Sermon Notes: The Influence of the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-25)

Introduction: _____

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Point 1: Walk in the Spirit of Christ (Gal 5:16)

- Walking in the Spirit means allowing Him to _____ the pace, _____ the steps, and _____ the decisions.
- Walking in the Spirit, you will not carry out the _____ of the _____.

Point 2: The Conflict: The Flesh vs. the Spirit (Gal 5:17-18)

- The great tug of war
- The presence of conflict is not a sign of spiritual _____, but a sign of spiritual _____.

Point 3: The Contrast: The Works of the Flesh and the Fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:19-23)

- The works of the flesh are _____, _____, _____, and _____.
- The Spirit produces when we…
    - _____ connected to Christ.
    - _____ to His influence.
    - _____ in obedience.

Point 4: The Call: Living in the Spirit (Gal 5:24-25)

- Since we _____ by the Spirit, let us keep in _____ with the Spirit.
- Paul is saying…
    - If the Spirit _____ you life – let the Spirit _____ your life.
    - If the Spirit _____ you – let the Spirit _____ you.
    - If the Spirit _____ in you – let the Spirit _____ you.

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The Messenger

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

The Lord's Day, April 19, 2026

Order of Worship

Greeting: Randy Sowder
Scripture Reading: Chase Tichenor (Galatians 5:22-25)
Worship Leader: George Hewitt
Communion: Rodney Dowell
Sermon: Ronnie Hewitt
(The Influence of the Spirit)
Announcements / Prayer: Stan Davis

During Sermon

Nursery: Megan Johnson (Sub: Cindie Cottingham)
Pre-K & K: Gina Sowder & Edie Short
1st-3rd Grade Bible Hour: Kara Littleton

Schedule of Services

Bible Studies: Sunday 9:30am & 5:00pm / Wednesday 7pm
Worship: Sunday 10:30am

Connect with Us

Church Office	(317) 535-1627
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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. We pray you find your time here to be a source of renewal, hope, and belonging.

Recent Prayer Requests

Amanda Magner (Marsha Lowes' granddaughter & former member here) has recently been diagnosed with bone cancer and is receiving iron infusion treatments. She is a single mother with a 14yr-old daughter. **Don Meyer** (Ronnie Sutton's stepson) had a massive stroke. **Tim, Megan, & Ayden** (Wanda Weaver's neighbors) are struggling with health issues: Tim is to see a urologist due to blood in urine. Their son (Ayden) is 14 or 15 yrs-old and has non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and had a port placed and will be receiving 3 chemo treatments.

Long Term Concerns

Rhonda Aliff (Pat Stinson's daughter, lupus and recovering from neck and spine surgery); **Suzanne Bielski** (Lonnie & Sonya's doctor, has cancer and is undergoing chemo), **Gavin Brooks** (son of Keith Huesman's friend, heart issues), **Juanita Brunnemer** (shut-in), **Drew Burton's grandmother**, receiving immunotherapy for melanoma. **Eric Chamberlain** (Logan's dad, infusion therapy for bone cancer), **John & Debbie Collins** (Hewitt's uncle & aunt, John has stage 4 prostate & stomach cancer; Debbie is recovering from a broken tibia at the hip), **Susie Crecelous** (GayLee's friend, bone cancer & lupus), **Eddie Culin** (Wiwczaroski's friend, undergoing treatment for Hodgkin's), **Tonya Dowell** (health issues), **Pam Dowty** (Ronnie Sutton's sister, Parkinson's), **Nancy Duncan** (Rodney Dowell's sister, needs kidney transplant), **Robert Ewing** (GayLee's nephew, bone & liver cancer), **Gloria** (friend of Hagan's, kidney & heart issues), **Moe Handy** (shut-in), **Rex Hembree** (Della's brother, lung issues, cancer in remission), **Susan Hembree** (Della's sister-in-law, will need her abdomen drained periodically, is feeling better), **Angie Hewitt** (looking for employment), **Keith Huesman** (recovering from auto accident), **Brittney Jackson** (Rodney Dowell's niece, stage 4 breast cancer metastasized to her brain and spine), **Jamie Jones** (Hagan's nephew, coronary artery bypass & kidney transplant list), **Martin Julian** (shut-in), **Neil Kent** (David's brother, lung cancer), **Pam Lasiter** (Lougene's daughter, ongoing health issues), **Alana Lockridge** (14yr old daughter of Nicole, friend of GayLee, residential hospital), **Lynn** (Lonnie & Sonya's daughter-in-law's aunt, breast & spine cancer), **Clayton Marrott** (ongoing intestinal issues), **Pat Martin** (Amy Wiwczaroski's dad, Alzheimer's), **Brett Mason** (Rodney & Tonya Dowell's son, Leukemia), **Norma Nelson** (Della's friend, is struggling with weakening of lungs and heart), **Randy, Jena, Lila Nowak** (Stan & Cindy's daughter, son-in-law, & granddaughter, doing well after dog bites), **Leah Raker** (Kent's great-granddaughter, Rett syndrome), **Bruce Roberts** (Lyndsay Trostle's uncle, colon cancer - hospice), **Anthony Ross** (Gay Logsdon's nephew, dialysis), **Heather Schmidt** (Amy Wiwczaroski's cousin, chemo), **Tim Scott** (Cindy Strope's brother, palsy), **Charles Speer** (friend of Ronnie & Angie, blood cancer), **Gayle Stephens** (cancer in remission), **Barb Surber** (Dementia; Compass Park, Rm 1304), **Blanche Taylor** (shut-in), **Delbert Vibbert** (Lougene's nephew, COPD), **Tiffany Waskom** (Crystal Miller's co-worker, immunotherapy for cancer), **Wanda Weaver** (lupus & kidney disease), **John West** (Dawn Elliott's friend, cancer), **Jimmy Wooten** (Lougene's son, Parkinson's), **Kevin & Mary Wooten** (Lougene's son & daughter-in-law, Kevin - Cardiac Amyloidosis, chemo; Mary - Alzheimer's)

