

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

*I BELIEVE*  
*The Apostles' Creed*  
Week 1

**ICEBREAKER:** What's one of your greatest achievements?

**OVERVIEW:** Research shows that many Christians do not know and understand basic Christian doctrine. This is a problem because your beliefs determine your behavior. Thus, there is a big need for churches to clearly teach the essential beliefs of the Christian faith. One of the best ways to learn basic Christian doctrine is to study the Apostles' Creed, an ancient summary of right belief. This week we will go deeper with the first two words of the creed, "I believe."

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Why are so many Christians unclear or mistaken about basic doctrines?
3. Why is it important to believe the right things about God and the Bible?
4. How might wrong doctrine affect your relationships with God and others?
5. Read Romans 10:9-10 and answer the following questions.
  - a) What must you do to be saved?
  - b) What does it mean to confess with your mouth that "Jesus is Lord"?

c) What does it mean to "believe in your heart"?

d) The Bible clearly says elsewhere that salvation is by faith alone and not works (see Ephesians 2:8-9). Why, then, does this passage say you must say something in order to be saved?

6. Refer to Sunday's sermon for the following questions. Where did the Apostles' Creed come from?
7. What are the main teachings about faith from the Word Faith movement (or the Gospel of Health and Wealth)?
8. What are the problems with the Word Faith movement?
9. What does it mean that faith is the instrument of salvation (see Acts 16:31)? What are the three elements of saving faith?
10. What are two kinds of false faith to watch out for?
11. How is faith required for the Christian life from start to finish?

**The Last Word:** "I believe. These two words are among the most explosive words any human can utter." Albert Mohler

