

Sermon Notes

Scriptures: 2Peter 1:3-4; Joshua 1:1-9; 2Timothy 1:7; Joshua 24:15

The Messenger

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

625 W 600 North / Whiteland, IN 46184 November 3, 2024

Order of Worship

Greeting / Prayer: Rick Lowe

Worship Leader: Lonnie Hewitt

Communion: Dan Strobe

Scripture Reading: Keith Huesman (2Peter 1:3-4)

Sermon: Ronnie Hewitt (Be Strong & Courageous)

Announcements / Prayer: Stan Davis

Bible Hour Today: Renie Nalley

Bible Hour November 10: Kara Littleton

Nursery Today: Debby Smith

Nursery November 10: Kathy Hanshaw

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_CO

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



Prayer Concerns

Rex Hembree (Della's brother) will be having a marker procedure on Nov. 5th and will be starting radiation treatments on the 11th.

Linda Minnix (Stan & Cindy's neighbor) is back home recovering from a stroke.

Nova Pearson (Inez's great-granddaughter) is being treated for a bacterial infection from previous surgery.

Leah Ranker (David & Janice Kent's 4yr old great-granddaughter) has Rett syndrome and had to have a feeding tube installed this past Tuesday. She was able to return home on Wednesday.

Kay Roberts is back at the Wellington @ Southport.

Vonnie Stonebreaker (Sowder's neighbor) has some difficult decisions to make concerning her treatments

Long Term Prayers for Family and Friends

Juanita Brunner (Shut-in), **Polly Burchfield** (Shut-in), **Pam Dowty** (Ronnie Sutton's sister), **Robert Ewing** (GayLee's nephew, bone & liver cancer), **Tom Gardner** (Rachel's former teacher, colon cancer), **Moe Handy** (shoulder & back pain), **Rex Hembree** (Della's brother, lung cancer), **Marilyn Hiser** (cancer treatments), **Ted Houchin** (chronic lymphocytic leukemia), **Martin Julian** (Shut-In), Greg Kellow (Hewitt's friend, recovering from sepsis infection); **Sharon Lasiter** (cancer treatments), **Noah & Gay Logsdon** (Shut-in), **Andy Mytides** (Cindy Davis's friend, kidney failure), **Anthony Ross** (Gay Logsdon's nephew, dialysis), **Bob Stewart** (Angie Hewitt's dad, hospice), **Vonnie Stonebraker** (Sowder's neighbor, cancer treatments), **Barb Surber** (Dementia), **Nancy Vermillion** (Burriss's friend, cancer treatments), **Delbert Vibbert** (Lougene's nephew, COPD), **Charlie Weaver** (A fib w/premature ventricular contractions), **Wanda Weaver** (stage 4 kidney disease and lupus), **Joel Westberry** (neck & spine), and **Nancy White** (John Denzio's aunt, hospice).

Missions

Fiji Bible Institute (Jason & Devin Pierce family); **India** (Jerris & Juanita Bullard, Steve & Renee Gaudreau); **Shults/Lewis Child & Family Services** (Staff & Residents); **Caleb Pierce** (Bear Valley Bible Institute)

Sympathy

Our sister, Juanita Rodman passed away. Her services were this past Friday at Forest Lawn.

Daily Bible Reading Plan

Sunday, November 3	John 16-17
Monday, November 4	John 18-21
Tuesday, November 5	Acts 1-3
Wednesday, November 6	Acts 4-6
Thursday, November 7	Acts 7-9
Friday, November 8	Acts 10-12
Saturday, November 9	Acts 13-15



Celebrations This Week

Birthday

6th Eric Wiwczaroski

7th Renie Nalley

Anniversary

None to Report

Encouragement Sunday Today

There are 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.



Morning Glories' Ministry

The next brunch for our ladies will be on Saturday, November 9th at 10am in the fellowship hall. All women are invited to join them for a time of fellowship, food, devotional and ministry planning.



Love Feast Fellowship

November 10th is our Family Fellowship Meal following our worship service. Everyone is encouraged to bring your favorite dish and dessert to share. Following our meal, we will be having our evening Bible Study.



All men are invited to join us on Saturday, November 23rd at 9am for a meal, fellowship, devotional, and prayer time.

Meditation of God's Word

East from the West

The Apostle Paul draws a gracious contrast between our ruin and God's remedy. The contrast could not be more bold and complete. Our foolishness, disobedience, and enslavement to all kinds of sinful passions are met by God's kindness, mercy, and love. Paul declares that the utterly unrighteous are declared righteous (justified) by God's grace (Titus 3:7). As we said in last week's article: God's grace really is amazing.

We need to understand that God's grace does not supplement our good works. Rather, His grace overcomes our bad works, which are our sins. God did this by placing our sins upon Christ and by letting the wrath we so fully deserve fall on Him. Because Jesus completely paid the awfully penalty of our sins, God could extend His grace to us through complete and total forgiveness of our sins. The extent of His forgiveness is vividly portrayed for us in the Old Testament.

Psalm 103:11-12 reads, *For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.* (NIV) How far is the east from the west? I was taught in school if you started due north at any point on earth, you would eventually cross the North Pole and start going south, but that is not true when you go east or west. If you start west and continue in that direction you will always be going west. In a sense, they are an infinite distance apart. So, when God says He removes our transgressions from us as far as the east is from the west, He is saying they have been removed an infinite distance from us. But how can we get a handle on this rather abstract truth in such a way that it becomes meaningful in our lives?

When God uses this metaphorical expression describing the extent of His forgiveness of our sins, He is saying His forgiveness is total, complete, and unconditional. He is saying He is not keeping score with regard to our sins. The psalmist clarifies this idea in Psalm 103:10, *He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.* (NIV) Yes, God actually says that! I know it seems too good to be true.

Those words are so gracious and true, for they are God's words. How can God possibly do this? How can so completely disregard our transgressions as to say He removes them an infinite distance from us? The answer is by His grace through Jesus Christ. As we have already mentioned, God laid our sins on Christ and He bore the penalty we should have borne. Because of Christ's death in our place, God's justice is now completely satisfied. God can now, without violating His justice or moral law, forgive us freely, completely and absolutely. He can now extend His grace to us; He can show favor to those who, in themselves, deserve only wrath.

...Ronnie Hewitt