

I BELIEVE

JOURNEYING THROUGH THE APOSTLES' CREED

I Believe in and Belong to the Global Church

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 the Global Church. Central to our faith is the belief that God has built one global, universal church which is the visible gathering of those in Christ. We are His ambassadors representing His presence in the world. Christ is the head of the church (Colossians 1:18) and we are the body grown together and strengthened by God (Colossians 2:19 & Ephesians 4:15-16). Pastor Derwin used the acronym WIFE (Worship, Indwelling, Fellowship, Expression) to help us remember the role of the Church in the world.

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 Romans 12:1-2.

- How do these verses describe worship? How is that different than how you typically think of “worship”?
- How does your worship of God change you?

Read Galatians 2:20.

- Where does Christ live?
- What happened to allow Christ to indwell you?
- In what way will you act differently by remembering that Christ lives in you?

Read Acts 2:42.

- What are some of the things the early church did together?
- How often do you gather with other believers?
- Who do you need to spend more time with? What do you need to spend less time doing?

Read Matthew 5:16.

- How do you let your light shine in your daily life?
- When people notice, do you know how to tell them about Jesus?
- Where is one place you can be an expression of Christ this week?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:53-55 and Revelation 21:1-4

- What is the future destiny of the Church?
- How have you thought about eternity previously?
- How does this vision of the future church make you want to live today?

SOUL TATTOO: Believe in and belong to the Church.

ACTION STEP: Commit to strengthening TC through your time, talent, & treasure.