

The Apostles' Creed

Journal Questions

LESSON
ONE

THE ARTICLES OF FAITH



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Journal Questions

1. How does what we believe affect the way we live?
2. How can we properly use the Apostles' Creed without undermining the doctrine of *Sola Scriptura*?
3. How can the Apostles' Creed help us affirm the teachings of Scripture?
4. How can we call the church "catholic" or "universal" when there is so much disagreement among Christians today?
5. In what ways could the teachings of the Apostles' Creed bring unity within your church?
6. How can the Apostles' Creed help you relate to Christians from different backgrounds or beliefs?
7. How might the Apostles' Creed help us discern teachings that are not truly Christian?
8. How should the assurance of the forgiveness of sins impact our lives?
9. How should our hope in the future resurrection of the body impact the way we live in the present?
10. How can the hope of everlasting life help us face the sufferings and trials of life, including death?
11. How might churches beneficially use the Apostles' Creed in a worship service?
12. What do you believe to be the most important or inspiring part of the Creed, and why?
13. What portions of the Creed do you find most challenging or difficult to grasp?

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LESSON
TWO

GOD THE FATHER



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Journal Questions

1. What things in your life tempt you to value them as highly as you value God?
2. How should Christians respond to Judaism and Islam?
3. In what ways is God the Father of all creation? In what ways is he the Father only of believers?
4. How might the Father's kingship and role as family head motivate us to obey him?
5. How can the Father's unlimited and matchless power comfort us as his children?
6. How does the beauty and goodness of creation help us see the goodness and beauty of God?
7. What effects of the curse are evident in the natural world and human society?
8. How does God's authority address the kinds of fears we address on a daily basis?
9. How might we improve our roles and positions in life in light of God's lordship?
10. What was the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?

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LESSON
THREE

JESUS CHRIST



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1. How can Jesus' divinity give us greater trust in him?
2. How does Jesus' humanity allow him to identify with us?
3. How should a proper understanding of the Trinity, together with Christ's divinity and humanity, influence the way we pray?
4. How does the divinity of Christ help us understand God's love for us?
5. What does Jesus' possession of a real, physical body suggest about the way we ought to treat our own bodies?
6. In what way can Jesus' role as our mediator give us confidence before God without fear? In what ways is it proper for a Christian to fear God?
7. How can the humiliation that Christ endured for us encourage us as we endure trials and struggles in this life?
8. How is our new life in Christ generated by his resurrection from the dead?
9. Why is the church better off with the presence of the Holy Spirit than with the physical presence of Jesus?
10. How can the Creed comfort us as we look forward to the final judgment?
11. What is the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?

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LESSON
FOUR

THE HOLY SPIRIT



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Journal Questions

1. How should an understanding of the divinity of the Spirit affect our prayer life?
2. In what ways are you tempted to think of the Spirit as an impersonal force or power?
3. What evidence have you seen in your own life that the Spirit has been applying salvation to you?
4. If one role of the Holy Spirit is to renew creation to the final state that God intended for it, how should we view or treat the creation around us now?
5. Take some time to write down your gifts and abilities. How might these be the Spirit's gifts to you for the building up of the church?
6. In what areas do you most need the Spirit's continuing sanctification in your life?
7. In what ways are Christians set apart for God?
8. How do you see the Spirit's grace in the world around you, even among unbelievers?
9. How might you make more use of the Spirit's illumination and inward leading in your life?
10. What is the most significant thing you have learned in this lesson?

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LESSON
FIVE

THE CHURCH



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Journal Questions

1. How is the church critical to maintaining a relationship to God?
2. In what ways have you experienced God's grace in the church community?
3. Some of us can be tempted to think of the church as being primarily a building. How ought the church, as the congregation of God's people, help us to avoid this problem?
4. In what ways can you participate in the purpose of the church to turn the world into God's earthly kingdom?
5. In what ways do you see that the church needs to be set apart (holy) from the world?
6. If only God ultimately knows who is in the invisible church, how should we treat those who are not yet believers?
7. Since the church is "catholic" or "universal" how should we think of other churches that hold to the Apostles' Creed?
8. What benefits can church discipline have in a congregation?
9. How have you experienced the fellowship of the church?
10. What are three ways you can use your gifts to benefit your church community?
11. What is the most significant insight you have learned from this study?

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LESSON
SIX

SALVATION



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Journal Questions

1. In what ways does the law reflect the character of God?
2. Think of three ways people commonly sin by omission and three by commission.
3. All three members of the Trinity work together to bring about our salvation. What does this mean for the way that God loved us in our sin and continues to love us after we are saved?
4. How do Christians continually need to have brokenness and faith in their Christian lives?
5. How does the merit of Christ become the ground of our salvation, and how can faith in him give us confidence in his forgiveness?
6. In what ways has prayer been a means of grace in your life?
7. How can the future hope in our resurrection cause us to live holy lives in anticipation Christ's return?
8. How do we continue to need the gospel as believers?
9. How can everlasting life be experienced now?
10. How can our present sufferings increase our hope for everlasting life?
11. What is the most significant insight you have learned from this study?