

Apostles' Creed

First Article

Read Matthew 6:26-30, Genesis 1, Psalm 104, Romans 1

The Apostles' Creed tells you who God is and what He is up to in your life. In the First Article, we confess **"I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth."**

1. How do you think "God as Creator" relates to the First Commandment (Exodus 20:2-5)? In other words, what is God doing for you as your God, your Creator?
2. When you confess God is the Creator - of you and of all things - what role does it leave to you in establishing and sustaining your life? List ways people might misperceive the role they play in their own life, in the lives of others, and in all of creation itself.
3. What reaction do most people have when they know that God provides good things to everyone, including people who are wicked? In what ways does believing the First Commandment (Exodus 20:2-5) change your attitude toward all of God's creatures, even those people you don't like?
4. Two things are certain in this First Article: God created you, and He cares about what He created. Discuss how this relates to God sustaining you as well as His being possessive and jealous when you don't recognize that you have a God. Have you ever considered that your Creator has a jealous side?
5. Throughout the Bible, you know who God is through what God does. List the things God has done and continues to do for you and for all of creation. Read Genesis 1 and identify what God uses to establish creation and what God uses to sustain creation. When you see people and the earth sustained on a daily basis, what else does that tell you?
6. If God creates and sustains by speaking (See Genesis 1 and the miracles of Jesus in the Gospels) what role can you play in God's creative and sustaining work?
7. Discuss how the First Article of the Creed might rub people the wrong way - especially people who like to think they are self-made, or have "pulled themselves up by the bootstraps."