

# Creed

What You Believe Matters

## Week 1 | Creed | October 25, 2015

**Key Focus:** Faith is not a power in itself; it is the object of your faith that has the power.

### Opening Up:

If by pure belief you could make something be true, what would you make true?

Why is just believing not enough?

Why is what you believe “in” the key to unlocking the power of belief? (i.e. Even if you do believe “in” a really bad football team, that is not going to help you.)

### Read the Apostles’ Creed.

**Reference:** Hebrews 11:1-6

### Discuss:

1. The Apostles' Creed is a confession that “I” believe. Why is this important?
2. We read in the creed and in Hebrews 11:3 that God is a creator God. Why is it important to recognize that he created with world with meaning and purpose? What are the consequences of believing that the world has no real meaning or importance? Why must we value every human life?
3. Christian faith is not mere optimism. Christian faith is based on Christ’s victory over death. How does our faith being “the assurance of things hoped for” affect how we deal with pain and suffering in our lives?
4. Can you say, “I have more confidence in God’s promises than I do in my circumstances”? Explain. How does looking to Jesus (Hebrews 12:2) affect your faith?
5. Why is God’s Kingdom a kingdom that cannot be shaken (Hebrews 12:28-29). Think about this: “Our faith is unshakeable because our faith is *in* the unshakable God.” When has your faith been shaken? What has helped to firm up your faith in God?
6. Looking back on your life, can you see a time when God was present even when you could not see him there?
7. In Hebrews 11:2 we hear of God giving his commendation to the heroes of faith found in Hebrews 11. If God were smiling on your faith-filled accomplishments, what act of faith do you hope will make him smile on you?
8. Think about this: “with the same mouth that God speaks ‘I love you’ he created everything.” What does it feel like to be loved by God?
9. God is, as we read in the creed, almighty. In what area do you need the almighty God to speak into your life?
10. Pray.

## **Apostles' Creed**

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  
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended to heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic\* church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*that is, the true Christian church of all times and all places