Sermon Notes: Blessed in Christ (Ephesians 1:3-14)

Introduction: _____

Point 1: THE FATHER CHOSE US — THE BLESSING OF ELECTION (Eph 1:3–6; Jas 1:17; Psa. 103:2-5; Jer 1:5; 2Thess 2:13; Rom 8:15-17; Gal 4:4-7)

Point 2: THE SON REDEEMED US — THE BLESSING OF SALVATION (Eph 1:7–10; Mk 10:45; 1Pet 1:18-20; Col 2:14; Rom 5:20; Phil 2:9-11)

Point 3: THE SPIRIT SEALED US — THE BLESSING OF SECURITY (Eph 1:11–14; 1Pet 1:3-5; 2Cor 1:22; Rom 8:16)

Point 4: THE PURPOSE OF SALVATION — THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORY (Eph 1:6, 12, 14; Matt 5:16)

The Messenger

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

The Lord's Day, April 26, 2026

Order of Worship

Greeting: Rick Lowe
Scripture Reading: Clinton Nalley (Ephesians 1:3-4)
Worship Leader: Lonnie Hewitt
Communion: Dan Strope
Sermon: Ronnie Hewitt
(Blessed in Christ)
Announcements / Prayer: Stan Davis

During Sermon

Nursery: Kayla Stanton (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
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

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

Buena Hay, Della's aunt, is in her last days. Della is requesting prayers for her comfort and pain levels.
Lonnie Hewitt will be having neck surgery on the 30th to replace his C3 & C4 disk.
Keith Huesman has been able to remove the neck brace.
Cindy Strope is having a biopsy on Monday.

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), **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), **Amanda Magner & daughter, Alina King** (Amanda, Marsha Lowes' granddaughter & former member, bone cancer, doing iron infusion treatments), **Clayton Marrott** (ongoing intestinal issues), **Pat Martin** (Amy Wiwczaroski's dad, Alzheimer's), **Brett Mason** (Rodney & Tonya Dowell's son, Leukemia), **Don Meyer** (Ronnie Sutton's stepson, recovering from a massive stroke), **Norma Nelson** (Della's friend, is struggling with weakening of lungs and heart), **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), **Charles Speer** (friend of Ronnie & Angie, blood cancer), **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), **Tim, Megan, & Ayden** (Wanda Weaver's neighbors: Tim is to see a urologist due to blood in urine. Ayden, 14yr-old, has non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and is receiving chemo treatments)

Announcements

Celebrations This Week

Birthday
28th Ronnie Sutton
May 2nd Jacob Day

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.

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

Attention Ladies: You are invited to join us for a time of fellowship and fun. If you don't have a hat, no worries — you'll be able to make a fascinator at the event. Please sign up before leaving today. The sheet is posted on the Involvement Board by the front doors. For more details, see Kathy Hanshaw or Cindy Strope.

Morning Glories Ministry Brunch

The next brunch is scheduled for this Saturday, May 9th, at 10am, in the fellowship hall. For more information, please see Inez Dailey.

Graduation Open House

Everyone is invited to celebrate Ashton Hewitt's high school graduation on Sunday, June 7, from 2:00–6:00 p.m. at the Franklin Township Civic League. Please RSVP to George at (317) 514-1347 if you plan to attend.

Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars: VBS is scheduled for July 12-16th. At this time, we are collecting your empty cardboard paper towel and toilet paper roles that will be used for craft projects. See Eric or Amy for details.

Cleaning Crew – April 26 – May 2 (Team 3)

Finance Record for 2026

Weekly Budget: $3,474.56 Last Sunday Offering: $2,364.00

Attendance Last Week

Sunday: AM Bible Study (24); Worship (69); PM Bible Study (12)
Wednesday Bible Study (13)

Daily Bible Reading Plan

Sunday, April 26	2Kings 15-17
Monday, April 27	2Kings 18-19
Tuesday, April 28	2Kings 20-22
Wednesday, April 29	2Kings 23-25
Thursday, April 30	1Chronicles 1-2
Friday, May 1	1Chronicles 3-5
Saturday, May 2	1Chronicles 6

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Being True to God's Word

In every generation, God's people have faced the same essential question: Will we be shaped by God's Word, or by the world around us?

The psalmist declares, "*The sum of Your word is truth*" (Psalm 119:160). Jesus prayed, "*Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth*" (John 17:17). Truth is not something we invent or negotiate. Truth is something God reveals.

To be true to God's Word means more than simply agreeing with Scripture. It means allowing Scripture to form us, correct us, humble us, and guide us. It means choosing obedience even when it is unpopular, inconvenient, or countercultural.

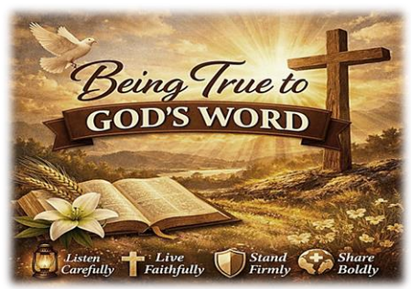
God's Word calls us to:
1. Listen Carefully – In a noisy world, we must intentionally make space for Scripture. Regular reading, meditation, and study anchor our hearts in what is eternal.

2. Live Faithfully – James reminds us to *be doers of the Word, not hearers only* (James 1:22). Truth becomes powerful when it is practiced – when it shapes our speech, our choices, our relationships, and our character.

3. Stand Firmly – Paul urged Timothy to "*continue in what you have learned*" (2Timothy 3:14). When culture shifts, God's Word does not. When opinions change, God's truth remains steady. Standing firm is not stubbornness; it is faithfulness.

4. Share Boldly – A world starving for meaning needs the nourishment of God's truth. When we speak Scripture with humility and love, we offer people the very words of life.

In a time when many voices compete for our attention, may we be a people who cling to the voice of God. May we, as the church, be known not for our clever ideas or shifting trends, but for a deep, joyful commitment to the unchanging Word that leads us to Christ. May we be true to God's Word in our hearts, our homes, and our lives.



Ronnie Hewitt