

DISCUSSION GUIDE

THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH
The Apostles' Creed
Week 10

ICEBREAKER: What hot topic usually turns into an argument with you?

OVERVIEW: All of us have priorities — things that are important to us. Where is the church on your list of priorities? Is it near the top, or somewhere near the bottom? For many Christians, the church doesn't even make the list. However, as you study Scripture you can't help but conclude that the church is very important to God, and that it should be important to us. This is why belief in the church is included in the Apostles' Creed. In this discussion we will go deeper with the high priority of the church.

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 do so many Christians fail to prioritize the church?
3. How has church involvement impacted your life?
4. What's the best thing about being involved in church?
5. Read Romans 15:5-6 and answer the following questions:
 - a. Who is the author of Romans?
 - b. What is the focus of the prayer in this passage (in your own words)?
 - c. According to the passage, why is church unity important?
 - d. How does unity glorify God?

- e. What threatens unity in a church?
- f. What can individual church members do to protect the unity of the church?

6. Read 1 Timothy 3:15-16 and refer to the sermon for the following questions. What are the five reasons the church should be a high priority in your life?
7. How do we know that the church is important to God?
8. In the sermon it was said that the Bible assumes that Christians will be involved in church. What are some of the commands in the Bible that cannot be obeyed without church involvement?
9. 1 Timothy 3:15 calls the church "the household of God." If the church is God's household, and we are members of His household, then what are our responsibilities in the church?
10. 1 Timothy 3:15 calls the church "the pillar and foundation of the truth." What does this description tell us about the importance and mission of the church?

The Last Word: "If the church is not a priority in your life, then God is not a priority in your life."

