

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

July 12, 2025 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:28

### Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. . . . . Mark Weiss

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 . . . . . John 3:1–21

Sermon . . . . . Daniel Hammons

### Quick takes

1. Pastor's travel—Today, Dave Havar is giving two presentations in Huntsville.
2. Guest speaker postponed—On Friday, Morris Foster (who was our scheduled speaker for the 3:00 presentation) contacted Dave Havar to ask for a postponement due to a health matter. (Early in the week, he went to an ER due to severe abdominal cramping. His appointment with an urologist on Friday did not reveal the problem. He goes back to the urologist again next week.) Mr. Havar is looking forward to rescheduling Mr. Foster. Mr. Havar also thanks Daniel Hammons for doing some extra service for the congregation today.
3. Recent rash of cancellations by our guest speakers—Dave Havar points out that our congregation has faced a string of cancellations by guest speakers due to health issues—Wynn Skelton, Terry McAdams, Ray Hall and Morris Foster. We pray for their recovery, primarily for their own health and happiness.
4. Dominoes—Tomorrow at 11:00 a.m.
5. Wednesday-night Bible study—July 16 at 7:00.
6. Prewedding meal—Melodee Searls and Anthony Kimmons invite everyone to a meal in the building on Friday, July 25, at 6:00 p.m. (They ask you to join them for food, fellowship and games.)

7. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Coast Guard Rescue Swimmer Saved 165 Children" by Jaime E. Galvan.
8. Among Friends—This week's article is "Seventh Commandment" by Dave Havir.
9. Eye on the World—Not available by bulletin deadline.

## Prayer updates

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Dennis Benson** of Prescott Valley, Ariz., had spent three days in the hospital dealing with fluid in his lungs. He reported that he had a good week and was feeling well enough to go on a family trip to Minnesota.

## New prayer requests

On Thursday, **Lisa Smith** reported: "I just found out that I have diverticulitis. The inflammation is very bad, so I am restricted to liquid soup diets and bed rest for a few days. Thank you for your prayers."

**Tracie Justice** of Mineola (friend of **Melodee Searls**) has been diagnosed with "inoperable, aggressive cancer." The oncologist recommended chemo as her only option. Mrs. Justice believes in prayer and asked our congregation to pray for her.

**Carolyn DeJaynes** of Big Sandy has been diagnosed with stage-4 liver failure.

**Gerald Pemberton** of Hawkins had prostate surgery for cancer and is recovering at home.

**Samuel Vanderford** of the Big Sandy volunteer fire department cut his hand and had successful surgery "to reattach the nerves in one of his fingers."

**David Dykes** (pastor emeritus at Green Acres Baptist Church in Tyler) died on July 2. Please remember his wife, **Cindy**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

## Scriptures to consider

**Acts 17:10-11**—"Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so."

**1 Thessalonians 5:21**—"Test all things; hold fast what is good."

**1 Corinthians 7:6**—"But I say this as a concession, not as a commandment."

**1 Corinthians 7:10**—"Now to the married I command, yet not I but the Lord . . ."

**1 Corinthians 7:12**—"But to the rest I, not the Lord . . ."

## “Seventh Commandment”

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 July 12, 2025.

**By Dave Havir**

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with our series. The topic is the Ten Commandments. The presentation was titled “Seventh Commandment.”

I decided to discuss five main concepts in the presentation—and to quickly mention a sixth concept at the end of the study. (The scriptures that I briefly mentioned about the sixth concept at the end of the presentation are included in this article.)

### 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).

### Seventh Commandment

■ Exodus 20:14—“You shall not commit adultery.”

### Old Testament history of polygamy and concubines

■ Genesis 4:19—Here is the first mention in the Bible about a man having two wives—Lamech took for himself two wives.

■ Genesis 22:22-24—Here is the first mention in the Bible of the word *concubine*—Nahor (the brother of Abraham) and his wife had eight sons, and Nahor and his concubine had four sons.

According to *Strong’s Concordance*, the Hebrew word for concubine is *pileges* (*Strong’s* No. 6370), which is described this way: “Con-

cubine, a female consort generally with lower status and fewer rights than a wife, with the function of giving social status or pleasure to the husband; [at one place] this refers to a woman’s male consorts (Ezekiel 23:20).”

■ Ezekiel 23:20—“For she lusted for her paramours . . .”—Paramours is defined in *Oxford Languages* as “a lover, especially the illicit partner of a married person.”

■ Genesis 29:16-30—Jacob had two wives—Leah and Rachel.

