

DISCUSSION GUIDE

ALMIGHTY, CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH

The Apostles' Creed

Week 3

ICEBREAKER: What do you think is the greatest problem of the human race?

OVERVIEW: What you believe about God is the most important thing about you. Unfortunately, many Christians have a distorted view of God. The Apostles' Creed works as an antidote to this problem by presenting a clear and balanced picture of God. In this discussion we will try to gain a better understanding of God by taking a deeper look at the Creed's teaching that God is "almighty, creator of heaven and earth."

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. What are some distorted views that Christians have about God?
3. Write out a definition/description of God in twenty words or less and be prepared to share it with the group. Did you find this exercise to be easy or difficult? Explain.
4. What is the purpose of learning more about God?
5. Read Psalm 139 and answer the following questions.
 - a) What does this chapter teach about God?
 - b) What does this chapter teach about people?
 - c) What does this chapter teach about creation?
 - d) How does this chapter affect your relationship with God?
6. Recite the Apostles' Creed Together: 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 power of 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.
7. The Creed says that God is almighty. What does this mean? Can God do anything? Explain.
8. How does God's omnipotence affect your life?
9. The Creed says that God is the creator of heaven and earth. What does *creatio ex nihilo* mean, and what is a verse that supports it?
10. What is the age-day theory of creation, and what do you think about it?
11. How does the Bible's account of creation conflict with Darwinian Evolution?
12. What does it mean that man is created in the image of God (Gen 1:27), and how does that affect the way you see yourself and others?

The Last Word: "It inspires reverence, gratitude, and affection toward God when we view Him as our Maker, who with careful skill and the power of His hands formed us and made us." Charles Spurgeon

