



SERMON GUIDES

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add in any optional scriptures and questions if needed, then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Visit woodlakeumc.org/sermonessentials for weekly sermon guides, devotionals, and more or if you have questions, contact **Jill Perrin** at jperrin@woodlakeumc.org.

Creed: What Christians Believe and Why It Matters Week#1 - God

01.

INTRODUCTION

In the coming weeks we are going to break down the Apostles Creed, a famous Christian belief statement, into small sections and explore each one a week at a time. We will get to the core of what it means to be a Jesus follower. Pastor Gordon began by explaining that Creed means believe and Christian means follower of Jesus.

02.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Pastor Gordon explained why we are doing this sermon series
 - To gain a basic understanding of the Christian faith
 - To create unity
 - To have an anchor to our past
 - To help us better share our faith

Each of us is in a different place in our faith journey, which of the above statements speaks to you where you are and why?

2. God as creator
Take a moment and think about your day, your week or your last vacation and the many things you saw that God created. In what ways does God's creation, the heavens and the earth speak to you?
3. God as a loving and merciful Father
Do you relate to God as a heavenly father, why or why not?
If you do, what does that look like in your life?



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(If you have difficulty with this because of an earthly father or the lack of an earthly father and you would like to discuss this further please reach out to a staff member or one of the Pastors.)

Read the parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15:11-32. It tells a love story of how God views each of us with love, mercy and grace. In the story the older son feels cheated when the younger son returns and is welcomed home and the father replies *"Son, you have always been with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, for this brother of yours was dead and has begun to live, and was lost and has been found"* ([Luke 15:31-32](#)).

Someone needs to hear this today – The Father's arms are always open wide for YOU! He longs to embrace YOU and have a relationship with YOU!



NEXT STEPS

1. Memorize the Apostles Creed
2. Enjoy God's creation one day this week and read Psalm 19
3. Reflect on God as a loving and merciful Father

God Bless you, have a great week and BE LOVE!