

The Foundations of Redemption

Laying The Foundation

- God is beyond our comprehension. It is only with the help of the Holy Spirit that we can even learn about him.
- Our descriptions of God can only come from the hand of God Himself.

The Hand Of God

- We can learn about the Creator from His creation. The universe is God's artwork. We can see his power, imagination, and creativity in the created world.
- In Scripture that God reveals His plan of salvation in Christ. We learn who we are, who God is and how God interacts with us.

Who God Is, Who We Are

- God is perfect, humans are sinful. Our sin separates us from God.

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” Romans 3:23

Discussion Question – How could “good people” be sinful?

- God created a way for us to be close to Him again and offers that redemption to all.

“This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.” 1 Timothy 2:3,4

Discussion Question – God wants everyone to be saved, but many refuse His love. What stumbling blocks cause people to reject His love?

- God's plan of redemption is through the work of His Son, Jesus Christ

“We confess that great indeed is the mystery of godliness: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by the angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, and taken up in glory” 1 Timothy 3:16

Jesus is Both

- In Jesus, God became a human being. Jesus is truly human and also truly God.

“If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.” John 14:7

Discussion Questions – What do you find most comforting about the truth that Jesus is truly 100% human?

What do you find most comforting about the truth that Jesus is truly 100% God?

“The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.” 1 Timothy 1:15

Redemption

Discussion Question: What does redemption mean? What are some modern day uses of the word?

- The second article of the Apostle's Creed gives an Scriptural overview of the life of Christ and is subtitled “Redemption” The attached outline contains scriptural references to broaden the foundation of the descriptions in the Creed.

What meaning could the second article have for your everyday life?

- When we are plagued over thoughts of our past sins – sins that we have confessed to our Lord and been forgiven of- we can boldly stand on the redemption that Christ has given us. When we feel guilty, dirty, or worthless because of our past sins we can cling to the truth that His salvation is truer than our feelings! What Jesus says is truer than we what may feel! Luke 7 shows just one example of the personal and complete redemption Jesus offers.

- Read Luke 7:36-50

What does this account reveal about the nature of God?

Which aspect of these passages do you want to meditate on this week?

Outline of the Second Article Of the Apostle's Creed

God's Son
Matthew 16:16
Jesus is God
John 20:28
Romans 9:5
Both
1 John 5:20
John 1:1-14

Matthew 27
Mark 15
Luke 23
John 18: 28 – 19:42

Matthew 28
Mark 16
Luke 24
John 20
Acts 1:3
Acts 10:40-41
1 Corinthians 15:4-8

Matthew 24:27
Matthew 25:31-32
John 12:48

- **And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,**
- **who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,**
- **suffered under Pontius Plate, was crucified, died and was buried.**
- **He descended into hell.**
- **The third day He rose again from the dead.**
- **He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty.**
- **From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Conceived by the Holy Spirit
Matthew 1:20
The Birth of Jesus
Matthew 1 and 2
Luke 1 and 2

1 Peter 3:18-19
Colossians 12:15

Luke 24:51
Acts 1:1-11
Ephesians 4:10
Ephesians 1:20-23

There's more!
Philippians 2:5-11
2 Corinthians 8:9
Acts 10:34-43
1 Corinthians 15