



# CREDO *This I Believe*

WEEK 5 | MAY 30

*I believe in the great company*

## RECEIVE

- Prayerfully recite the Apostles' Creed.
- Focus Section: **I believe in the holy Christian Church.**
- Read 1 Peter 2:4-10. (Bible study tip: Sometimes it's helpful to read a passage in two or more different translations.)

## *The Apostles' CREED*

*I believe* in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ,  
His only begotten Son, our Lord.

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead and buried.

He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand  
of God the Father Almighty.  
From there He shall come  
to judge the living and the dead.

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

Amen.

## REFLECT

- Take a few moments to reflect on your faith journey. What's the importance of you belonging to the Church (capital-C) and the church (small c)?
- How would you describe the difference between belonging to and going to a local church? Do you belong or go to Christ Church?
- What was a cornerstone used for in ancient building? Now state in your own words the metaphor Peter was combining by referring to Jesus as the living cornerstone? What does that mean for the Church?
- With the 1 Peter 2:4-10 passage in your mind and heart, highlight, write down, circle, underline, words or phrases that demonstrate who we are as the Church (identity) and what we are called to do (purpose)?

## RESPOND

- As a follower of Jesus yourself (assuming that is true of you), you have just heard you are part of "a royal priesthood." When you reflect on that reality what stirs in you? What excites you? Any fears or misgivings? Why?
- As you think of the duties and calling of a priest, from what you know in this day and age or perhaps from what you know of the Old Testament (remember the OT was Peter's setting), what do priests do that you as a member of the Church are called to do now in the name of Jesus?
- Reflecting on the list of priestly duties what do you do well and not so well? Turn these reflections into prayers of gratitude and hope. Gratitude for God's grace working in your life and hope for God's transferring grace to go further and deeper.

## RESOURCES (for personal and group study)

- RightNowMedia.org: *The Eyewitness Bible Series, Acts*, consists of 18 short videos and related study guides. The videos are narrative accounts by Bible personalities of portions of Acts, such as Peter discussing the start of the church as described in Acts 2-5. As a regular attendee of Christ Church, if you would like a membership to RightNowMedia contact Pastor Eric Haskins (ehaskins@ChristChurch.us).

## RECALL

- **Put the Creed to music.** Get creative and fit the Creed to your favorite song? How about the favorite song of your kids? Have them help you and see what develops.