Sermon Notes: “Applying God’s Word”
Scripture Reading: James 1:22-25

The Foundation: Understanding God’s Word (Hebrews 4:12)

How to Approach Understanding God’s Word (Psalm 119:18)

The Call to Application: Going from Knowing to Doing (Matthew 15:7-8)

God’s Word in Our Daily Decisions

The Messenger

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

The Lord’s Day, September 21, 2025

Order of Worship

Greeting: Mickey McDaniel

Scripture Reading: Ashton Hewitt (James 1:22-25)

Worship Leader: George Hewitt

Communion: Randy Sowder

Sermon: Ronnie Hewitt
(Applying God’s Word)

Announcements / Prayer: Ed Tichenor

During Sermon
Nursery: Hanna Redden (Sub: Rhonda Denzio)
Pre-K & K: Gina Sowder & Edie Short
1st-3rd Grade Bible Hour: Rachel Hewitt

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
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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

Mail In Contributions

Whiteland Church of Christ / PO Box 85 / Whiteland, IN 46184

Leadership

Elders
Stan Davis (317) 507-1936 / Ed Tichenor (317) 412-2416
Minister
Ronnie Hewitt (317) 966-2029

Welcome

Thank you for being with us today. May you find your time here to be a source of renewal, hope, and belonging.

Prayer Requests

Cindy Davis (finished radiation treatments and is to follow up with her surgeon on the 23rd). **Rex & Karen DeFord** (traveling). **Kathy Feldmeier** (is to have an MRI of her abdomen area due to bowel swelling from her car accident). **Rick & Ladonna Lowe** (passing of Donna Hall, Ladonna's mom). **Virginia Short** (currently on oxygen). **Della Turnbill** (scheduled for a cardiac CAT scan on October 3rd in preparation for installing the watchman device to help reduce stroke risk).

Long Term Concerns

Samantha Brazel, GayLee's granddaughter (residential facility in Colorado). **Gavin Brooks,** infant son of Keith Huesman's friend (heart issues). **Juanita Brunnemer** (Shut-in). **Brandon Chance**, Edie Short's nephew (deployed to Poland). **Susie Crecelous**, GayLee's friend (bone cancer & lupus). **Edie Culin**, Wiwczaroski's friend (stage 2 rectal and lymphoma cancer). **Cindy Davis** (undergoing radiation). **Frank Denzio**, John's brother (kidney & liver issues). **Pam Dowty,** Ronnie Sutton's sister (Parkinson's). **Robert Ewing**, GayLee's nephew (bone & liver cancer). **Gloria**, friend of Hagan's (kidney and heart issues). **Moe Handy** (shut-in with severe shoulder & back pain). **Rex Hembree**, Della's brother (lung issues). **Angie Hewitt** (severe migraines and is looking for a new job). **Jamie Jones**, Hagan's nephew (recovering from coronary artery bypass and is on kidney transplant list). **Martin Julian** (shut-in). **Neil Kent**, David's brother (lung cancer). **Pam Lasiter** (ongoing health issues); **Sharon Lasiter** (cancer treatments). **Lynn,** aunt of Lonnie & Sonya's daughter-in-law (breast and spine cancer). **Clayton Marrott** (intestinal issues). **Leah Raker**, the Kent's great-granddaughter (Rett syndrome). **Anthony Ross,** Gay Logsdon's nephew (dialysis). **Tim Scott**, Cindy Strope's brother (palsy and is being treated with steroids). **Megan Setser,** Wanda's neighbor (recovering from brain tumor surgery). **Helen Shoopman** (ligament tear in knee); **Lonnie Shoopman** (non-Hodgkin lymphoma). **Vonnie Stonebraker,** Sowder's neighbor (palliative care). **Blanche Taylor** (shut-in). **Delbert Vibbert**, Lougene's nephew (COPD). **Mary Walton** (shut-in). **Tiffany Waskom**, Crystal Miller's co-worker (immunotherapy for cancer). **Wanda Weaver** (kidney disease and lupus). **Heather Wiwczaroski**, Eric's sister-in-law (recovering from spine surgery). **Jimmy Wooten** (Parkinson's); **Kevin & Mary Wooten** (Kevin - Cardiac Amyloidosis, chemo; Mary - Alzheimer's).

