



We Believe In Various Verses

*These questions are provided to lead the group in **applying** the teaching from Sunday. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you in being a doer of God's Word. Challenge each other and be vulnerable as God works IN and THROUGH you together.*

1. How is **Taste & See** going? Share how you have engaged September's spiritual practice of slowing. In what ways does slowing help you experience God and be formed by him?
2. When you think about our world, what are some things that make it feel unstable or uncertain? Where do you see people looking for something solid to stand on?
3. Read Galatians 2:9 and Acts 2:42. Who were the original "pillars" of the church? Describe the people's commitment to the teaching of these "pillars".
4. Read 1 Timothy 3:15. Because the church was committed to the teaching of the apostles, the church, too, became a "pillar" of truth. According to 2 Timothy 1:13-14; 2:2; Titus 1:9, and 1 Timothy 4:16, what is our responsibility as a church to the "pillars" of truth? What are we to do with them? How have you experienced this in your life?
5. Creeds existed prior to the writing and finalizing of the New Testament and afterwards. How are confessional belief statements like guardrails that help us hold to biblical truth and resist false doctrine? What are some examples?
6. Scripture is God revealing truth, and creeds are the church confessing what Scripture says. Discuss these differences.
7. The Nicene Creed is considered the most important creed because it is the only confession that every Christian group affirms. It begins: "We believe in" rather than "I believe in." Why do you think the church has historically expressed its faith together?
8. Read Romans 12:5 and Ephesians 2:19. What does belonging in the church practically look like in your life? Who are the people God has placed around you who help strengthen your faith? Who might God be calling you to encourage or strengthen? What are some dangers of trying to live the Christian life primarily as an individual rather than as part of a church community?
9. Read 2 Timothy 1:13. Why is it important to have a "pattern of sound teaching" in order to believe and mature in our faith? What does it provide? What do we lose without it?
10. Read Galatians 2:20. We are not to have faith in faith. True faith requires an object. Why is that distinction important? Who or what is your ultimate object of faith? What's the difference between just believing that something is true and trusting in it? Can you think of an everyday example?
11. If everything around you changed tomorrow, what would still be true because of your belief in God? What, like a pillar, gives you stability in an unstable world?
12. How can this group pray this week for our church, you, and your slowing?

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one essence with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Adapted from the *Book of Common Prayer*, 1979.