



One Lord, Jesus Christ 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 have you engaged in the **Taste & See** October spiritual practice of meditation? In what ways does meditation help you experience God and be formed by him?
2. When you hear the name Jesus, what is the first word, image, or characteristic that comes to mind? Why?
3. Creeds did not create beliefs; they confirmed them by recognizing what the Church had believed over time. How does this help you better understand the role of creeds? In order to correct error, why was it so important to use precise wording?
4. This section begins, **"We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ."** Read Joel 2:32, Romans 10:9, 13, and 1 Corinthians 8:6. What are the implications of the Old Testament name for LORD being used for Jesus? Discuss the meaning of each word: one, Lord, Jesus, and Christ. What does it mean practically for Jesus to be your one Lord Jesus Christ?
5. Read John 1:1-3, 14, 18. What do these verses tell us about Jesus' identity and his relationship to God the Father and creation? The Creed continues, **"the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father... begotten, not made."** What is the difference between something being "begotten" and something being made? Why is it important that Jesus is eternal rather than someone who was made or created?
6. The creed piles up vivid metaphors like **"God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God."** How does this imagery affect how you see Jesus?
7. A major line in the creed is **"of one essence with the Father."** What does it mean for the Father and the Son to share "one essence" (or being) while remaining distinct persons? Read Colossians 2:9 and Hebrews 1:3. Why is this balance between unity and distinction essential to the Christian faith? How does knowing that Jesus is of the same substance as the Father give you confidence in God's character?
8. Because Scripture presents both the Father and the Son as God, this required the formulation of the doctrine of the Trinity: God is one being in three persons. Trinity is a mysterious concept, but it is not a contradiction. How is the distinction between being (what God is) and persons (who God is) helpful? How do the intra-relationships within the Trinity reveal our great need for human relationships?
9. This section ends with **"Through him all things were made."** Read Colossians 1:15-20. What does Paul say about Jesus' relationship to creation? It says that all things were created through him and for him. What difference does it make to know that you were created for Jesus?
10. Which description of Jesus in the Creed is most meaningful to you right now and why?
11. How can this group pray this week for our church, you, and your meditation?

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.