

I BELIEVE

JOURNEYING THROUGH THE APOSTLES' CREED

I Believe in God, the Holy Spirit

SUMMARY:

In this series we will be journeying through the Apostles' Creed. This is an ancient statement of faith which goes through the essential truths of Christianity. It is a map that leads us home. It is a compass that gives us direction back to the heart of our faith.

This week we are focused on "I believe in the Holy Spirit..." Central to our faith is the belief in a Triune God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Understanding the Holy Spirit rightly means that we cannot mythologize, depersonalize, overemphasize, or ignore the Spirit. Scripture tells us plainly who the Holy Spirit is by telling us what He does. He is life-giver, fruit-bearer, gift-giver, and unifier. The Holy Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead will also give you life because of His Spirit that lives in you. (Romans 8:11)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Before going through the questions, take some time to read the Apostles' Creed in its entirety. Have you heard or read this creed before? What stands out to you?

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to the dead.
On the third day He rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and He will come to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy universal Church,*

*the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.*

Read John 6:63.

- What does the Spirit do?
- What is the flesh? Why isn't it helpful? (*Galatians 5:19-26 might be a good reference to help you discern between the flesh and the Spirit*)

Read Galatians 5:22-23.

- What is fruit (ex. apples, oranges, etc.)? How does it grow? What is its purpose?
- How does this fruit of the Spirit grow? What is its purpose?
- What does this fruitfulness tell us about the Holy Spirit's purpose?

Read Romans 12:6-8.

- What are gifts? How are they different than fruit?
- What do these Spirit-given gifts enable to happen?
- If you are a believer, what are you doing with the gifts you've been given?

Read Ephesians 4:3-6.

- What does unity mean?
- How many times in these verses is "one" used? How does the Spirit hold each one together in unity?
- Are there places in your life that are un-unified? What is the Spirit leading you to do about it?

SOUL TATTOO: Believe in God, the Holy Spirit.

ACTION STEP: Participate in our Market Collection.