

## Thoughts from Pastor – A Sermon Companion

When I was a child I lied all the time. I can't tell you why I did it, but I honestly just made things up for no good reason. I remember some lies I told were to get people to like me. Others were to get out of trouble. Most however, I simply don't remember why I told them. It is strange to think about. I was once a child of lies and now I'm a preacher of Truth.

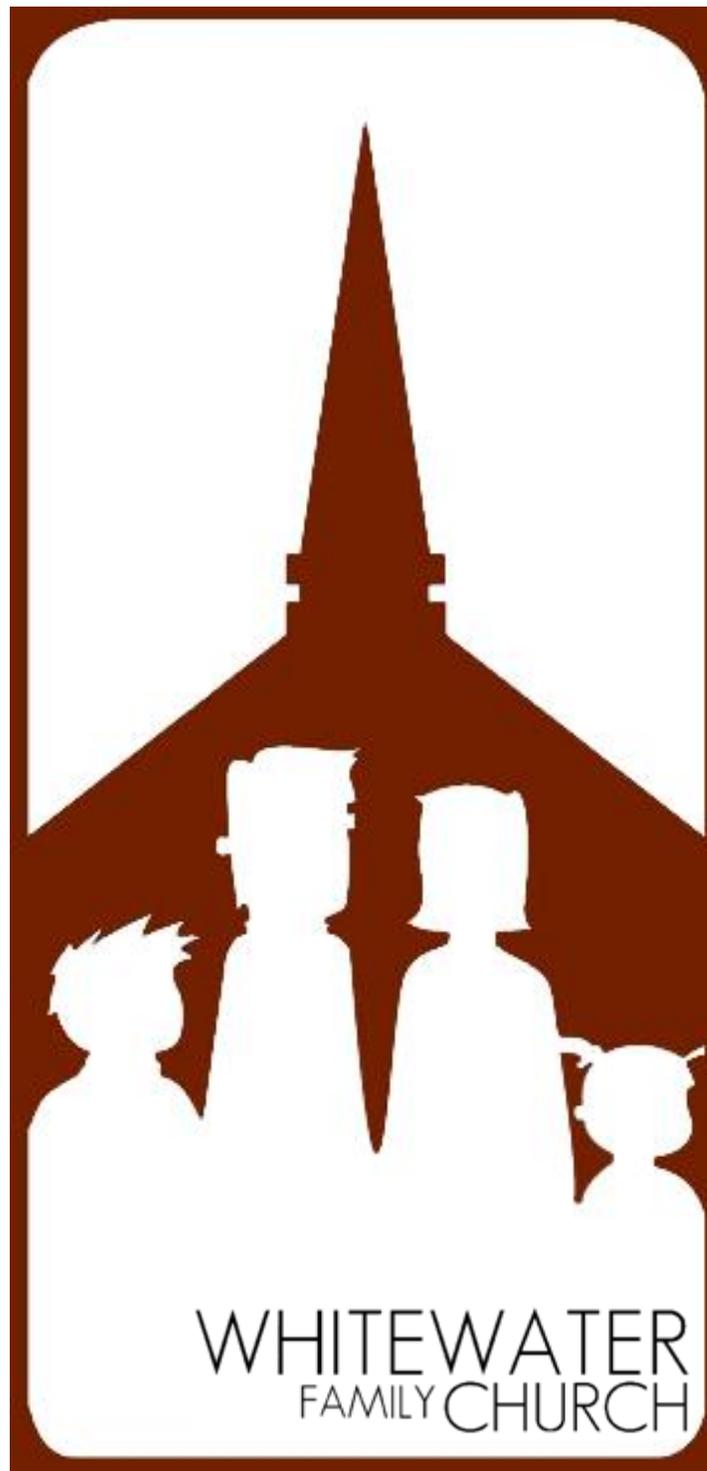
Truth. Pontius Pilot once asked Jesus "What is truth?" Now we can be very technical and say something like "The truth is a collection of facts that are proven to be correct." But the Truth is something more than a collection of facts. It is more than a statement of argument. It is greater than a system of beliefs.

Truth is a person named Jesus Christ. It is absolutely astounding to me that here is Pilot asking the very embodiment of righteousness and honesty "What is truth?" Jesus could have well answered "I am the Way the Truth and the Life", but He didn't.

There it was literally staring him in the face and he couldn't see it. There was the answer to every question. The exposure of every lie. The trump card of every falsity ever spread in the course of human history, and Pilot couldn't see ... or could he?

I tend to believe he could. His wife had warned him. The world had born witness to Jesus' power. The Pharisees were obviously up to something crooked. Everything around the Man standing before Pilot screamed "I am Truth!" But it was never a matter of believing the facts. How different things would be if we faced the Truth.

People don't care about the facts, they care about their lives. They care about preserving what little bit of security they think they have. To believe that Jesus was the Truth was to upset Pilot's entire way of life, and that is something he simply wasn't willing to do. You see ... it is always easier to believe the lie than it is to face the Truth. So fight the lies in your life. Face the Truth.



## Lies: The Dangers of Half the Truth

Romans: 1:18-25

Lying is the natural language of mankind. It's not pretty but everyone tells lies. Oh sure not everyone out there is telling blatant ugly deceiving lies. They're not all out there swindling or cheating. They're not all covering up dark evil secrets. But we are all liars. When you are striving to make a "good" impression ... that isn't your normal behavior, but you want someone to think that it is. When we tell stories to one another about something that happened to us and it inflates a little? When we tell someone we're "fine" and we're really not. They are all lies. The worst kinds however are the half-truths we tell others and believe ourselves. There is no blacker lie than a half truth. It baits you with something you want to believe and hooks you with the pain of deceit. And the biggest problem with them all is just how easy it is to tell them, and how much easier it is to believe.

- I. **We are often FOOLED into believing something that sounds right but isn't.**
- II. **That America is a HOPE for Christians**
- III. **That Christianity is supposed to stop SINFULNESS in people.**
- IV. **That the Church's struggle is against anything but SPIRITUAL POWERS.**
- V. **That Christianity is IRRELEVANT.**

**Weekly Application:** Watch what you say this week. Check yourself that you're not falling into a trap of lies.

**Home-Group Thought:** What lies have you believed over the years and were shocked to find out weren't true.

**Next Week:** Lies you've been told in Church. Part 1



*At Whitewater Family Church we strive to pursue God with honesty and excellence by building stronger families, engaging in mentor based discipleship, and encouraging personal calling and ministry*

### Things we do Every Week

Sunday School 9:30am

Youth Group - 7:00 Wednesdays

Tuesday Workdays - At the Church 7:00pm

### Church Leadership Meeting 7:00-8:00

Staff 6:00, Deacons 6:30, Leaders 7:00

### Men's Conference Deadline - TUESDAY 15<sup>th</sup>

### Work Day September 19<sup>th</sup> 9:00 - ?

### Last Day to Give for Gahanna - Sep 20<sup>th</sup>

### Pasta Dinner! 5:00 - 6:30 Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup>

*We will need help from 4:00-7:30! Come out and be a part of this!*

### Home-Groups

Wednesday 6:30pm & Thursday 7:00pm

*Home-Groups are designed to grow your faith, connect to your church family, and share the love of Christ with your community.*

*Wednesday // 1281 Blackriver Ct, Whitewater WI, 53190*

*Thursday // 137 N. Cherry Street, Whitewater, WI 53190*

1540 W Walworth Ave. Whitewater, WI 53190

You can also find us on Facebook or at [www.whitewaterag.org](http://www.whitewaterag.org)

#### Pastoral Staff

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