

## Small Group Questions for “I Believe”

Feel free to skip around to the most helpful questions for your group!

Warm up:

- What has your experience been with the church? Did you grow up in the church? Come at a later age? Were you forced by your parents or did you make the decision yourself? Take turns sharing your church experience.

Sermon Discussion:

- Is there anything in the Apostles Creed that you find difficult to believe (see below)?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

- Pastor Mike gave reasons that he struggles to affirm that he believes in the church: silence during the civil rights movement, infidelity and lies among church leaders, he works at one, etc. Why would you find it difficult to affirm that you believe in the church?
- If you have overcome that difficulty and can state that you believe in the church, how did you do that?
- What do you think you are committing to by saying “I believe in the church?”
- Do you find it difficult to keep the commitment that you make by believing in the church? Why or why not?

Digging Deeper:

- Read Acts 2:42-47. That passage is describing the first church. What are the elements of that first gathering that we should still hold to today?