Missionaries

Jason & Devan Pierce (Resident Missionary, Freed-Hardeman University); **Caleb Pierce** (Student, Bear Valley Bible Institute); **Steve & Renee Gaudreau** (India Missions); **Shults-Lewis Child & Family Services**

Administration Record

2025 Budget: $178,787.94 Weekly Budget: $3,438.23
Last Week's Offering: $2,796.00
Attendance Last Week 70

Celebrations This Week

Birthday

23rd Cindie Cottingham
24th Rodney Dowell, Hannah Hewitt

Anniversary

24th Randy & Gina Sowder (21yrs)

Assistance Needed

We need some more members to help clean the building. Cindie Cottingham would like to have a brief meeting right after worship today for those who already clean and those who are willing to help.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

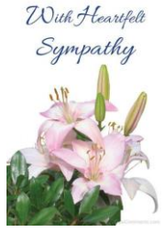
All our men (young and old alike) are invited to join us for breakfast, prayer, devotional and fellowship on Saturday, September 27th at 9am. For more information, please see Lonnie Hewitt or Clinton Nalley.

Boys to Men Campout

Mark your calendars for the annual campout. This year, it is set for October 10-11, beginning at 6pm. All ages are welcome to join us. There will be more information shared as it gets closer.

Youth Announcements

Eric and Amy would like to meet with the parents of all our youth (18 and under) after worship service on Sunday, September 28th. Also, there is a weenie roast planned here at the building for Friday, October 3rd (6-9pm). All our youth (birth to 18) and their parents are invited. Please sign up on the sheet on the Youth Bulletin Board so they have enough food for everyone.



Our love and prayers are with Rick & Ladonna Lowe and family in the passing of our dear sister-in-Christ, Donna Hall. Donna passed from this life peacefully on Thursday, September 18th.

Her services will be Thursday and Friday at Shirley Brothers on E. Washington St. in Indianapolis. Her viewing will be Thursday from 4-8pm and Friday from 10-11am, with her funeral at 11am.

Daily Bible Reading Plan

Sunday, September 21	Hosea 8-14
Monday, September 22	Joel 1-3
Tuesday, September 23	Amos 1-5
Wednesday, September 24	Amos 6-9 / Obadiah
Thursday, September 25	Jonah 1-4 / Micah 1-2
Friday, September 26	Micah 3-7
Saturday, September 27	Nahum / Habakkuk

Meditation of God's Word

Be a Blessing: Live Out Scriptures Call

To be a blessing is to embody the spirit of generosity, kindness, and compassion that Scripture continuously holds as ideal. Throughout the Bible, the calling to bless others—whether through words, actions, or presence—resonates as an invitation to participate in God's work and reflect divine love in the world. In a society often focused on self-interest, the scriptural mandate to be a blessing is a timeless challenge to live beyond self to influence lives for good.

The concept of blessing emerges early in Scripture. In Genesis 12:2-3, God speaks to Abram (later Abraham), saying: "*I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.*"

This foundational call is not merely a promise to Abraham but a commissioning, a declaration that being blessed is deeply entwined with being a source of blessing to others. As Abraham's descendants, the people of faith are invited to step into a legacy of outward-focused living, where the gifts received from God are meant to overflow into the lives of neighbors and strangers alike.

Scripture is filled with examples of individuals who heed this calling. Ruth's loyalty to Naomi, Joseph's integrity in Egypt, and the Good Samaritan's compassion on the road to Jericho all illustrate lives shaped by the desire to bless, often at personal cost. These narratives remind us that being a blessing is not a passive state but a dynamic posture that acts, serves, and uplifts, regardless of circumstance or recognition.

To live out this mandate is both a privilege and a responsibility. The practice of blessing draws us beyond transactional interactions, inviting us into relational depth where each gesture, however small, can become an echo of grace. Whether through acts of service, words of affirmation, or prayers uttered in quiet solitude, the believer is called to cultivate an awareness of the opportunities to sow goodness in daily life. In doing so, we reflect the heart of the God who gives abundantly and calls us to be conduits of divine generosity.

The ripple effects of blessing are not confined to the immediate recipient. The Bible is filled with stories of blessings that multiply as acts of faithfulness inspire communities and gestures of compassion can break cycles of despair. Living as a blessing means recognizing that our words and deeds, when rooted in God's love, possess the power to shape and transform not only us, but those around us.

This perspective reframes our sense of purpose. It reminds us that every interaction carries the potential for holy impact, and that to bless is, in essence, to participate in the ongoing story of redemption. This helps us see our daily encounters as sacred opportunities. Each interaction, no matter how brief or seemingly insignificant, can become a channel through which God's favor and grace are extended. Through this lens, the act of blessing is accessible to all, regardless of status, wealth, or circumstance, because it is rooted in the overflow of a heart attuned to God's purposes. Therefore, be a blessing: Live out Scripture's call.

...Ronnie Hewitt