

Sermon Notes

Scriptures: John 14:20-21; Hebrews 4:13; Luke 8:16-21; & Psalm 139:1-12

Horizontal lines for writing notes.

The Messenger

Weekly Newsletter of Whiteland Church of Christ
Loving God / Loving People

625 W 600 North / Whiteland, IN 46184 September 22, 2024

Order of Worship

Greeting / Prayer: Dan Strobe

Worship Leader: Lonnie Hewitt

Communion: Eric Wiwczaroski

Scripture Reading: Ashton Hewitt (John 14:20-21)

Sermon: Ronnie Hewitt (All Shall Be Revealed)

Announcements / Prayer: Stan Davis

Bible Hour Today: Kara Littleton

Bible Hour September 29: Lavana Tichenor

Nursery Today: Kathy Hanshaw

Nursery September 29: Rhonda Denzio

Schedule of Services

Bible Studies: Sunday 9:30am & 5:00pm / Wednesday 7pm

Worship: Sunday 10:30am

Connect with Us

Church Office: (317) 535-1627
Church Text: (317) 953-5095
Website: www.whitelandchurchofchrist.com
Email: info@whitelandchurchofchrist.com
Prayer: PrayerRequest@whitelandchurchofchrist.com
Social Media: www.Facebook.com/WhitelandCOC
www.Instagram.com/WhitelandCOC
www.Instagram.com/WhitelandCOC_Youth
www.X.com/@Whiteland_COC
Online Worship: www.YouTube.com/@WhitelandCOC

Leadership

Elders

Stan Davis (317) 507-1936 / Ed Tichenor (317) 412-2416

Minister

Ronnie Hewitt (317) 966-2029



Prayer Concerns

Fay Carlin (Lavana's cousin) is doing rehab after having a stroke.

Karen Capozzi (Rhonda Denzio's aunt) 3 blocked arteries.

Sue Dubree (Barbara Hurst's sister) is showing improvement in therapy after breaking both knees.

Trae Gladney (Barbara Hurst's grandson) is home and using a wheelchair after having a motorcycle accident.

Donna Hall is doing in-home therapy after having a stroke.

Rex Hembree (Della's brother) is doing therapy after having a stroke.

Diane Martin (Amy Wiwczaroski's mom) has been diagnosed with metastatic cancer. She is waiting for biopsy results to confirm what type of cancer it is.

Sheila McQuillan (newborn daughter of Maureen, co-worker of Rachel Hewitt) has been diagnosed with pituitary stalk interruption syndrome. She is being treated with steroids and seems to be responding well.

Nova Pearson (Inez's great-granddaughter), after successful procedures, was able to have a reversal of her colostomy.

Gina Sowder is having a breast biopsy on the 30th.

Debbie VanLandingham (friend of Tichenor's) struggling with the passing of her husband a few months ago.

Charlie Weaver is dealing with A fib with premature ventricular contractions and a kidney infection.

Wanda Weaver has been diagnosed with stage 4 kidney disease. She will be having more tests.

Nancy White (John Denzio's aunt) is in hospice and had a seizure or possible stroke.

Long Term Prayers for Family and Friends

Juanita Brunner, Polly Burchfield, Pam Dowty, Robert Ewing, Moe Handy, Rex Hembree, Marilyn Hiser, Ted Houchin, Martin Julian, Sharon Lasiter, Noah & Gay Logsdon, Andy Mytides, Juanita Rodman, Anthony Ross, Bob Stewart, Vonnie Stonebraker, Barb Surber, Nancy Vermillion, Delbert Vibbert, Don & Mary Walton, and Joel Westberry.

Daily Bible Reading Plan

Sunday, September 22	Obadiah
Monday, September 23	Jonah 1-4
Tuesday, September 24	Micah 1-3
Wednesday, September 25	Micah 4-7
Thursday, September 26	Nahum 1-3
Friday, September 27	Habakkuk 1-3
Saturday, September 28	Zephaniah 1-3



Celebrations This Week

Birthday

23rd Cindie Cottingham

24th Hannah Hewitt

28th Harrison Day

Anniversary

24th Randy & Gina Sowder (20yrs)



Harding St. Church of Christ is hosting their annual ladies' day on September 28th, starting at 9am. There is an advertisement on the bulletin board in the foyer.



All men are invited to join us on Saturday, September 28th at 9am for a meal, fellowship, devotional, and prayer time.

Encouragement Sunday

October 6th

There will be cards on the table in the foyer you can fill out to send an encouraging message to someone who might need it. Then place the card in the container and it will be mailed for you. Please be sure to put their name on the card. If they are not a member here, please include mailing address.



There are updated mission reports on the bulletin board in the foyer. Please take some time to read them and say a special prayer for the ministries and missionaries we are supporting.

Meditation of God's Word

Smashing Idols

Reading the title of this article, you're probably thinking you don't need an article like this. After all, you probably don't have a carved stone statue in your house, and you've never traveled to Asia and purchased a totem or some other representation of a false god. So why would a conversation about idolatry be of any importance to you, right? However, believe it or not, the most common warning about sin in Scripture does not deal with lying, gossip, adultery, stealing or murder. The most common sin in all of Scripture that we're told to avoid, reject and move away from is idolatry. And that's not just Asherah poles in the Old Testament. In fact, in the New Testament, 1John 5:21 says, "*Little children, guard yourselves from idols.*" So apparently idolatry is still trying to work its way into our lives and distract us from worshipping and obeying God.

You see, idolatry is not just a pagan issue, or just an Old Testament or Jewish issue, it is a human issue. Is it that a piece of wood or bronze can do something bad to us? Or is it that we do something awful to ourselves when we place adoration and attention that should go to God in other things? When it comes to idolatry, the danger is not in an item, it is in us. In 1Thess 1:9-10, the Bible describes our new life, our new birth in Christ, in this way: "*You turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.*" Of course, in comparison to a dead and false idol, serving a living God seems like a no-brainer.

However, does becoming a worshiper of the one true God mean we no longer have to contend with the issue of idolatry? I wish it were that simple. Everything that is not of God raises itself up against God, even in the life of a Christian. Therefore, we constantly have idol pop-ups in our lives. Idols don't just leave on their own. With the power of God's Word and the help of the Holy Spirit alive in us, we have to tear them down—to destroy them. We need to remove them from our lives and depart from them. As our love for God increases, our tolerance for idolatry will decrease.

What are some of the great idols of our broader culture? What are some of the idols in the church culture? And what specific idols built in the context of our own lives, do we need to demolish? Imagine if the Israelites could see the idols we bow down before. They would likely find our idols even more ridiculous than we find their golden calf. The reason idolatry is listed first in the Ten Commandments (Thou shalt have no other god before me) is because idolatry is always the main reason we ever do anything wrong. We never break the other commandments without breaking the first one. The secret to change, then, is always to identify and dismantle the basic idols of the heart.

Dismantling our idols, however, is often difficult because we don't want to expose them. We don't want to admit, even to ourselves, that we've created an idol out of something. It's easier to rationalize that they're not really idols at all, merely good things we sometimes focus on too much. However, just like the Israelites, we may have to accept the bitter consequences of our idolatry. But any price is worth paying if it helps us to turn back to the true worship of Jesus.

By becoming aware of the many forms modern day idols can take, you'll be better equipped to recognize and address them in your own life. Keep your heart and mind open to God's guidance, and trust that He will help you maintain a balanced and focused life.

....Ronnie Hewitt