

# THIS I BELIEVE

## INTRODUCTION

As we welcome each other back into our DGroup, we are excited to start off this new season with the new sermon and study series, **THIS I BELIEVE**. We will journey through the basic teachings of Christianity based on the ancient document, *Apostle's Creed*. The Apostles' Creed is worth knowing today perhaps more than ever. In a time when our relentless individualism suggests that each person should arrive at his or her own conclusions about Scripture, the creed gives us a historically proven way to study scripture. The creed is, in many ways, a distillation of scripture; each of the statements within the creed may not represent a particular chapter and verse, but each statement is rooted in a recurring truth within Scripture as a whole. Further, the creed helps us to identify the core beliefs of the Christian faith, giving all Christian denominations a common reference point. In a world that so desperately needs the Gospel, churches of every kind need to find ways to rally together, finding unity in what is essential, and offering charity in all else; the creed helps us to identify what is essential.

### *The Apostle's 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.*

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Opening: What do you believe when you say, "I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth"?
- Based on Ephesians 1:3-14 & Sermon, discuss the following questions:
- How does the doctrine of the Trinity help you understand God's character & nature as Father?
- How is our adoption in Christ an encouragement to you in this season right now?
- How does God being our Almighty Father influence the way that we ought to pray? Do your prayers currently reflect the work of the Trinity?

## PRAYER GUIDE

- Spend a few minutes praying together for the following:
- Pray that we would be a community that turns to our Heavenly Father for hope and security in this time of uncertainty and difficulty.
- Pray that we would live in a way that reflects our spiritual adoption in Christ & that we would be full of thanksgiving in being children of God.
- Continue to pray for the Lord to slow the spread of the virus, to heal the sick, to protect those on the front lines of health care, and for leaders making difficult decisions in our city, province, & country.