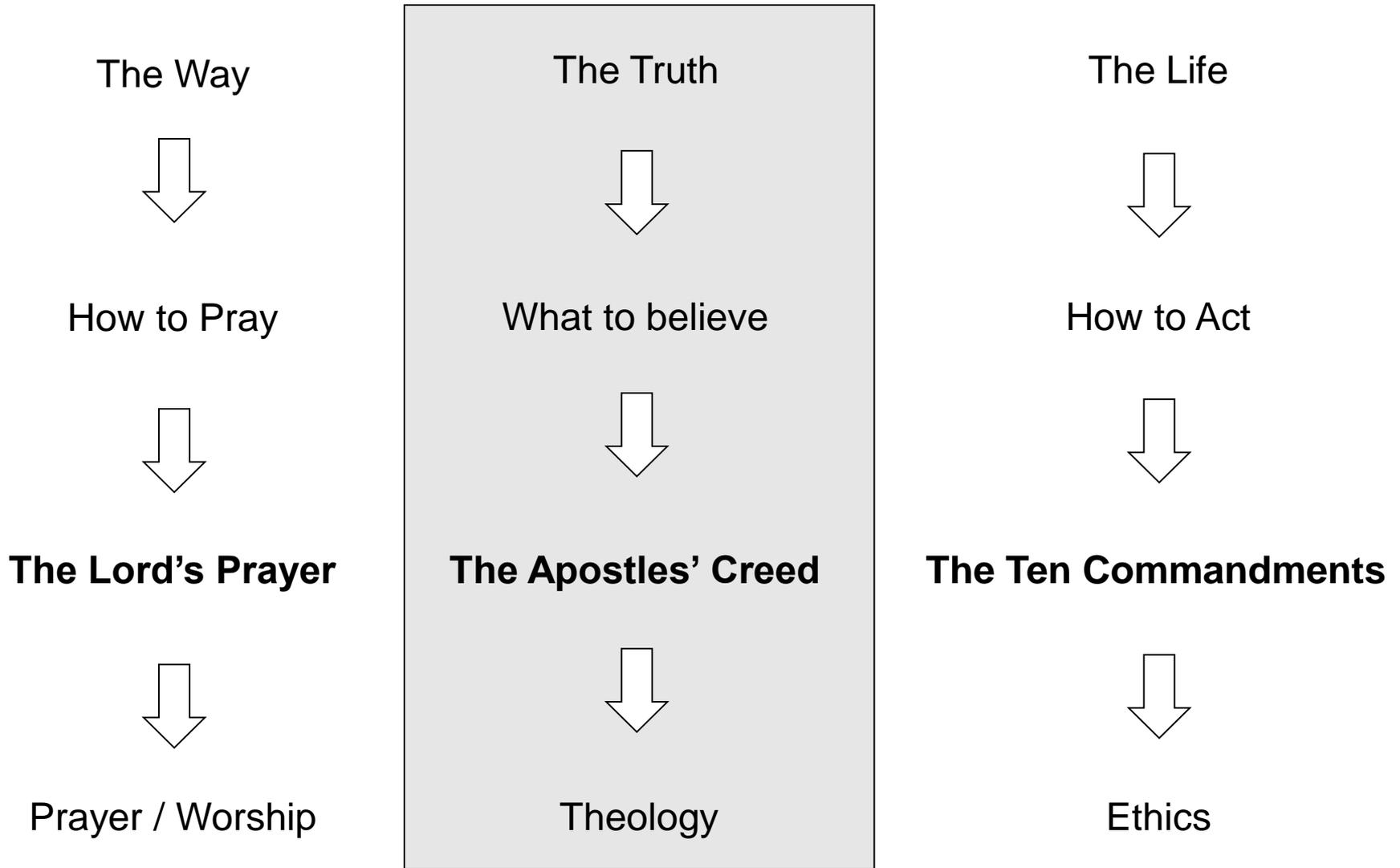


Three Foundational Summaries of the Christian Faith



The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried:
On the third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
And is seated on the right hand of the Father;
He shall 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.

I believe in...God

I believe in:

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Scripture references

- Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and His redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside Me there is no God. – Isaiah 44:6
- I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though you have not known me. – Isaiah 45:5

Discussion questions

- What's the alternative to believing in God?
- How many Gods are there?
- What happens if we aren't specific enough about what God we believe in?

I believe in...the Father Almighty Maker of Heaven and Earth

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Scripture references

- In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. – Genesis 1:1
- All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made. – John 1:3
- And saying, Sirs, why do you say these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that you should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein - Acts 14:15

Discussion questions

- Is there anything God didn't make?
- What about evil?

I believe in...Jesus Christ

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Scripture references

- For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. – John 3:16
- For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. – Luke 2:11
- And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. – John 20:28

Discussion questions

- Most people believe that Jesus existed as a good teacher. What does it mean for us to believe in Him?
- Is Jesus a human or something more?

I believe in...Jesus' supernatural birth

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Scripture references

- And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. – Luke 1:35
- To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. – Luke 1:27

Discussion questions

- What makes Jesus birth unique?
- What parts do the Holy Spirit and Mary play?
- How does this affect Jesus nature as fully God and fully man?

I believe in...Jesus' suffering, crucifixion and death

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Scripture references

- And Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they required. – Luke 23:24
- This title then read many of the Jews: for the place where Jesus was crucified was nigh to the city: and it was written in Hebrew, and Greek, and Latin. – John 19:20
- Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him does this man stand here before you whole. – Acts 4:10

Discussion questions

- Why did Jesus suffer?
- Why was His death important?

I believe in...Jesus' resurrection

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Scripture references

- And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus...the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." – Luke 24:1-7
- And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures. – 1 Corinthians 15:4

Discussion questions

- What is a resurrection?
- Why is Jesus resurrection important?

I believe in...Jesus' ascension

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Scripture references

- So then after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. – Mark 16:19
- And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. – Luke 24:51
- Which also said, You men of Galilee, why stand gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen him go into heaven. – Acts 1:11

Discussion questions

- Where did Jesus ascend to?
- What is the relationship between the Father and the Son?

I believe in...the judgement

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Scripture references

- I charge you therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the living and the dead at His appearing and his kingdom. – II Timothy 4:1
- For the Father judges no man, but has committed all judgment unto the Son. – John 5:22

Discussion questions

- What is the judgment?
- Who is the judge?
- Who will He judge?
- When is the judgment?
- Are you prepared to be judged?

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Scripture references

- Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment. – John 16:7-8
- When He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall he speak: and He will show you things to come. – John 16:13

Discussion questions

- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- What does He do?

I believe in...the church

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The forgiveness of sins;

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Scripture references

- There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for you are all one in Christ Jesus. – Galatians 3:28
- Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as you see the day approaching. – Hebrews 10:25

Discussion questions

- What does catholic mean?
- What is the church?
- What is communion?

I believe in...forgiveness of sins

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Scripture references

- For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. - Matthew 6:14-15
- In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight. – Ephesians 1:7-8

Discussion questions

- What is sin?
- Who do we sin against?
- Who forgives sins?
- How are they forgiven?

I believe in...the resurrection and eternal life

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Scripture references

- For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first. – I Thessalonians 4:16
- And I give them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. – John 10:28
- As you have given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as you have given him. – John 17:2

Discussion questions

- What is a resurrection?
- What will our bodies be like?
- What is heaven?

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