Sermon Notes

"Encourage One Another" (1Thessalonians 5:9-11; Hebrews 10:24; Hebrews 3:12-13; & John 15:17)

Introduction: It is so important for us to discover the profound power of encouragement—a gift which costs us nothing, but one that can transform lives and futures.

Point One: The Biblical Foundation for Encouragement

- 1Thessalonians 5:11, "Therefore _____ one another and _____ one another up, just as you are doing." (ESV)
  - To encourage is to _____ the _____ of every individual and their contribution.
- Hebrews 10:24, "Let us consider how we may _____ one another on toward love and good deeds." (NIV)
- Hebrews 3:12-13 "See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But _____ one another _____, as long as it is called 'Today,' so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness" (NIV)

Point Two: Why Encouragement Matters

- It _____ confidence.
- It builds _____.
  - The MKJV says in 1Thessalonians 5:11, "Therefore _____ one another, and _____ one another, even as you also do."
  - John 15:17, "This is My command: _____ _____ _____." (NIV)
- It strengthens _____
  - In a world often marked by struggle and uncertainty, the act of uplifting another can be _____.
- It honors _____ _____.
  - Encouragement is a _____ _____, passed from soul to soul, as we journey together toward wholeness.

Point Three: Practical Ways to Encourage One Another

- _____ _____.
- _____ _____.
- _____ _____.
- Celebrate _____not just _____.
- _____ for others.
- Offer _____.
- _____ truth in _____.

Point Four: Make Encouragement a Spiritual Practice

- Encouragement is not a one-time act, but a way of being that _____ the _____ of Christ.

(Your Personal Notes and Thoughts)

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The Messenger

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

The Lord's Day, September 7, 2025

Order of Worship

Greeting: Randy Sowder

Scripture Reading: Heath Reeves (1Thessalonians 5:9-11)

Worship Leader: George Hewitt

Communion: Dan Strope

Sermon: Ronnie Hewitt
(Encourage One Another)

Announcements / Prayer: Ed Tichenor

During Sermon
Nursery: Debbie Smith (Sub: Kayla Stanton)
Pre-K & K: Gina Sowder & Edie Short
1st-3rd Grade Bible Hour: Renie Nalley

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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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

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 his time to be a source of renewal, hope, and belonging.

Prayer Requests

Eddie Culin, friend of Eric and Amy has stage 2 rectal cancer lymphoma. Undergoing chemo infusions. **Rex & Karen DeFord** are traveling during the month of September. **Kathy Feldmeier** is recovering from an auto accident and has a 1.5cm mass on head/neck area. **Lonnie Hewitt** is struggling with vision & dizziness. He has an appointment with an optometrist this week. **Tana Kay Marriott's** court date is Sept. 10th. **Virginia Short** is dealing A fib and fluid retention; **GayLee Sutton** has started back injections.

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). **Brian Burris,** Richard's brother, (recovering from a heart attack). **Brandon Chance**, Edie Short's nephew, (deployed to Poland). **Susie Crecelous**, GayLee's friend, (bone cancer & lupus). **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). **Donna Hall** (dementia). **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** has intestinal issues. **Leah Raker**, the Kent's great-granddaughter, (Rett syndrome). **Anthony Ross,** Gay Logsdon's nephew, dialysis. **Tim Scott**, Cindy Strope's brother, has palsy and is being treated with steroids. **Megan Setser,** Wanda's neighbor, is recovering from brain tumor surgery. **Lonnie Shoopman** has non-Hodgkin lymphoma. **Melissa Stephens**, Gina's daughter, therapy after knee replacement. **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); **Jerris & Juanita Bullard, 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: $4,706.00

Attendance Last Week 59

Celebrations This Week

Birthday

11th Clayton Marriott

Anniversary

7th Ronnie & GayLee Sutton (6yrs)

Encouragement Sunday

Today is Encouragement Day. Please take time to fill out a notecard with an encouraging word or prayer and place it in the box with the recipient's name. It will be mailed for you.

