



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Baptism** - If you would like to take this next step in your faith, or know someone thinking about it, our next baptism will be **next Sunday**, October 24th at 3pm. If you want to register or have any questions, please contact Rene Snyder at rsnyder@southwinds.org.
- **Volunteers Needed** - We need volunteers in the following areas: Volunteer Captains, Greeters, Ushers, Levites, Parking Attendants and ERT. If, interested please contact Debbie Knapp at: dknapp@southwinds.org.
- **Student Volunteers Needed for Childcare** - We currently have a need on weeknights for childcare assistance - especially on Wednesday CARE night and on Friday nights with our Celebrate Recovery ministry. We offer both paid positions and service hours. Ages 14+ invited to apply. Please contact Pastor Chris Martinez at cmartinez@southwinds.org or by phone/text at 760-685-5152 for more information.
- **Join a Life Group** - If you have not already joined a life group, there is still time. To view our groups, go to southwinds.org/lifegroups or click here, then open the Join a Group tab, complete the information, and submit. Contact Talanna Williams at: (209) 765-1122; twilliams@southwinds.org or Chris Martinez at (760) 685-5152; cmartinez@southwinds.org with questions.

MY STORY

As a kid, was there anything that we believed that we don't believe now?

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

HAVE EVERYONE READ:

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's 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.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
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.

DIGGING DEEPER

Point 1: What is the Apostles' Creed?

“As Christians developed the creed so long ago, the goal was to take the Bible, this massive and often confusing book, and give a short, memorable summary of its core teachings, and the story that stands at the heart of it.” – **Mike Nolen**

How can using the Apostles' Creed as a guideline help us live out our faith in Christ?

Point 2: Why does the Apostles' Creed matter for my life?

“In the early centuries of the church, as the creed was taking shape, Christ-followers utilized the creed for 4 purposes. These 4 purposes will show us why the creed matters for our lives. Here what the creed can do for you...The creed provides clarity, balance, counsel and reorientation.” – **Mike Nolen**

Clarity – The creed takes this complex thing called Christian theology, with 1000 of ideas everyone argues about. And it makes it extremely clear.

Balance – The creed brings us into balance. It makes us whole Christians that believe the whole Bible. It makes us strong, deeper disciples of Jesus who know not only what we believe, but why we believe it.

Counsel – All theology is practical....The purpose of knowing the Creator and understanding his word is to change us, to change how we live, to make us more like Christ.

Reorientation – We're reorienting ourselves away from the destructive lies of culture... to the truth that stands at the heart of everything.

In this season of your life, which of the 4 purposes of the creed did you need to be reminded of?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ: Romans 10:8-13; Hebrews 11:1; 1 John 1:1-2; James 2:14-26

Point 3: What does "I Believe" Mean?

Why is it important to understand that our faith is based on our belief in who Christ is? And, how does that rescue us from an unsafe world?

“In his book on The Apostles' Creed, Michael Bird, talks about belief as three realities that work themselves out into our lives. He says that when the New Testament talks about belief, it's talking about fact, trust, and obedience.” – **Mike Nolen**

Fact – Involves reading the biblical story and understanding that there are really good reasons to believe that everything recorded in the Bible happened. Belief as historical fact.

Trust – Belief is also a heart level trust in the beautiful promises of God for you, personally. Our faith as Christ-followers, and the NT makes this clear, is experiential. We believe that something happens when we meet God, And I'm trusting this God that I believe in with my life.

Obedience – Belief as fact and trust necessarily changes the way that we live. Real belief doesn't stay internal, it always expresses itself externally.

How should fact, trust and obedience influence the way I live?

“This is why James, in his letter says that faith without works, belief without works is dead. What's he saying? He says...If what you say you believe doesn't change the way you live...you don't actually believe.” – **Mike Nolen**

Why should our faith change the way we live?

APPLICATION

MEMORIZE: part 1 of 7

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.

PRAISES

PRAYER REQUESTS