

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 the dead.

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 does submission mean to you?
- What does phrase "Jesus is King" imply to our own individual lives?
- How should your heavenly citizenship affect your day to day life in this world?
- Jesus is our advocate before the Father in heaven. How does this Biblical and heavenly reality make you feel about your relationship with God?
- Explain why the Holy Spirit inside you is better than Jesus beside you?
- When was the last time you invited someone to become part of God's kingdom? How can you make obedience to the call of Jesus to evangelize others a primary desire?

PRAYER GUIDE

- Pray that we would live as people who have a living hope because of the resurrection of Christ.
- Pray for the Lord to bring life out of death in the painful things happening in our individual lives, community, and world.
- Pray for unity in our church, eagerness & wisdom as we gather again together, and for the message of the hope of the resurrection to be proclaimed to our community through our witness.