

Study Guide

The **APOSTLES'** **I BELIEVE** *Creed*

Term 4 2026

The 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 of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He arose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
from where 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 life everlasting.

Amen.

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Welcome to Term 4

Can you believe we're almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way through 2026? Christmas will be upon us soon and we look forward to celebrating that together and sharing it with our community.

Before looking ahead though, let's just cast our mind back to Term 3. One highlight was the sermon series through Ephesians. Wasn't it great to be reminded of how big and expansive the gospel is? And also, how big and expansive the love of Jesus is?

From a sermon series on the love of Jesus, we shared the love of Jesus through Taste & See. Night Church again hosted this four-week course and about 15 guests joined us to learn about the gospel. There's a larger report in the pages ahead.

Finally, it was great to end the term with the Girls High Tea. Not only was it great to have a bunch of primary school aged girls gather to spend time together, it was also encouraging to have Tessa Howlett develop her gifts in giving a short talk.

Looking ahead to this term, our sermon and Home Group series will be on the Apostles' Creed. It's not common to preach on a text that's not in the Bible. But so ubiquitous is the Creed throughout church history as one of the oldest statements of orthodox Christian belief, it's important to understand it's teaching.

When the reformed Heidelberg Catechism asks, "What then must a Christian believe?" (Lords Day 7, Question 22), it answers:

Everything God promises us in the gospel. That gospel is summarised for us in the articles of our Christian faith – a creed beyond doubt, and confessed throughout the world.

The creed mentioned is the Apostles' Creed. That it's beyond doubt is not a statement of infallibility. Rather it's a statement of how widely it is accepted as an orthodox summary of the Christian faith. While not part of the Bible, it's truths are understood as being derived from the Bible. We look forward to learning more of the Creed in the months ahead.

Finally, we look forward to ending the year by celebrating Christmas together. This begins on Sunday 13th December with Carols in the Bush and will culminate in our Christmas services.

Join us in praying that God uses this term for his glory and our good!

In Christ, Jen and Josh

Christmas 2026

We look forward to celebrating Christmas together with our community. The angels' announcement of the birth of Jesus Christ as Savior continues to bring hope to our weary world and we pray will bring hope to those in our community who currently don't know that hope.

Carols in the Bush | Sunday 13th December

God willing, we'll be running our Carols in the Bush event again this year. Preparations have already begun. Last year we had close to 500 people attend with the majority from our community. We look forward to putting the event on again and pray that even more people come to hear the wonder of the Christmas story.



There will be a heap of ways to get involved so keep an ear out for how you can serve.



Please pray for the carols team of Simon & Renee Papajcsik, Wendy Williams, Elisabeth Everest, George & Penny Bellas, and Josh Swarts as they make preparations.

Christmas Services Friday 25th December (and maybe Thursday 24th December) We'll have our usual Christmas Day service to celebrate the Birth of Jesus. In recent years we've done a Christmas Eve service also but we're still working out whether to have one this year or whether to have just the one big Christmas Day service. We'll let you know closer to the dates.

We'd love you to pray for the planning and preparation of these events, and also who you could invite to share the good news of the gospel with.

Taste & See

Over the course of four consecutive Sundays in August–September, our Night Church congregation provided opportunity for non-Christian's to meet Jesus through hosting Taste & See.



Taste & See is an evangelistic course where God's big rescue story is told through good food. Each week the dinner menu provided an opportunity for us to share the foundational truths of the gospel of Jesus, starting with Creation, the Fall, Redemption, and finishing with a taste of the banquet we will share together in the New Creation.

About 15 guests from outside the church attended the course. Some of them knew almost nothing of the Bible or Jesus. Others had background in church but had drifted away. We were so thankful for their openness to the content and the great questions they asked. One of the guests will keep visiting our services on Sundays and another is keen to keep meeting with someone from church to read the Bible.

A particular thanks to key members of the Taste & See team: Murray Howlett, Sally Waters, and Robyn Jay. Thanks also to Esther Ballinger and Dani and Michael Jones for their help in set up. Our Young Adult band were led by Yasi Papajcsik and Tessa Howlett. Finally, a thanks to all those who helped with providing meals for the evenings! It was a joy to see our church serve together to put the event on.

Praise God for the number of non-Christians who came along, and pray that God would continue to work in their hearts to grow the seeds of the gospel that have been sown.

