DISCUSSION GUIDE

ICEBREAKER: What's your favorite Bible story and why?

OVERVIEW: On Easter Sunday we began a sermon series on the Apostles' Creed with a message called "I Believe," highlighting the nature and importance of faith in the Christian life. The very words "I believe" are used three times in the Creed. While most of the Creed focuses on what Christians believe, the final three articles of the Creed mention the benefits of faith. In this discussion we will go deeper with three awesome promises for those who choose to believe in Jesus Christ.

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. Is the Christian life all sunshine and rainbows? Explain.

3. What's the hardest thing about being a Christian?

4. What's the best thing about being a Christian?

5. Read Acts 26:12-18 and answer the following questions:

   a. Who is the speaker in this passage?

   b. Who is he talking to and why?

   c. What are the benefits of believing in Jesus in verse 18?

   d. Can you think of any other benefits of believing in Jesus?

6. Refer to Sunday's sermon for the following questions. What are the three benefits of faith mentioned at the end of the Creed?

7. Why do we need forgiveness (See Rm 1:18; 3:23)?

8. Read Ephesians 1:7. Why is forgiveness called "redemption"? What does it mean that forgiveness is "through his blood"?

9. What must you do to receive forgiveness (see Lk 24:47; Acts 10:43)?

10. When will the resurrection of the body occur, and what will happen (see Phil 3:20-21; 1 Jn 3:2)?

10. The last article of the Creed, "the life everlasting," is the promise of heaven. What will heaven be like (see Rev 7:15-17)?

10. What are some of the lies that can keep a person from heaven? Can you think of any more that weren't mentioned in the sermon?

The Last Word: "In heaven, there is peace without trouble, ease without pain, glory without end." Thomas Watson

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