

TALK IT OVER

How did everyone's action step/s go this week? What progress did you make? (We want to shepherd our few really well. Hold people accountable to what God is calling them to but do so out of love.)

Read the Apostles Creed together (We are focusing in today on the first sentence) and then Isaiah 40:12-26 (Passage is on 2nd page. Isaiah is a spokesperson of God also known as a prophet. God is speaking through him to the people of Israel to declare who he is and what God is like. Notice the suggestion that God has unlimited power that can't be comprehended by men). Once you've read the passage ask these questions:

- What new thing did you discover in the story that you did not know before?
- What did you learn about God? (Pastor Brad started off with Isaiah 40:12 which tells us that all of the universe can fit in the palm of His hand. What does that mean? What does that cause you to think about God? What images does this passage conjure up for you? Why? What does it say about who God is? Brad said that God is a Mighty Creator and also a Merciful Father. What feelings does that stir up in you?)
- What did you learn about people? (Pastor Brad said that the Creed is a consolidation not an incantation. What does that mean and how does it impact you? **BE READY TO SHARE FIRST.** Have you ever thought about God being your adopted Father? Why does that make such a difference? Have you ever thought about God being your Father?)
- What will you take away from this discussion? (Are there things you have to change about your perception of God? Can you declare I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?)
- What will you do with what you have learned? (How do you put this idea of God as a mighty Creator and God as a Merciful Father into action. Does this idea impact the way you live? Serve? And Care for others? How do you put the rubber to the road? Be challenged to put an I believe statement into place this week as we start this series called Creed)
- Is there anything else you wanted to share that we didn't hit in this discussion?
- Next week make sure to read Colossians 1:15-29. Think through the questions we ask weekly as you read. **Really encourage group to register for "What's Next" it starts this week.**

Make sure to check in with your SG this week. How can you pray for them? This is where the discipleship aspect comes in. Work towards identifying your 3 (that you can really pour into) and then your 1 (that person that will replicate what you're doing now). Take a few minutes each day and make a text or phone call to everyone in the group.

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Make sure to read ahead of time and either retell the story or have someone (multiple people) help you retelling the story. Make sure to use your update with points from Brad's sermon.

Who has measured the
waters in the hollow of his
hand,
or with the breadth of his
hand marked off the heavens?
Who has held the dust of the
earth in a basket,
or weighed the mountains on
the scales
and the hills in a balance?
¹³Who can fathom the Spirit^{al} of
the Lord,
or instruct the Lord as his
counselor?
¹⁴Whom did the Lord consult to
enlighten him,
and who taught him the right
way?
Who was it that taught him
knowledge,
or showed him the path of
understanding?
¹⁵Surely the nations are like a
drop in a bucket;
they are regarded as dust on
the scales;
he weighs the islands as
though they were fine dust.
¹⁶Lebanon is not sufficient for
altar fires,
nor its animals enough for
burnt offerings.

¹⁷Before him all the nations are as nothing;
they are regarded by him as worthless
and less than nothing.
¹⁸With whom, then, will you compare God?
To what image will you liken him?
¹⁹As for an idol, a metalworker casts it,
and a goldsmith overlays it with gold
and fashions silver chains for it.
²⁰A person too poor to present such an offering
selects wood that will not rot;
they look for a skilled worker
to set up an idol that will not topple.
²¹Do you not know?
Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood since the earth was founded?
²²He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth,
and its people are like grasshoppers.
He stretches out the heavens like a canopy,
and spreads them out like a tent to live in.
²³He brings princes to naught
and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing.
²⁴No sooner are they planted,
no sooner are they sown,
no sooner do they take root in the ground,
than he blows on them and they wither,
and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff.
²⁵"To whom will you compare me?
Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One.
²⁶Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens:
Who created all these?
He who brings out the starry host one by one
and calls forth each of them by name.
Because of his great power and mighty strength,
not one of them is missing.

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Apostles Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father
almighty, creator of heaven
and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his
only Son, our Lord, who was
conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried; he
descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again
from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right
hand of God the Father
almighty.
From there he will 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 the life everlasting.
Amen.**