Spur in review

Spur is a conference held every year that asks us to stop and think about living lives that focus on serving Jesus. Most of us feel like we do that or try to do that every Sunday. But *Spur* has a very specific focus: how might you and I serve Jesus by serving his church in a way that specifically points people to him? We might call this 'Word-based ministry' or some way of leading others towards knowing and loving Jesus that involves opening up his Scriptures.

So *Spur* is a conference that is particularly aimed at young people, who are often at a crossroads. They are deciding what to do with their lives, their degrees, their energies before they start to lock down their options. Of course, it is also for all of us: we can all make a shift towards this in some way or another, or we can resolve to support those who do this with our time and money.

This year a small group from Redlands made the trek into Ann Street to hear talks on 'All for the Kingdom'. We also went to seminars asking us to think about what we might have to give up to serve Jesus in this way. Each of us either mentored or were mentored in one-to-one conversations around encouragement and thinking about next steps. It was a full and rewarding day.

Please pray for our young people who attended this day: Tessa Howlett and Samuel Iledema as they think through all the different ways they were encouraged and challenged. Pray that they will be wise with their gifts, time and abilities that God has given them and encouraged to live all their days for their Saviour in whatever form that might take.

The Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed is recited by many Christians, the world over, each week. Given its antiquity and wide use, the phrases are known not just by those who'd call themselves Christians but by the wider population, some of whom perhaps attended Sunday School or church. Perhaps the routine or overfamiliarity with the words means you might tune out from what the Creed says. Perhaps you're not familiar at all with the Creed, and statements about Jesus descending to hell, and believing in the holy universal church, seem a bit odd or confusing.

That could be a good reason for us spending the next eight weeks delving into the truth the Creed teaches. Historically it's one of the oldest and most widely acknowledged statements of orthodox Christian belief. One tradition holds that each of the twelve apostles penned one of its twelve phrases. A nice idea, but there's no evidence for that. The Creed likely started life as a summary of the Christian faith for new believers as they were being baptised. When asked: "Do you believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?", the candidate for baptism would say "I believe!" Then they would be asked, "Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?" "I believe!" and so on, as they were baptised after each profession of "I believe".

"I" might sound very individualistic, but "I" is the church; the community of faith stretched out over so many generations from the time of the apostles. This is the apostolic, historic Christian faith, the essentials. This is why our series is called "I Believe."

Some might still think that we don't need creeds. "No creed but the Bible!" they say, which is a creed. While the Creed doesn't have the authority of the Bible, it's very helpful for us to have clear and powerful statements of what the Bible teaches. The Creed summarises who we are, outlines those truths of first importance, and helps us therefore, to avoid error. We should have great humility and learn from those who have gone before us, wisely and carefully articulating the faith that has once for all been delivered to us in the Scriptures; the faith which makes us wise for salvation; the truth which leads to godliness.

Our prayer is that in thinking through the Creed's big statements, you'll be encouraged. Our prayer is that you'll find yourself paying close attention to the Creed when we say it aloud. Our prayer is that you will come to joyfully say, "I Believe", to each of the Creed's well-known phrases.

Study One

**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 of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.

The third day He arose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
from where 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 life everlasting. Amen.

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1. As a group, read through all of the Apostles' Creed out loud. What stands out to you?
 2. What are we saying when we declare "I Believe"? How is this more than just agreeing to the facts?
 3. This first statement of the Apostles' Creed, articulates our faith in "God", but then goes on to clarify who God is. According to this article in the creed, who is God?
 4. Where does the Bible teach that God is the Father?

5. The Fatherhood of God is an immense idea!! Let's focus in on two key aspects:
 - a. He is the Eternal Father of the Son.
Read **John 5:19-24** and **John 10:14-18**
What is the relationship between the Father and the Son like? Can you think of any other places in the Bible that help us to understand this better?
 - b. Our adoption into the life of God's family.
Read **John 1:12-13**, **Romans 8:14-17** and **Ephesians 1:5**
How would you describe our relationship with God? How is Jesus involved in this?
6. The Bible clearly teaches that God is **Almighty**.
Read **Psalms 135** (especially **verse 6**),
Do you think this is good news? Or bad news?
7. Why is it good to have an **Almighty Father**?
Read **Ephesians 1:11** and **John 10:27-30**
8. Where does the Bible teach that God is the Creator of Heaven and Earth?
Read **Genesis 1** and **Psalms 24:1-3**
What strikes you as significant about this teaching?
9. How is this different from other worldviews?
10. How does believing in God as Creator, and you as part of His creation effect the way you live in the world?