Announcements

Celebrations This Week

Birthday

14th Rex DeFord
15th Amy Wiwczaroski
18th Grayson Clark

Schults-Lewis Commodity Drive

This year we are collecting the following items: Club, Oyster, and Cheez-it Crackers, Twin Bedsheet sets and Washcloth & Towel sets, along with your change cans. Pick-up will be during the week of May 3rd.

VBS Meeting

Eric and Amy would like to have an update meeting today immediately following worship. If you are already signed up or are interested in helping in some way, please stay for the meeting. VBS is scheduled for July 12-16th.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

The next men's fellowship is Saturday, April 25th, at 9am, in the fellowship hall. For more information, please see Lonnie Hewitt or Clinton Nalley.

Sister's Spring Tea (May 2nd, 1:30-3:30)

All of our ladies are invited to join the fellowship and fun. If you don't have a hat to wear, you can make a fascinator at the event. Please sign up by next Sunday. For more information, please see Kathy Hanshaw or Cindy Strope.

Cleaning Crew – April 19-25 (Team 2)

Finance Record for 2026

Weekly Budget: $3,474.56 Last Sunday Offering: $3,128.00

Attendance Last Week

Sunday: AM Bible Study (23); Worship (64); PM Bible Study (11)
Wednesday Bible Study (15)

Daily Bible Reading Plan

Sunday, April 19	1Kings 18-20
Monday, April 20	1Kings 21-22
Tuesday, April 21	2Kings 1-3
Wednesday, April 22	1Kings 4-5
Thursday, April 23	1Kings 6-8
Friday, April 24	1Kings 9-11
Saturday, April 25	1Kings 12-14

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God Offers Grace

The world operates on a system of earning, repaying, and deserving. If you fail, you pay. If you break it, you fix it. If you sin, you carry the shame. But God steps into that broken system and overturns it with one breathtaking word: grace.

Grace means God does not treat you according to what you've done. Grace means He treats you according to who He is. Where the world demands payment, God offers pardon. Where the world requires performance, God gives peace. Where the world insists on consequences, God extends compassion. Grace is God acting in a way the world never would — and never could.

The Bible is a long, beautiful record of God disrupting the world's logic with His mercy. In Jesus' parable of the Prodigal Son, the younger son dishonored his father, wasted his inheritance, and returned home expecting humiliation and punishment. But he has a father who breaks all the rules as he does the unthinkable: He ran to the son, which is something no dignified patriarch would do. He embraced him before he could clean himself up. He restored him before he could apologize fully. He celebrated him before he could prove he had changed. The father didn't wait. He didn't negotiate. He didn't demand repayment. And, he didn't make him earn his way back into the family. He simply poured out grace — freely, joyfully, immediately.

This is exactly how God treats you today. The world says, "Pay what you owe." God says, "The price has already been paid." Jesus paid the only price necessary. Your sin demanded justice, Jesus stepped into your place. Your guilt required a sacrifice, Jesus became the Lamb. Your failures cried out for punishment, Jesus absorbed it all on the cross. Grace is not God ignoring sin. Grace is God placing your sin on His Son. Because Jesus paid it all, God can offer you everything.

I want to encourage you to live today in light of God's grace. Grace is not just a doctrine to believe, but a reality to live in. Offer your heart to God freely, without fear, without pretending, without performing. Let Him work redemption in every corner of your life, your past wounds, your present struggles, your hidden battles, and your daily walk. I continually pray that you experience the relationship He desires for you: one that is not marked by shame, but by joy; not by striving, but by resting; and not by fear, but by love.

Understand, grace doesn't just save you, it shapes you. Grace doesn't just forgive you, it frees you. Grace doesn't just cover your past, it empowers your future.

Again, God's ways are radically different from the world's ways. Where the world demands repayment and performance, God offers grace; grace that is full, free, and undeserved.

Ronnie Hewitt