

From the Pastor:

James 5:14-15 is a familiar passage which contains one of God's many promises. "Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up..." We will address the rest of verse 15 next time.

Divine healing is one of the gifts of healings mentioned by Paul in 1 Corinthians 12:9, "to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit." "Gifts" and "healings" are both plural in the Greek.

There is more than one kind of healing mentioned in the Bible. There is the kind where the person to be healed does not know that he will be healed. Such was the case of the lame man who asked Peter and John for alms (Acts 3:1-9). To whom Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." This gift of healing was power that God had given to Peter. It was in his power to use as he saw fit. God may in the future restore that gift again to His church, but, it is not the type of healing that is in the church today.

The type of healing in the church today is the type found in James 5:14. Here an individual in his faith in God's promise turns to his Father for healing. Seeking that healing he does what God has commanded—calling on the elders of the church to be anointed with oil which symbolizes God's Holy Spirit. The minister does not do the healing as in Peter's case above (God actually gave Peter the power to heal whom he chose). However, today, God is the one who heals. The minister (elder) is simply God's servant for the anointing of oil and offering the prayer of faith asking God's intervention to heal according to God's promise and will.

Three points must be understood. First, though elders is plural that does not mean that more than one elder must be involved. The elders of the church simply is referring to the "type" of person to contact. We go to elders and not someone else. Contacting the elders may be in many ways—in person, by phone, by letter, by email, through a third party, whatever. However, the person should make the request. The only exception is where a parent is requesting anointing for his/her child.

Secondly, the anointing of oil may be in person or by anointed cloth. The example of the anointed cloth is found in Acts 19:11-12. Anointed cloths can be requested by the individual. This serves for the anointing of oil. The elder still prays for the individual asking God to acknowledge the request of the individual for healing.

Finally, when the scripture says "will save the sick," "save" means to make whole or well, i.e. to heal. The Greek translated "save" is *sozo* (pronounced "sode'-zo"). It can mean "to rescue from danger," "to save" as in the process of salvation, or, to "make well, heal, restore to health." (OBGL)

For example, Matthew 9:21 reads, "for she said to herself, 'If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well [sozo].'"

We must remember to seek God's help which He has promised when we deem the illness serious enough to need His intervention by a miracle. That is our part. If we want God's intervention we must ask. But, once we have asked, we need to remember that we have put this request into God's hands and have the faith He will answer according to what is best for us.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	8:29pm	8:28pm	8:26pm
Sunset Friday 6-28	8:30pm	8:29pm	8:27pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



June 22, 2019

Victoria

Sermon: David Gatley

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: Arnold Mendez
Sermon: Steve Moody

Harlingen

Sermonette: Michael Watts
Sermon: Arnold Mendez

"He who guards his mouth preserves his life, but he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction."

Proverbs 13:3

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 6/22	Regular times and locations for Corpus Christi, Harlingen and Victoria. San Antonio will be in its new location: The Autism Treatment Center, 15911 Nacogdoches, San Antonio, TX
Sabbath 6/29	Regular times and locations for all congregations. Mr. Moody will be in Victoria for services and Bible Study. Mr. Chapman will be in San Antonio. Mr. Mendez will be in Corpus Christi and split sermons with Mr. Monsivais. Mr. Watts will deliver the sermon in Harlingen.

Festival Assistance from Headquarters:

Each year many faithful brethren contribute extra funds from their Festival tithe so that other needy members can receive the financial assistance they need to attend the Feast of Tabernacles. Last year these generous contributions enabled nearly 200 people to attend the Feast who would have been unable to attend otherwise. The Church recognizes its responsibility to see that those contributions are distributed fairly and equitably.

If you have no tithable income or if you have faithfully saved your Festival tithe and will still not have sufficient funds to attend the Feast this year, we will be happy to help where we can. If you think you will need additional funds to be able to attend the Feast this fall, please contact our local Festival advisor, Mr. Tucker (Victoria), Mr. Mendez (Corpus Christi), or your pastor to get a Festival Assistance Member Information form. Complete the form and return it to your pastor or festival advisor as soon as possible. (All information on the form will be treated as confidential.)

Ministerial Services has asked us to have all assistance applications turned in by July 21, so please pick up the form and return it to your congregation's Festival advisor or your pastor as quickly as possible.

Again, Festival financial assistance is available for those who do not have a tithable income and for those who do not have adequate funds to attend the Feast even though they have faithfully saved their Festival tithe.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Pot Luck: There will be no monthly potluck in June. Potlucks will resume on July 6 at our new hall.

Address of the new hall in San Antonio (June 1):

Autism Treatment Center
15911 Nacogdoches
San Antonio, TX

Bible Study in Victoria:

Since there will be a 5th Sabbath in June, there will be a Bible Study in Victoria. We will not have a potluck in conjunction with this Bible Study. After the sermon we will take a break and then hold the Bible Study 15 minutes later.

If you have Bible questions, please give them to Mr. Tucker so he can forward them to me. Or, you can email them directly to me (steve.moody@cogwa.org)