Read **Job 38:1-11**, **Job 40:1-2** and **1 Corinthians 10:23-33**

Study Two

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 of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He arose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
from where 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 life everlasting. Amen.

1. Like last week, read through the Creed out loud. What is one thing that stood out to you this time?
2. Can you think of Biblical passages that explain why Jesus is called "Jesus" and not another name like David, Bob, or Barry? Why does his name matter?
3. Is "Christ" a name or a title? Can you think of Bible passages that explain what "Christ" is?
4. Have a look at Acts 2:22-36. What is the significance of attaching "Christ" to "Jesus"? See also 2 Corinthians 1:20. (Some translations use "Messiah" instead of "Christ").

5. Where in the Bible is Jesus referred to as the "only Son" and what do those passages say about the uniqueness of Jesus's sonship?
6. The Bible also teaches that we are sons of God, but what is different about our relationship to God (see **Ephesians 2:2-3** and **Galatians 4:4-6**)?
7. Why does Jesus have the right to be called "lord"? (See **Acts 2:32-36**, **Philippians 2:5-11**, **Romans 10:9** and **Matthew 28:18-19**).
8. Is there a difference between recognising Jesus as "lord" (or a lord) and confessing him as "our Lord"? (See **Romans 10:9**). How far does (or should) Jesus's lordship extend in your life?
9. Can you summarise how this second statement adds to, or deepens our knowledge of God? How does it distinguish Christianity further from other religions?
10. Jesus being "Lord" might seem like bad news in a world which doesn't like authority. What good does confessing Jesus as "our Lord" do for our:
 - a. Relationships in church?
 - b. For our wider community?
 - c. Own sense of security today and for the future?

Study Three

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 of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,**
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He arose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
from where 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 life everlasting. Amen.

1. As a group, read through the Apostles Creed.
When you get to this article of the faith, what's your gut reaction?
2. What do you think these two lines of the Creed mean? What is it about them that makes them difficult for people to accept?
3. Where does the Bible teach that Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and was born of the virgin Mary?
4. Read Matthew 1 (especially verses 16-25), and Luke 1:26-38. What do Matthew and Luke want us to know about Jesus' conception and birth in these two complementary accounts?

5. Read Isaiah 7:14 and Matthew 1:20-23. From this, what do you think the virgin birth means?

6. The idea that Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit seems to point to the fact that in the coming of Jesus, God is beginning a new work of creation.
Read **Luke 1:35** again, alongside **Genesis 1:2**.

Are there any similarities you can see? What do you think these echoes might mean? How might the way Elizabeth and Mary talk about the event help us to understand what is happening (**Luke 1:39-55**)?

7. Read **Galatians 4:4-7** and **Hebrews 1:1-4** and **2:14-18**.

Why is it important that Jesus was both really God and really human? Why are both essential if Jesus was to redeem the world?

8. Why do you think it matters, that Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and was born of the virgin Mary? Would it really make a difference to our faith if we didn't believe this bit?

9. God acts without asking Mary's or Joseph's permission. How does this make you feel? How does their response affect you?

Think about one thing that you've learnt that you can give thanks for. Pray about it.

Pray for help to believe that God is free to act as he pleases and give thanks that he acts for our salvation.

Study Four

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 of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
**suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.**

The third day He arose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
from where 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 life everlasting. Amen.

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1. As a group read the Apostles' Creed aloud together. When you get to this week's statement in the Creed, what immediately grabs your attention?

Let's consider the key words or phrases in the statement:

2. **"Suffered"**: Can you think of Bible passages or verses that might shape the Creed's teaching regarding Jesus's suffering? Which part of his suffering is emphasised?
3. If you were going to summarise Jesus' life in a word, what would you choose? What would we miss out on if the framers of the Creed chose a word other than "suffered" or omitted it altogether?

4. **"Pontius Pilate"**: Have a look at **Matthew 27:1-2, 11-26**.

- a. Who is Pilate and who does he represent? What does he (and his wife) think about Jesus (**verses 19, 23**)?
- b. How does Jesus suffer under Pontius Pilate (**verses 24-26**)? What is the Creed reminding us of every time we say Pilate's name?

5. **"Crucified, died, buried"**: Each of the Gospels record the events of Jesus's crucifixion, death, and burial (**Matthew 27:32-56, Mark 15:21-41, Luke 23:26-49** and **John 19:16-30**). If you have time divide up the group to scan each one and share what you notice.

