

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

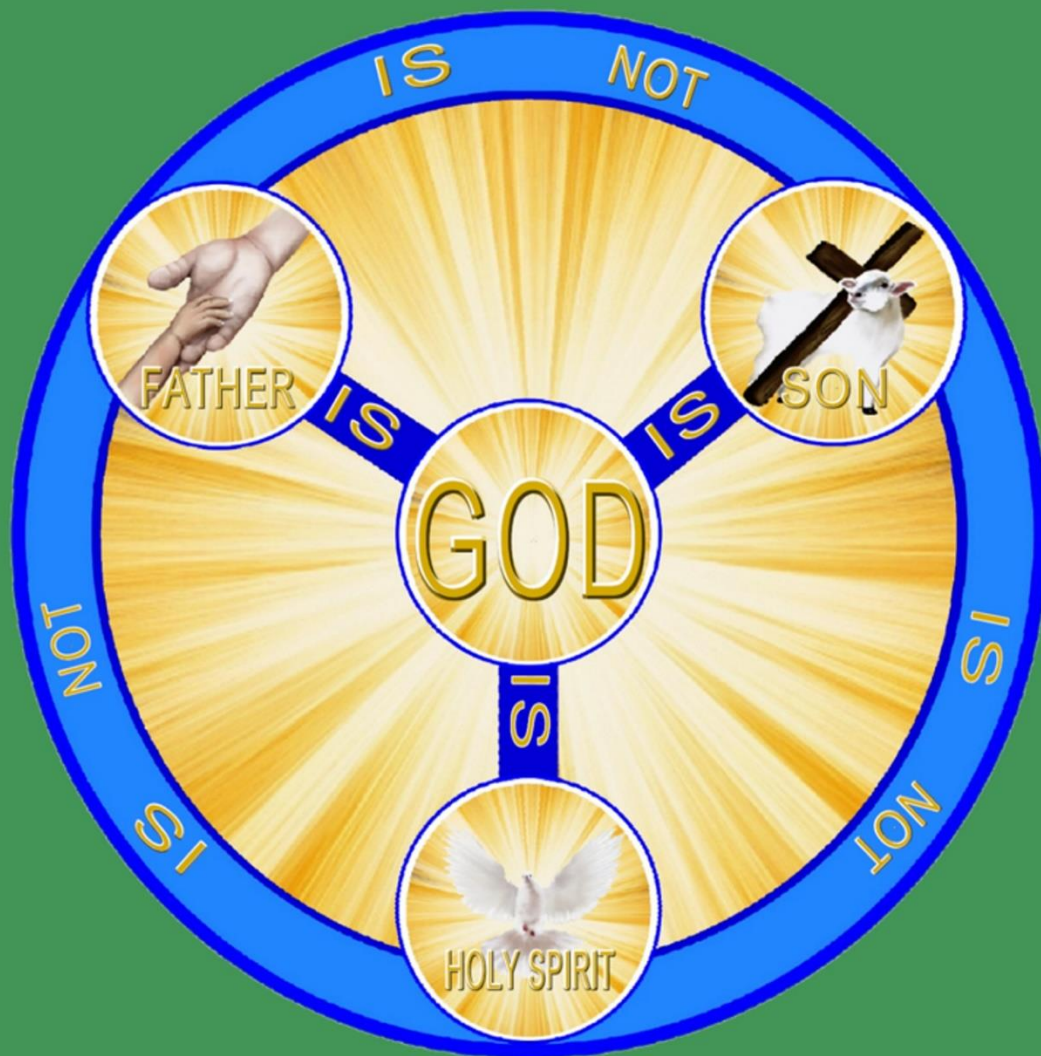
the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

TRINITY



KNOWING GOD

THE TRINITY

Objectives: To explain that: *Today's lesson is about Knowing God. *The Apostles' Creed is a statement of what we believe as Christians and it is based on the teachings of the Apostles as recorded in the Bible. *The Apostles' Creed summarizes biblical doctrines of the Trinity, salvation, the Church and eternal life. *Christians have memorized this creed all through the history of the Church.

"I Wonder" Questions: What do you see in this picture? I wonder what the Apostles' Creed is. Let's find out more in our lesson....

Lesson Props: Memorize the actions ahead of time: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u6r6mcR40fA> and Actions cheat sheet (see props).

Lesson Summary: Today we will learn more about Knowing God by learning the Apostles' Creed. The Apostles' Creed is an ancient way to help us remember many of the things that the Bible tells us about God. The Apostles were the first disciples of Jesus, and all the words and ideas in this creed come from what the Apostles taught in the Bible. The Creed tells us about God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. *(Point to Trinity symbol)* Christians have memorized this creed all throughout church history. We are going to learn the Apostles' Creed with some actions which will help us to memorize it too! *(Show only the first stanza of the creed. Reveal each stanza as you read it.)* Let's read part 1 together: **"I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth."** This section tells us about God the Father, who is the 1st person of the Trinity. He is almighty and creator of everything that exists in heaven and on earth. Let's STAND and say it together again with the actions. *(Use the actions sheet as a guide.)* Let's SIT down and read part 2 together: **"I believe in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead."** This section tells us about God the Son, Jesus. Jesus is the 2nd person of the Trinity, he is **Christ** (Forever King), God's only Son, and he is our **Lord**. When we say **conceived** by the Holy Spirit it means that the Holy Spirit formed baby Jesus in Mary. **The Virgin Mary** means that Mary was not married at this time. He **descended to the dead**, which means he died. **Ascended into heaven** means that after he rose from the dead, Jesus in his physical body, went up to heaven to be with God. Being **seated at the right hand of the Father** means that Jesus has been given power and authority from his Father to reign as King over all of God's creation in heaven and on earth. When it says that Jesus will **judge the living and the dead**, it means that when Jesus comes back again to reign on the earth, he will judge those who are living now and those who have died. Let's STAND and say the 2nd part with the actions. *(Use action sheet)* Let's SIT down and read part 3 together: **"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."** The **Holy Spirit** is the 3rd person of the Trinity. The word **catholic** means "universal." The holy catholic Church includes everyone who has ever followed Jesus anywhere in the world; in the past, the present, and in the future. Together all those who follow Jesus are the **saints**. **Communion** means that we have fellowship with all other Christians who ever lived. **The resurrection of the body** means that one day, when Jesus returns, our bodies will also be resurrected, and **life everlasting** means that we will live with him in his wonderful Kingdom forever! Let's STAND and say the 3rd part with the actions. *(Use action sheet)* Let's say all three (3) parts with the actions.

Suggested Questions: ***What is the Apostles' Creed?** (A statement of what we believe as Christians. What the Apostles taught in the Bible) ***What does the creed tell us about God the Father?** (See creed for answers) ***What does the creed tell us about Jesus?** (See creed for answers) ***Who is the 3rd person of the Trinity?** (The Holy Spirit) ***What does the creed tell us about the Church?** (Together all those who follow Jesus are the "saints". We have communion/fellowship with every other Christian who ever lived.) ***What does the creed tell us about eternal life?** (When Jesus returns, our bodies will also be resurrected, and we will live with him forever.)

Bible Memory Verse: The Apostles' Creed