorer people.

■ Daniel 3:1-18—King Nebuchadnezzar made a huge image of gold (90 feet high and nine feet wide) and instructed the people to fall down and worship it—but Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego would not.

■ Acts 19:24-27—Demetrius (and other silversmiths who made silver shrines of Diana) complained when the apostle Paul persuaded people to turn away from the gods made with hands.

■ Revelation 9:20—The people who lived through the troubles associated with the sixth trumpet did not repent of the works of their hands—idols of gold, silver, brass, stone and wood.

Next time, part 2

Next time, we will discuss idols of the heart and mind. I recommend that you take a peek at Ezekiel 14:1-8.