OR: Get into pairs and chose one (or two) of following passages (spend about 5 minutes reflecting on them) and share with the group how they explain the significance of the cross:

▪ **Deuteronomy 21:23** cf. **Galatians 3:13**

▪ **Isaiah 52:13-53:12**

▪ **Mark 10:45**

▪ **Romans 3:19-26**

▪ **1 Corinthians 15:3**

▪ **2 Corinthians 5:21**

▪ **Philippians 2:5-8**

▪ **Colossians 2:13-15**

▪ **1 Timothy 2:5-6**

▪ **Hebrews 9:22**

▪ **1 John 2:2; 4:9-10**

What is lost if we don't mention that Jesus "died" and was "buried"?

6. **"He descended to hell"**: Some versions of the Creed use the word "the dead" instead of "hell". There's two Greek words in the New Testament used to talk about the destiny of people beyond dying. "Gehenna" is the word used by Jesus to describe a place of eternal punishment (e.g **Matthew 5:29, 30**). Hades" (Sheol in Hebrew) is the word used in Scripture for the abode of the dead; a place under the earth spiritually. That's the word used in the Creed. What do the following passages suggest about Jesus going to the place of the dead:
- a. **Ephesians 4:8-10?**
 - b. **1 Peter 3:18-20?**
 - c. **Philippians 2:9-11?**
7. For those who say "I believe", what has become of "the dead" (see **Luke 23:43; Philippians 1:21-23; Revelation 14:13**)?
8. How does the Creed's recalling (and our repeated mention as we say it) that Jesus suffered, help us?
9. Fear is a natural emotion in response to death. How does Jesus descending to the dead speak to your fears (compare **1 Corinthians 15:55**)?

Study Five

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 of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.

The third day He arose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
from where 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 life everlasting. Amen.

We're looking at quite a big chunk of the Creed this week, and thinking about Jesus' resurrection, his ascension, his current reign, and his coming judgement.

1. The writers of the Apostles' Creed affirm Jesus' bodily resurrection.
Read **1 Corinthians 15:1-28** (and **John 20:1-18** if you have time)
 - a. What are some of the implications of Jesus' resurrection according to **1 Corinthians 15**?
 - b. How would Christianity be different if Jesus had not been raised from the dead?
2. Jesus' ascension to Heaven is perhaps not something we often think about, and yet Luke writes about the event that took place 40 days after Jesus' resurrection.
Read **John 14:15-19, 25-27** and **Acts 1:1-11**.
 - a. In what sense did Jesus ascend into Heaven?

b. What gift has He left for His people?

3. Jesus ascended into Heaven and is now seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

Read **Ephesians 1:18-23**, **Romans 8:33-34** and **Hebrews 1:3, 13; 4:14-16**.

a. What is Jesus doing now?

b. What importance does this heavenly ministry have for us?

4. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

In pairs, read one of the following and report back to the group on what you read.

John 5:25-29

1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

2 Peter 3:10-13

Revelation 20:11-15

a. When Christ returns, what will He do? How do you feel about this?

b. In what ways is Jesus' future coming, reason for hope?

5. Look back over this part of the Creed, and the things we've read and talked about in this study. Is there anything you've found particularly challenging? Is there anything you've found particularly comforting?

Spend some time talking to God about the things you found challenging and comforting.

Study Six

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 of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He arose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
from where 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 life everlasting. Amen.

Last week we thought about the resurrection, ascension, current reign and coming again of Jesus. Focusing on His ascension, we'll think this week about what we gained when Jesus returned to heaven, the Holy Spirit and His life-giving power for us and the church.

1. Read through the Creed aloud as we've done in previous weeks. When you come to the focus of this week's study, what grabs your attention?
2. Where is the first mention of the Holy Spirit in the Bible? (Think Genesis.) What is He doing and what is significant about it?
3. The Hebrew translation of Spirit in the verse you may have just read, is ruach, which means "breath or wind of God". Does this impact the way you feel about the Holy Spirit and the knowledge that He lives in you?

