

## **We Believe in Salvation Through Jesus**

### **Week 4: Series 'We Believe' Pastor Peter 7/3/16**

#### **Read the Nicene Creed together**

*From the Nicene Creed:*

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

#### **Recap last week:**

We are looking at the essence of our faith as followers of Jesus. What matters most in our belief? How can we sum up *the essentials* of belief to someone who doesn't believe like we do? And we are looking at the Nicene Creed, a historical document as our guide. **Why this Creed?**

- 4<sup>th</sup> century when Christianity was spreading around the world
- It guides us in our thoughts, it's concise
- When we read it we are saying "I believe this and I don't believe that"...

#### **It helps us settle 2 important matters:**

1. We reject the idea that emotions tell us what is true and
2. We reject the idea that truth is relative  
(meaning **your** truth is your truth, and **my** truth is my truth)

We believe there is a truth for all people everywhere across all time. And it's found in the Bible.

#### **So last week we said: We Believe that Jesus is**

- a. God's Son
- b. Our Savior

### c. Our Lord

**What about his life? What matters the most about Jesus' story for us?**

- He lived
- He died
- He rose
- He's coming back

### **Salvation**

**If I am saved I am:**

1. Forgiven
2. Found (redeemed)
3. Given a mission

Christianity is more inclusive than Judaism or Islam, yet our faith 'limits' who can be saved

Jesus said this:

"Jesus answered, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. The only way to the Father is through me." -John 14:6, ERV

So his followers told his story:

"Salvation is to be found through him alone; in all the world there is no one else whom God has given who can save us."  
-Acts 4:12, GNT

### **Implications of Salvation**

#### **1. Salvation brings us into God's family**

"He went to his own people, and his own people didn't accept him. However, he gave the right to become God's children to everyone who believed in him. These people didn't become God's children in a physical way—from a human impulse or from a husband's desire to have a child. They were born from God."  
-John 1:11-13, GW

#### **2. Because God forgave me I must forgive, too**

“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.” -Ephesians 4:32, ESV

- Forgiveness is ‘letting go’ of the past
- **ON SCREEN: Our past has been erased**  
(Our life has been ‘rebooted’: **Control Alt Delete**)
- It is ongoing (Jesus taught a lot on forgiving others)
- It is not emotional but a decision we make

### 3. How I live matters to God

“You should know that your body is a temple for the Holy Spirit that you received from God and that lives in you. You don’t own yourselves. God paid a very high price to make you his. So honor God with your body.” -1 Corinthians 6:19-20 ERV

**Salvation should bring changes to our lives**

“Don’t you know that wicked people won’t inherit God’s kingdom? Stop deceiving yourselves! People who continue to commit sexual sins, who worship false gods, those who commit adultery, homosexuals, or thieves, those who are greedy or drunk, who use abusive language, or who rob people will not inherit God’s kingdom.

***That’s what some of you were!*** But you have been washed and made holy, and you have received God’s approval in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.”

-1 Corinthians 6:9-11, GW

- The Bible compares before & after salvation a lot. Profession of faith & how we live is connected.
- What has changed in your life? If nothing has, you may not have made a full commitment to God through Jesus
- **Remember:** Nobody is perfect. God accepts us as we are ***but expects us to change!***

#### 4. Our Salvation involves a mission

**Jesus' mission: rescue lost people!**

“Jesus responded, “Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.”

-Luke 19:9-10, NLT

**Our Mission: make disciples (tell the story)**

“So wherever you go, make disciples of all nations: Baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to do everything I have commanded you.”

-Matthew 28:19, GW

- Tell the story of how God found you
- Don't overwhelm people!!
- Focus on something God has done for you: delivered you, healed you, gave meaning to your life.....

**Have you received salvation from Jesus?**

- Today is the day of salvation!
- Why wait?

**My Next Step:**

This week I will consider how my life reflects my faith by the way I think, act and speak.