



One God, the Father, Almighty 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 hear the words "**We believe in one God**," what is the first thing that comes to mind? Why do you think the Nicene Creed begins with this statement? How is this foundational to everything else Christians believe?
3. Read Deuteronomy 6:4. Why is God's uniqueness and oneness important to our understanding of him? What does it mean that we do not have to chase other gods?
4. Read Exodus 20:3. Idolatry can be described in two ways: Treating something that is not God like it is God / Treating God like something that is not God. Which of these two forms of idolatry is easier for us to recognize? Which might be easier for us to fall into without realizing it? Where have you experienced these in your life?
5. What things become "gods" in our lives (not necessarily bad things) because we give them a place that belongs only to God? What area of your life do you need to move from divided to wholehearted allegiance so God can be enough for you?
6. The creed continues, "**The Father, the Almighty**." Read Matthew 6:9 and 2 Corinthians 6:18. We often emphasize either God's care or God's power. Why is it important that the Creed puts these two ideas together? What difference does it make to you?
7. Read John 10:30 and 14:9. What does the life and character of Jesus teach us about what God the Father is like? With all the voices telling us who God is, how is this helpful?
8. Read James 1:17 and Matthew 7:11. How have you experienced God's provision in your life? Which "straws" are you tempted to control and treat as your source rather than conduits from your Almighty Father? How can you trust more in God as your source?
9. This section ends with "**maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible**." Read Genesis 1:1 and Isaiah 44:24. How does believing that there is an invisible spiritual reality change the way we approach worship, prayer, temptation, and suffering?
10. Read Psalm 139:13-18. What stands out to you about God's involvement in his creation and life? What difference does it make to know that your life is not an accident? What might it look like for you to live more intentionally in light of God's purpose for you? What does God's role as Creator convey about his authority over your life?
11. If this week you truly believed in one true God, Almighty Father Provider, and Creator, what would be different about your thinking, decisions, anxiety, and actions?
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.