

REAL TALK FROM THE WORD

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Apostles' Creed – Week 9

I believe in

God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 dead and on the third day he rose again;

*he ascended into heaven, and he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will 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.

We were born with a desire to belong in a way that's beyond the belonging that's already naturally there by the grace of God.

We have this desire to belong, and yet nothing seems to satisfy that desire.

The more we try to fix our own lives, the more difficult and messy things get.

Ro 8:14-15 (NASB) - For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"

- The Spirit of God ransoms us out of being spiritual orphans; pulls us into the household of faith; and gives us a marker of being known, loved, provided for, cared for, and pursued.
- Being a son or daughter of God, being adopted into the family of God becomes an identity marker that nothing and no one can take from us.

Jn 14:23-26 (NASB) - Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me. These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you."

Jn 16:7-8 (NASB)

"But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. "And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment;

- Why is it essential that we speak of the Holy Spirit in personal terms?

REAL TALK FROM THE WORD

Jn 16:13 (NASB)

“But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

Ac 1:8 (NASB)

but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

Ac 4:31 (NASB)

And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and *began* to speak the word of God with boldness.

Ro 8:26-27 (NASB)

In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the *will of God*.

- According to Jesus, what is one of the primary roles of the Holy Spirit?
 - What does this role look like in our everyday lives?
- Why do you think it is blasphemous to minimize the Holy Spirit as merely the giver of spiritual gifts?

The Holy Spirit informs and stirs up adoration that drives our obedience.

John 3:1-8 – We get the phrase *born again Christian* from Jesus’ words in John 3:3. To be a part of God’s eternal family, to live forever in His heavenly Kingdom, we must be born again. The Greek word *anothen*, translated here as “again”, can also be translated as “from above”. In other words, verses 3 and 5 are clear that spiritual life requires spiritual birth.

- SYMMETRY (Balance): The Holy Spirit gives believers a robust understanding of the Bible.
- CLARITY: Without a right belief in the Holy Spirit, we would have an incomplete understanding of who God is.
- COMMUNITY: The Holy Spirit provides unity among fellow believers in Christ.
- COUNSEL: We must rely on the Spirit when we counsel and receive counsel from other brothers and sisters in Christ.