



## Times of Worship

<b>Sunday Bible Classes:</b>	9am
<b>Sunday AM Worship:</b>	10am
<b>Sunday PM Worship:</b>	5pm
<b>Wednesday Bible Study:</b>	7pm

## Join us Online

### Church Website:

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

### YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGckN8D9NwwX3KUqQ4GRKyA>

## Interested in a Bible Study?

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

## Evangelist

Patrick Cawthon

## “I Thank God For You”

The apostle Paul gives us a great example of how to be thankful for people. Paul was a very encouraging person and was always quick to give praise. He even had a thanksgiving section in his letter to the church in Corinth which was filled with lots of problems. At the end of the letter to the Romans, he sends his greetings to many people and with the greeting he writes a word of encouragement to them. **(Rom 16:1-13)**

The apostle Paul faced a lot of adversity and persecution because of his boldness in proclaiming the gospel message. He was run out of many towns by the Jews who saw him as a threat and blasphemer. Even though Paul had a lot of enemies, he had a lot of faithful brethren in the Lord to encourage him. When Paul mentions some of these people in the letters he wrote, he hardly ever praises them directly. The phrase Paul uses over and over again in praising others is, “I thank God for you.”

Here is a small sampling of the times Paul uses this phrase:

**Rom 1:8** - “I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all”

**1Co 1:4** - “I thank my God always concerning you”

## Week of November 5

### Attendance

- ◆ AM Service -
- ◆ PM Service -
- ◆ Wednesday -

### Contribution

- ◆ Weekly Budget \$2,400
- ◆ Contribution - \$3,837

### Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries

- ◆ David Barbour (11/12)
- ◆ Sidney Gray (11/13)
- ◆ Ginny Morgan (11/14)
- ◆ Jimmy Fox (11/15)
- ◆ Amy Rushing (11/23)
- ◆ Benjamin Cawthon (11/23)
- ◆ Shawn and Natalie (11/24)
- ◆ John Butcher (11/25)

### Calendar Items

**Song Learning Class** November 12 at the building at 4pm

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

**Men's Meeting** on November 26<sup>th</sup> at 4pm at the building

**Phil 1:3** - "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you"

**Philem 4** - "I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers"

Why does Paul thank God for someone instead of just thinking them directly? In other words, why does Paul say to Philemon, "I thank my God always for you" instead of "Philemon, I am thankful for you"? Here is my answer to this question.

First, it helps people stay humble when they are receiving praise. If someone tells you what they appreciate about you and why they love you, it is a temptation for you to become proud. If someone tells you they are very thankful to God for who you are, all the praise goes to God and there is no room to become proud because you are not receiving the credit.

A second benefit to thanking God for someone is you are giving the glory and credit to God. God deserves all the credit for the praise. It was God who created that person and gave them the gifts they have. It is God who taught them to do what's right and gave them purpose in their life.

Let's learn from Paul and the next time you praise someone, tell them you are thankful to God for them. The next time someone gives you money or a present or pays for your lunch say, "I thank God for you." When you write someone a thank you note for a kindness they have done for you, tell them how thankful to God you are for them.

I'll start. I thank God for each one of you at West Fayette. You have been and will continue to be a great blessing to me and my family.

Patrick