

# 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

- What do you understand by the word “suffered”? (Speaking of Christ's suffering)
- Based on Hebrews 2:10-18 & Sermon, discuss the following questions:
- Why was the suffering of Jesus “fitting” in order to be the founder of our salvation?
- How does the suffering of Jesus bring new meaning to our suffering?
- How does the suffering of Jesus uniquely qualify him to be our merciful & faithful high priest? Are you going to him for help as our sympathetic Savior?
- What does “descend to the dead” or descend into Hades” mean according to 1 Peter 3:18-20 and 4:4-6?
- What is the significance and what are the implications of Jesus' resurrection according to 1 Corinthians 15:14-28?

## PRAYER GUIDE

- Pray that we would not be discouraged in our own suffering but would have endurance & patience as we look to our Savior who suffered with and for us.
- Pray that we would be released from the power of death & the fear of death because of the work of Christ.
- Pray for the Lord to protect those around the world from the effects of this virus, to sustain healthcare workers and others on the frontlines of care, and for patience and endurance in this prolonged season of being scattered.