4. Have a look at **John 14:16-17, 14:26**, and **Ezekiel 36:27**. What do these verses tell us about the role of the Spirit? Can you think of anything else the Spirit does for us?
5. Someone might argue that once the Spirit is in you, you lack any free will – that the Spirit somehow ‘controls’ you. How does **Galatians 5:25** address this?
6. What do you think the word 'universal' is saying about the church you believe in? (In older versions of the creed, it is referred to as 'catholic': that comes from a Greek word meaning 'whole' or 'universal').
7. What connection is there between the Holy Spirit and this universal church? Try answering this first, and then you might like to look at **1 Corinthians 1:2**.
8. What do you think the communion of saints is referring to? Why is this important?
9. How might this study impact your thoughts on church and the times when you are tempted to miss a Sunday here and there, or not check in with your friends at church? How do you feel when people don't check in with you?
10. How does believing in the things mentioned in this study change the way you live, particularly how you relate to fellow believers and your local church?

Think about one thing that is new to you or something that you've known already about the church which you've been reminded of and encouraged by in this study. Spend some time thanking God for that.

Study Seven

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
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born of the Virgin Mary,
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He descended into hell.
The third day He arose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
from where 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 life everlasting. Amen.

1. Read through the Creed aloud as we've done in previous weeks. When you come to the focus of this week's study, what grabs your attention?
2. What is sin? As a group, brainstorm what sin is. Are there particular verses from the Bible that help you define what sin is?
3. **Habakkuk 1:13** tells us that God's "eyes are too pure to look on evil, and that He cannot tolerate evil". He is Holy! If this is true, what are the implications of sin for us?
4. The Bible tells us that God is Holy, yet also "compassionate and gracious. Slow to anger and abounding in love". Take a few minutes to share as a group, your favourite parts of the Bible that speak of God's forgiveness of us.

5. It's important to note that the New Testament uses the word Justification as well as Forgiveness. Justification is a beautiful, rich concept! It signifies not only washing out of the past (forgiveness), but ALSO acceptance by God and the gift of a righteous person's status for the future.

How do you get to experience justification, or the forgiveness of sins?

How is this possible? Have a read of **Matthew 26:26-29**, **Luke 23:34**, **Romans 10:9-13**, **Ephesians 1:7**, **1 John 1:9** and **Psalms 32:5**

6. It's interesting that this article of faith concerning the forgiveness of sins comes towards the end of the Creed, in the section concerning the Holy Spirit. What part does the Holy Spirit play in granting us forgiveness of sins? See **Romans 8:1-11**, **1 Corinthians 6:9-11** and **Ephesians 1:11-14**.
7. As Christians, being forgiven by God is central to who we are. However, the Word of God goes further and calls on us to forgive others. Forgiveness of sins is not just what we've received but is also what we are to do. Read **Matthew 6:9-15** and **Colossians 3:13**.
- a. What's the link between receiving God's forgiveness and forgiving others?
 - b. Why is forgiving those who wrong us so difficult?
 - c. How is God's forgiveness of us similar to, and different from, our forgiveness of others?
8. Are there ever times when you find it hard to believe that God really has forgiven you? Which parts of God's Word could you go to remind yourself of this truth?

Spend some time thanking God for His forgiveness. Ask Him to change us by His Spirit, so that we would trust Him, and so that we would want to forgive others.

Study Eight

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 of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He arose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
from where 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 life everlasting. Amen.**

Having already looked at the resurrection of Christ we turn now to think about what the future holds for us. Let's delve into what awaits those who have had their sins forgiven.

1. Where does the Bible teach that there is a resurrection, particularly in relation to mankind?
2. What does a bodily resurrection indicate about God's view of our human bodies?
3. We don't know exactly what our resurrected bodies will be like but looking to Jesus, what was different about his resurrected body? What was the same?
See **Luke 24:30-43**, **John 20:13-18** and **John 21:10-14**.

4. Read through **1 Corinthians 15:12-34**. What difference does a bodily resurrection make to the way we live?

5. What does the Bible teach about the life to come? Share a word or phrase that springs to mind when you read these verses (pick one verse each):

Matthew 8:11

Matthew 19:29

John 3:16

John 14:2

Acts 13:48

Titus 3:4-7

2 Peter 3:13-14

Matthew 13:44

Matthew 22:30

John 4:13-14

John 17:3

1 Corinthians 2:9

1 Peter 1:3-4

6. What prevents some Christians from looking forward to heaven?
See **Mark 10:17-24**

7. Read **Revelation 21:1-11, 22-27, 22:1-6**. What stands out to you?

8. Look back over this part of the Creed, and the things we've read and talked about in this study. Is there anything you've found particularly challenging? Is there anything you've found particularly comforting?

Spend some time talking to God about the things from Question 8.

Notes

