



“I Believe” Video Series

Small Group Discussion Questions

A Note About the Creeds

The Apostles’ Creed and the Nicene Creed are both professions of our Catholic faith. In our Pastorate, we ordinarily profess the Nicene Creed together at Sunday Mass. The Apostles’ Creed is an ancient baptismal creed, while the Nicene Creed developed through the early Church councils and expresses some of the same beliefs in greater detail. Throughout this series, we will use the Apostles’ Creed as a simple framework to explore what we believe, deepen our faith, and consider how we live those beliefs each day.

Week 1: “I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth”

1. How does the first sentence of the Apostles’ Creed impact us? What part of this sentence is the most impactful?
2. How do we feel God in our daily lives: close or distant, delighted or disappointed? Do we feel His love? If not, what might help us recognize it more fully?
3. In today’s Gospel from Matthew, Jesus quotes from Psalm 118:22:

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.”

Is God, through the gift of His Son, our “cornerstone?” If not, what distracts us and prevents us from keeping God at the center of our lives?

Week 2: “And in Jesus Christ, His Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary...”

1. Could we explain to others what Jesus means in our lives and how He continues to guide us in our daily living?
2. When have we used the example of Mary and said “YES” to God’s invitation?
3. In today’s reading from Isaiah 25:6-10, “God said that He will destroy death forever. The Lord will wipe away the tears of every face.”

How are we able to trust and accept God’s plan for us, even in those tough times in our lives?

Week 3: “He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell...”

1. Do we feel Jesus’ love for us in His suffering? How does this question impact us the most?
2. Now that we are in Week 3, how would you write the first line of your own creed?
3. In Paul’s letter to the Philippians, he states: “For our Gospel did not come to you in word alone, but in the power and the Holy Spirit and with much conviction.”
 - Do we feel that conviction when the Holy Spirit touches our hearts? Are we able to recognize those “Holy Spirit moments” in our lives?

Week 4: “On the third day, He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.”

Questions:

1. What would it take for us to believe that Jesus rose from the dead and that we may be part of His Resurrection story?
2. Do we believe that Jesus, through His Resurrection, has the final word and will come to judge the living and the dead?
3. Do we believe that we are truly forgiven unconditionally, no matter what?

In this week’s readings, God sets the foundation for how we should live our lives, ending with: “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, your soul, and your mind. And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

How does that resonate with you, and are you able to live out that Scripture teaching?

Week 5: “I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. AMEN.”

Questions:

1. Have any of us had a true Pentecostal moment...God speaking through us via the Holy Spirit?
2. In 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, Paul states that the Christian community is like a single body: many distinct people and gifts, yet one united body in Christ. Do we feel that way within our church community? If not, how can we personally improve this and make a difference?
3. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. How do we feel personally about our resurrection through Jesus’ death on the cross and resurrection? Do we believe that His suffering was “enough” for us in our journey to heaven?

Week 6: Write Your Own Creed

Questions:

1. Looking back over the past five weeks, what part of the Apostles' Creed has become the most meaningful to you?
2. Write your own personal creed beginning with: "I believe..." What words describe your faith and relationship with God? Share your creed with the group. What did you learn about yourself, your faith, or one another?
3. When we say "Amen," we are saying we believe. After these six weeks, what does your "Amen" mean to you, and how can you live out your creed each day?