



Apostles' Creed, part one

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

WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES? ***Circle Two Opportunity...***

To become better and better disciples of Christ TOGETHER so we can face ***anything*** through...

1. Deeper learning of Biblical truth
2. Stronger "iron sharpening iron" relationships

Ephesians 4:12–16 (ESV) ¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator 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. He descended to the spirits in hell. The third day he arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, whence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

What it means to live with God as Father and Creator

OMK: Requires both belief and experiences that lead to soul knowledge and radical following

BELIEF: the Truth about God in scriptures – Who God and what God does

EXPERIENCES: when God reveals Himself and His power, moving from head to lifestyle

NOTE: happens in non-linear way

THE WAY GOD leads us to TRULY make Him more fully God in the way we live

1. God REVEALS what we believe through hard stuff

2. God FORCES a choice: turn to God or something else including old beliefs

3. God SHOWS HIMSELF and HIS POWER when we turn to Him

Luke 8:22–25 (ESV)

Luke 8:26–39 (ESV)

Luke 9:10–17 (ESV)

Look back at the steps above with the scriptures in mind

QUESTION: why does it have to be so difficult?

IMPLICATIONS:

So many...

- ➔ We can live with hope now and forevermore b/c God is God
- ➔ We can live above fear – though we still feel it, we choose to let God be bigger than fear

From the sermon

- ➔ We ask: what does the Bible tell us to do?
- ➔ We live in **awe** of God as Creator and in **intimacy** as Father
- ➔ We **obey** God as Creator and **trust** God as Father, understanding that God's commands are loving instructions to live as created.
- ➔ We spend time with God to praise Him, know Him & align with Him
- ➔ We live in freedom and joy, not shame and guilt.

Takeaways...

SERMON NOTES

REVIEW: essential skills to follow Christ, Pat Sawyer, "Critical Dilemma"

1. Biblical literacy
2. Biblical worldview
3. Biblical application

Matthew 7:21–23 (ESV) (pew Bible page 812)

²¹“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²²On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ ²³And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

Matthew 24:12–13 (ESV) ¹²And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

What it means to live with God as Father and Creator

“I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth”

1. Truth: God is All-Powerful Father and Creator.

Creator: infinite (without origin), All powerful, all knowing, all-present, immutable (unchanging), sovereign (in charge), just ...

Father: all-loving, faithful, good, gracious, good, respects our will ...

Luke 11:2 (ESV) And he said to them, “When you pray, say: “Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come.

Genesis 1:1

Psalm 100:3

Isaiah 66:1–2

Isaiah 42:5

Jeremiah 10:11–16

Acts 17:24–25

1 Corinthians 8:6

Creator = Other/ transcendent; **Father** = with us /imminent

Creator = commands; **Father** = puts His Spirit with power in us

2. Worldview: God is the source and owner of all.

Worldview: we see through a filter of who we are. Biblical worldview shifts us to see through God’s eyes as we transforms us.

We develop a Biblical worldview by running everything through the filter of the Bible as we are **confronted** with ideas

2 Corinthians 5:7 (ESV) for we walk by faith, not by sight.

Romans 12:2 (ESV) Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

IMPLICATIONS (not exhaustive)

- God is in charge no matter how things look
- God is in working in all circumstances
- God is the source of all we are and have – we are stewards
- God is still creating and changing with Father’s heart

Jeremiah 18:1–10 (ESV) (pew Bible page 646)

3. Application: live as treasured children, servants, stewards.

We ask: what does the Bible tell us to do?

Danger: subtle variations that sound good

2 Timothy 4:3-4 (ESV) ³For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

APPLICATIONS (not exhaustive)

1 John 3:1a (ESV) ¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

1 John 4:7-12, 18-19 (ESV) (pew Bible page 1023-1024)

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