

INTRODUCTION TO THE APOSTLES' CREED

Bible Text: Deuteronomy 6:4; Mark 12:28-34

Lesson Focus: The Apostles' Creed states our shared beliefs as a community of faith.

Big Question: What do I believe?

Key Words: CREED, BELIEF, CHURCH, MONOTHEISM, TRINITY

BIBLE CONNECTION

-] A creed is a “we believe” statement made by a group of people.
-] A simple creed of the Christian church is “Jesus is Lord.”
-] Stuff written in the Bible helps us form a creed.
-] Two of the oldest creeds are found in Deuteronomy 6:21-25 and 26:5-9.
-] Jesus’ creed was “The Lord our God, the Lord is one” (Mark 12:29).
-] Paul wrote some simple creeds too (Romans 3:29 and 11:36).
-] The Apostles’ Creed was written around the 3rd century.
-] We believe in a triune God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit).
-] Over the course of a few hundred years, a few changes were made to the Creed.
-] It’s good for creeds to be studied and changed (if needed) over time.

CARTOON CONNECTION

-] What do you think the response would be in your church if the guy in the Mohawk came to worship?
-] Who is part of your faith community—people just like you, people very different from you, or both?
-] What common ground do you have with other Christians around the world?



STUDENT BOOK CONNECTION

Here We Stand Student Book page 167: Five Important Things the Lutheran Reformers Wrote (or Translated) and Why They’re Still Important Today

-] Which of the five things do you think is most important?
-] How important is it to your faith to read, learn about, and memorize a creed?
-] Which parts of your Lutheran faith unite you with other Christians? Are there parts that divide you?

LIFE CONNECTION

Write the words “I believe” on a piece of paper. Add statements to it all week. Your beliefs may be silly or serious, but try writing them down to make a personal creed this week. Bring your papers to the next class and share with the rest of the group to check for similarities and differences. We will post them on the walls in the room.

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True/False Quiz

Answer the following questions with "True" or "False."

1. A creed is a statement of faith. **T or F**
2. The Apostles' Creed is the only creed we have. **T or F**
3. Saying the Apostles' Creed is an important part of weekly worship. **T or F**
4. The 12 disciples wrote the Apostles' Creed after Jesus rose from the dead. **T or F**
5. Christians believe in a triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **T or F**
6. Creeds can never be changed and are not open to interpretation. **T or F**
7. Creeds help us understand God's relationship to God's people. **T or F**
8. "Jesus is Lord" is a simple creed. **T or F**
9. Once you say a creed, you're not allowed to doubt ever again. **T or F**
10. The Apostles' Creed is a Lutheran-only statement of faith. **T or F**