

The Apostle's Creed

Sunday Morning Fellowship
Sunday, April 15, 2018

WEEK 1

5 REASONS WHY we should use the Apostle's Creed

1. **It is declarative.** Every time we say it, *we declare openly and without shame, doubt, or skepticism* WHAT WE BELIEVE, strictly based on the foundation of God's Word. We need to be reminded of what we believe as often as we can, because as the Bible warns us, false teaching is very sly. "*Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves,*" **Matthew 7:15.**
2. **It is defensive.** The Apostle's Creed serves as both a fence of protection and a firm foundation we stand on, proclaiming what we believe through the life we've been given because of Christ. We go out into the world eager to share the gospel, but *also prepared to give a defense* when someone questions the Bible: "*In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,*" **1 Peter 3:15.**
3. **It is educational.** A believer of any age can memorize this creed, learning the basics of the Christian faith. No matter how long we've been in the faith, whether it's our first day or 10 years, there is *always something we can learn about the vastness of God!* "*Can you fathom the depths of God or discover the limits of the Almighty?*" **Job 11:7.**
4. **It is unitive.** When congregates confess a creed together, it shows conformity and unity. Saying it out loud isn't another "*part of the service*" to get through. The Apostle's Creed brings us back to God Himself every time through the foundation of Jesus: "*But you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,*" **Ephesians 2:19-21.**
5. **It is doxological.** The Apostle's Creed is a *wonderful aspect of worship* and gives teachers of the Word a framework for **WHO** the focus of worship should be: The Trinity. By worshiping reverently and humbly, our need for personal and corporate faith grows stronger and stronger. "*He sets my feet upon a rock,*" **Psalms 40:2.¹**

Use these Scripture references to further study the list above: Deuteronomy 6:4-6, Job 11:7, Psalm 40:1-4, Matthew 7:15, 10:32-33, Luke 1:4, John 6:68-69, Romans 4:25, 10:9-10, 14:9; Ephesians 2:19-21, 4:13; 1 Thessalonians 4:14, 2 Thessalonians 2:15, 1 Timothy 3:16, 6:12-13, 1 Peter 3:15.

¹ The above list is loosely based off Cornelis P. Venema's list in his book: *What We Believe: An Exposition of the Apostles' Creed* (Grandville, Mich.: Reformed Fellowship, 1996), pages 9-11.