

From the Pastor:

James continues his exhortation against all forms of selfishness in the next passage (James 4:1-4).

“Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because to ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”

As we mentioned last time, all sins arise from our following some form of selfishness as 1 John 2:15-16 points out. “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.”

James also points out that all conflicts arise from selfishness and self-seeking as well (whether between individuals or nations). Wars between nations arise because one nation (or, leader of a nation) covets (covetousness is one form that selfishness takes) what another nation has (example, land or other resources). At other times a people simply want to impose their own ideology or belief on others.

Arguments between individuals occur because each holds a different point of view which he or she does not wish to relinquish. The spirit of compromise is the willingness to find common ground instead of clinging to one’s own ideas. This is the attitude we all need to have when it comes to issues that are not a matter of godly righteousness—what is right in God’s sight. We must never compromise with what God says it right.

However, conflicts in religion come when each individual or group believes his or their point of view is what is right in God’s eyes. Such conflict can only be resolved when all parties are indeed willing (are of the same attitude and spirit) to search together all of God’s words to see what He does say on any subject. This is what the Bereans of Acts 17:11 were committed to doing. “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.”

Amos 3:3 asks the question, “Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?”

To be willing to pursue godly righteousness each individual must be willing to let go of his/her own opinions (to admit that he/she is ignorant—doesn’t know) in order to truly seek to learn what God says is right—regardless of where that search leads. Those who have God’s Spirit in them when they truly seek to learn what God says is good, God will reveal that knowledge.

We ask—seek—amiss if we are seeking simply to find support for our own ideas instead of truly seeking what God says is right. This is the way of the world—the way of selfishness and not the way of God.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	6:18pm	6:20pm	6:24pm
Sunset Friday 2-22	6:22pm	6:24pm	6:27pm



Victoria

Sermon: Steve Moody

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: DVD
Sermon: Arnold Mendez

Harlingen

Sermon: Orlando Mascorro
Sermon: Arnold Mendez

“I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge and discretion. The fear of the Lord is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate.”
Proverbs 8:12-13

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 2/16	Regular times and locations for all congregations.
Sabbath 2/23	Regular times and locations for Victoria and San Antonio. Corpus Christi will be at the Goose Island State Park, Mr. Mendez will give the Bible Study. Mr. Chapman will be in San Antonio. Mr. McCarble will be in Victoria. Harlingen will have a DVD sermon at the home of Al and Donna Schmidt.

4th Annual Corpus Christi COGWA Goose Island State Park: On the weekend of Friday February 22 through Sunday February 24 the Corpus Christi congregation will be hosting their 4th annual Goose Island State Park Campout. Goose Island State Park is located about 10 miles north of Rockport, Texas.

We are planning on having a group meal together on Friday evening and also a Sabbath meal together. The Corpus Christi congregation will be supplying the main course and drinks for the Sabbath meal. We ask that those joining us for the meal please bring side dishes, and desserts.

Weekend activities will include a Sabbath Bible Study, campfire fellowship, and a telescope star/planet viewing party after the Sabbath ends. Last year we had about 75 participants from 4 different church areas, this year we are hoping to host many more. This will be a great activity for hiking, biking, fishing, and fellowshiping.

We will be camping in individual campsites in the wooded area of the park. Each campsite has a picnic table, water, electricity, fire ring, and BBQ grill. To reserve a campsite please contact Arnold Mendez, Sr directly. He has pre-reserved a group of campsites and he will assign you a site.

If you have any question feel free to contact Arnold Mendez, Sr.
Email: arnold.mendez@cogwa.org Cell number: 361-442-8144

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Pot Luck: The next potluck will be March 16.

Corpus Christi: Chili and Movie night, Friday evening in March TBA.

Passover Service: Thursday evening, April 18.

Victoria: Sunset 7:55 p.m.

Corpus Christi: Sunset 7:55 p.m.

Harlingen: Sunset 7:56 p.m.

Night To Be Much Observed: Friday evening April 19 near sunset. Please be making individual plans if you wish. Details on any local church wide group observance will be announced.

First Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread: Saturday, April 20.

Victoria: There will be one service at 10:00 a.m.

Corpus Christi: 3:00 p.m.

Harlingen: 10:00 a.m.

Last Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread: Friday, April 26.

Victoria: One service at 10:00 a.m.

Corpus Christi: Time 1:00 p.m. combined with Harlingen with potluck to follow.