Sister's Day

Our ladies are hosting a Sister's Day this Saturday, from 10am-3pm. Lunch will be provided. The Theme is "We are Missionaries," with a focus on the home, in the workforce, and in the world. Please see Cindy Strope today to register. Also, don't forget to invite others.

Love Feast Fellowship

Our next potluck fellowship meal will be next Sunday following our worship service. Let's take advantage of this opportunity to invite friends and family to join us.

Boys to Men Campout

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

Sympathy

Our sister Polly Burchfield passed away last Sunday. There is a Celebration of Life service that has been planned for Thursday, September 18th at 3pm at the Indiana Memorial Funeral Home, north of Trafalgar on SR 135. Please keep her family in your prayers during this time of grief.

Assistance Needed

We are looking for someone to oversee the cleaning of the building and a few more people to be put on the rotation list. Please see Ed or Stan if you are willing to help.

Daily Bible Reading Plan

Sunday, September 7	Ezekiel 32-33
Monday, September 8	Ezekiel 34-36
Tuesday, September 9	Ezekiel 37-38
Wednesday, September 10	Ezekiel 39-40
Thursday, September 11	Ezekiel 41-43
Friday, September 12	Ezekiel 44-45
Saturday, September 13	Ezekiel 46-48

Meditation of God's Word

Will Your Anchor Hold

There is a hymn in our books with the same title. Its words have traversed generations, offering comfort and assurance to countless souls navigating the tumultuous seas of life. With its metaphor of an anchor – a symbol of steadfastness and hope – the hymn invites each listener and singer to reflect on the steadfastness of their faith. The first verse asks: *Will your anchor hold in the storms of life, when the clouds unfold their wings of strife? When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain, will your anchor drift, or firm remain?* The chorus reminds us: *We have an anchor that keeps the soul steadfast and sure while the billows roll, fastened to the rock which cannot move, grounded firm and deep in the Savior's love.*

This song reminds us that life's storms may rage, but our Lord offers a peace that holds steady even in the fiercest winds. When the tempests of life arise, when the winds howl and the waves crash against the vessel of your soul, will your anchor hold? Or will you find yourself adrift, unmoored, and overwhelmed by the storm? I encourage you to go to the Word of God for guidance, comfort, and conviction. Hebrews 6:17-20 tells us, "*So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of His purpose, He guaranteed it with an oath, [18] so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. [19] We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, [20] where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf...*" What is this hope? It is the unfailing promise of God, the assurance of His presence, and the certainty that He will never leave nor forsake us.

Consider, for a moment, the purpose of an anchor. In the world of ships and sailors, the anchor is not merely an accessory—it is a necessity. A vessel may be strong, its sails mighty, its hull unshaken by tides, but without an anchor, it is at the mercy of the sea. The anchor is what holds the ship fast when the waters grow wild. It is what keeps the boat from drifting into dangerous rocks or being carried far from home.

So, too, in our lives. We may possess knowledge, talent, resources, and even good intentions, yet without something deeper—an anchor for the soul—we risk being carried away by every wind of circumstance, every tide of trouble, and every storm of doubt.

Let us not be deceived: storms will come. The Bible never promises a life free from adversity. In fact, Jesus Himself declares in John 16:33, "*In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.*" Notice that He does not promise to remove the storm, but to provide victory through it. The anchor does not calm the sea, but it keeps the ship steady. The anchor does not silence the thunder, but it gives the sailor hope.

In your life, storms may come in many forms—a sudden loss, a diagnosis, a broken relationship, a crisis of faith, or a season of uncertainty. Perhaps today you find yourself buffeted by winds of change, or maybe you feel as though the waves are about to overwhelm you. I ask you again: Will your anchor hold? Let me direct your focus to Psalm 46:1, which says, "*God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.*" I encourage you to set your anchor, your hope, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

...Ronnie Hewitt