■ Genesis 30:3—Rachel gave Jacob her maid Bilhah to give birth to Dan.

■ Genesis 30:7—Rachel gave Jacob her maid Bilhah again to give birth to Naphtali.

■ Genesis 30:10-11—Rachel gave Jacob her maid Zilpah to give birth to Gad.

■ Genesis 30:12-13—Rachel gave Jacob her maid Zilpah again to give birth to Asher.

■ Judges 8:30—Gideon had 70 sons, because he had many wives.

■ 1 Kings 11:1-2—Solomon loved many foreign women, including from nations of whom the Lord said: “You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods.”

■ 1 Kings 11:3—Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines, and his wives turned away his heart.

### New Testament history teaches monogamy

■ 1 Corinthians 7:2—Each man should have his own wife and each woman should have her own husband.

### Old Testament discussion about adultery

Bible students are aware that much of the Old Testament writings in the Torah were written toward a male perspective.

■ Leviticus 20:10—If a man commits adultery with another man’s wife, the adulterer and adulteress were both put to death.

■ Leviticus 20:11—If a man lies with his

father's wife, both of them shall be put to death.

■ Leviticus 20:12—If a man lies with his daughter-in-law, both of them shall be put to death.

■ Leviticus 20:13—If a man lies with a male as he lies with a woman, both of them shall be put to death.

At this point in the Bible study, I diverted away from the Old Testament to make a quick comment about homosexuality and lesbianism. We know that the New Testament says that the wrong thoughts people have would be viewed the same as wrong actions (Matthew 5:28). However, I wanted to acknowledge that I congratulate people who are celibate—people who will battle wrong thoughts and feelings that are within their mind as they avoid the behavior that they believe the Bible denounces.

Here is an interesting scripture to consider about that idea.

■ Matthew 19:12—Some people were eunuchs from birth, some people were made eunuchs by people, and some people were eunuchs by their choice as they moved forward toward the Kingdom of Heaven.

Now, back to the Old Testament comments about adultery.

■ Leviticus 20:14—If a man marries a woman and her mother, it is wickedness and all three shall be burned with fire.

■ Leviticus 20:15-16—If a man or a woman mates with an animal, the person and the animal shall be put to death.

■ Deuteronomy 22:13-19—If a man makes a false accusation about a new wife's virginity, he shall be fined 100 shekels of silver, and she shall be his wife for the rest of his life (with no access to divorce).

■ Deuteronomy 22:20-21—If a man makes a truthful accusation about a new wife's virginity, she shall be stoned to death.

■ Deuteronomy 22:22—If a man commits adultery with a married woman, both of them shall die.

■ Deuteronomy 22:23-24—If a man is accused of sexual assault with an engaged woman while they are in a city, both shall be stoned to death—since they were in a crowded area, she could not claim sexual assault.

■ Deuteronomy 22:25-27—If a man is

accused of sexual assault with an engaged woman while they are in an isolated area, only the man dies—since they were in an isolated area, she could claim sexual assault.

■ Deuteronomy 22:28—If a man sexually assaults a virgin, he shall give the father 50 shekels of silver and be forced to marry the lady—not being permitted to divorce her all his life.

## New Testament discussion about adultery

■ Matthew 5:27—“You have heard: ‘You shall not commit adultery.’”

■ Matthew 5:28—“But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her had already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

■ 1 Corinthians 7:3-5—Romantic love in marriage should be by mutual consent.

## Here is an important reminder—God got a divorce

Since the God of Israel got a divorce, people should not be quick to judge a divorce.

■ Malachi 2:16—“The LORD God of Israel said that He hates divorce.”

■ Jeremiah 3:8—“Then I saw that for all the causes for which backsliding Israel had committed adultery, I had put her away and given her a certificate of divorce.”

## May a divorced person marry again?

As I reached the conclusion of my time for the Bible-study presentation, I quickly mentioned the following scriptures.

■ Deuteronomy 24:1-4

■ Matthew 5:31-32

■ Matthew 19:3-10

■ 1 Corinthians 7:6-9—When Paul wrote to the unmarried, he gave his opinion (which ended up in the Bible)—“I say this as a concession, not as a commandment.”

■ 1 Corinthians 7:10-11—When Paul wrote to the married, he gave a command from the Lord—“I command, yet not I but the Lord.”

■ 1 Corinthians 7:12-16—When Paul wrote to the rest (those living with someone who “does not believe”), he gave his opinion (which ended up in the Bible)—“I, not the Lord, say.”