



Apostles' Creed, part EIGHT

April 4-7

"I believe in... the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."

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.

Items of Note

- ✓ **"Throne Room" Time priority** – capture and leverage the gains of
- ✓ Continue to pray for the week's requests

Fasting Week

Takeaways from Prayer and Fasting/ Prayer Gathering

What did you experience during week of fasting – physical, emotional, spiritual challenges and joys.
 TIPS, INSIGHTS, how do we do it more effectively next time?

What did you experience during Prayer Gathering?

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.

"I believe in ... the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."

Feb. 25 – looked at Jesus' return and life everlasting – YouTube and spotify

Because Christ lives we can live in Supernatural Hope

Review of Sunday's message

† Hope...

- **Hope:** *An expectation that something desired will be fulfilled.*
- **Christian Hope** is a **PERSON**, our **Living Hope**, through **Whom** we expect with certainty that God will do what He has said.
Colossians 1:27b (ESV) Christ in you, **the hope of glory.**
- **Hope is a wish. Christian Hope is a certainty, a guarantee.**
Hebrews 6:18–19 (ESV)
- *Our entire lives as Christ-followers is based on Christian Hope*

† Hope's Origin was Jesus' resurrection.

1 Corinthians 15:20–23 (ESV) (pew Bible page 961)

† Hope's Victory comes from the impact of Jesus' resurrection.

Colossians 2:12–15 (ESV) (pew Bible page 984)

➤ death, sin, devil, fear ... **DEFEATED – Done! Finished! Teeth removed!**

Revelation 1:17–18 (ESV) ¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

† Hope's Invitation is resurrection life everlasting.

We are to live a lifestyle of “in spite of” Hope

➤ **RESURRECTION POWER** over death's destiny, mystery and threat
over sin's guilt and control
over the devil
over fear, it's worries and anxieties

SUNDAY PROMISE: LC will dig deeper into the practice of living with hope in hopeless situations

Facing and Overcoming “Hopeless Situations”

Corrie ten Boom, arrested by the Nazi's for hiding Jews and put in a horrible concentration camp, who lost her entire family during WWII, who had to confront her anger and hurt to forgive Nazi guards after the war, *“I've experienced His Presence in the darkest hell that men can create... I have tested the promises of the Bible, and, believe me, you can count on them.”*

IMPORTANT: we cling to ONLY what He has said – not impose our desires, apply His promises out of context,

Hope is a PERSON... **“BECAUSE HE LIVES...”** we can face and overcome EVERY situation
ONLY because of Jesus' resurrection is there true Christian, confident hope

T-CHART - Getting God's perspective and practical application to real life

God's pattern for moving from hopeless to hope is a developmental process to get RSU:

1. in seemingly hopeless situation – God allows or deliberately places
Hopeless Situations: what are they and why do they feel that way?

Guard against believing: the devil EVER has the upper hand

“God would never allow this”

God will do a quick miracle if we get things right

2. invites us to exchange the lie for His Truth

ill. Rat experiment

It's not the situation, but the BELIEF about the situation

John 14:25–27 (ESV)

Romans 1:24–25 (ESV) ²⁴Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, ²⁵because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

2 Timothy 3:16–17 (ESV) ¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

IMPORTANT: truth exchanged for lies *only happens* through *implementation*, not simply knowledge

3. leads us to EXPERIENCE Him and His work by Surrendering, Listening and Obeying, usually over time

We move from hopeless to living Christian hope as God takes us THROUGH situations that are too big for us and then proves Himself. It is not the intellectual belief, but experiencing that God actually does what He promises – that the belief actually WORKS! We experience that God truly is bigger!!

2 Corinthians 10:4–6 (ESV) ⁴For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. ⁵We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, ⁶being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.

Philippians 4:4–9 (ESV)

Romans 12:1–2 (ESV) ¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do 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.

APPLICATION: back to flipchart examples – moving from “hopeless” column to “Christian hope”

Takeaways...



New Song
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New Song Community Church 2024