



## Times of Worship

- Sunday Bible Classes:** 9am  
**Sunday AM Worship:** 10am  
**Sunday PM Worship:** 5pm  
**Wednesday Bible Study:** 7pm

## Join us Online

### Church Website:

<https://www.westfayettechurchofchrist.com/>

### YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGckN8D9NwwX3KUboQ4GRKyA>

## Interested in a Bible Study?

Please send an email to [patcawthon@gmail.com](mailto:patcawthon@gmail.com)

## Evangelist

Patrick Cawthon

## Following the Cloud

After God had blessed His people with a great deliverance from Egyptian bondage, He led them through the wilderness for forty years. **Numbers 9:15-23** describes how God led the Israelites for all those years. There was a pillar of cloud that was over the tabernacle. During the night it had the appearance of fire. Whenever the cloud would move, whether during the day or night, the Israelites would move with it. If the cloud stayed for a couple of days or a couple of years, the Israelites were to move with the cloud.

The phrase that occurs over and over in these verses is, “at the command of the Lord.” God was in charge of the cloud moving or staying. For example, notice **verse 23** - *“At the command of the Lord they sampled, and at the command of the Lord they set out; they kept the Lord’s charge, according to the command of the Lord through Moses.”*

What was God teaching them with this visible representation of Him being with them and their need to follow the cloud?

### They need God’s presence to survive

In order to survive in the wilderness, they needed God. God sent them manna and provided them with water to survive. If they would have tried to do that on their own, they would not have done so well. If they tried

## Week of September 3

### Attendance

- ✦ **AM Service** -
- ✦ **PM Service** - 41
- ✦ **Wednesday** - 53

### Contribution

- ✦ Weekly Budget \$2,400
- ✦ Contribution - \$2,616

### Upcoming Birthdays

- ✦ Jacee Walker (9/13)
- ✦ Addison Seaton (9/21)
- ✦ Kristin Martin (9/29)

### Calendar Items

**Song Learning Class** on Sunday  
September 10 at 4pm

**Women's Bible Study** on  
Tuesday at the building at 11a

**Men's Meeting** on September  
24th at 4pm at the building

### Today's Lessons

- ✦ **AM Sermon** - The Bible Is God's Word
- ✦ **PM Service** - Contentment (Discipleship Series)

to go to Canaan to possess the land without God's help, they would have died.

The same lesson is for us. If we try to do things without God, it will not go well. The only way we can get to heaven is through God's grace. If we are going to grow spiritually, we need to be feeding on His word daily.

### They need God's guidance

God lead them throughout the wilderness until their punishment was over and the generation that did not believe they could defeat the giants died. This new generation was being taught during this time to rely on God's guidance and protection.

This is a great lesson for us as well. We need God's guidance and direction in our life. Do we turn to the "experts" and take their advice or do we go to God's word? Many times the experts' advice is in contradiction to what God says. Who are we going to listen to, God or man?

### They are pilgrims

This generation who grew up in the wilderness lived in tents. They did not choose how long they would live in an area but simply followed the cloud. When the cloud started to move may have been inconvenient for them if they were sick or tired but they followed the cloud. God was teaching them not to get too comfortable because this is not going to be your home.

In the same way, we are called pilgrims and sojourners in the world we live in. (**1Pe 2:11**) We need to make sure we are longing for a home that is built by God and never get to the point where we long for this world. Lot's wife looked back at Sodom because she did not want to leave. Our citizenship is in heaven and here we are but straying pilgrims.

Patrick