CREED
Believers Are Blessers

AT A GLANCE:
Our talk series, CREED is about our core beliefs as Jesus Followers, core beliefs written down in our ancient Creeds— yes, there is a handful. In this talk series, we examine three special gifts the Creeds give us: Convic-tions, Communion, and Commission.

AFTER THE SERIES:
You will discover where the Creeds come from, how they happened, and thus have a deeper appreciation of our core beliefs. In the process, you will truly live according to what you profess as your core principle—yes, you will walk your talk, and truly be a Jesus Follower.

Talk 2: "Communion"

WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT:

In **Talk 2**, by Communion, we refer to the dictionary's first definition of the word communion: *sharing or exchanging of intimate thoughts and feelings, especially when the exchange is on a mental or spiritual level.*

Talk 1 presents our Creed's first gift: Conviction. *The Creed defines who are.*

Talk 2 focuses on our Creed's second gift: Communion. The Creed defines where you belong— to those you commune. The one big message: *Welcome to The Family.*

I. REVIEW THE KEY BIBLE VERSES:

Jesus Followers *remained Followers even if it wasn't fun.*

Why? Two powerful reasons.

First, *they weren't just followers of a Creed*— they were followers of Christ in our Creed. They weren't following a piece of paper— they were following a Person.

Second, *they didn't belong to the Creed*— they belonged to Christ's Family in our Creed. They belonged to a living, breathing Church. The first local church was in Jerusalem.

Luke describes this church as a family: *They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in com-mon. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.* (Acts 2:42, 44-45 NIV) They didn't only pray together, or listen to teaching, or celebrate Mass together, they loved each other in very concrete ways.

II. ASK FOR REACTIONS AND REFLECTIONS

Ask members: Have you experienced God's Family in the way He de-signed it to be?

Ask for sharing on specific incidents when members succeed-ed— or failed— to put into practice these declarations in our Creed:

"I Believe in God". The Creed is an act of humility. When you say, "I believe in God," you're saying with the same breath, "I'm not God." You're confessing, "God is God. I don't sit on the throne—

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He sits on the throne. I don't rule— He does. I'm not Boss— He is."

Share specific conflicts in your, family, company, church, friendships because someone has too much ego, lack of humility— someone in the group wants to control things that are beyond their control.

"I Believe in God The Father" When you say, "I believe in God the Father…" you're also saying that you have siblings.

Review the story of Cain and Abel.

Share incidents when you asked: Am I my brother's Keeper?"

"I Believe in Jesus Christ"
At various times, we're all selfish, snooty, and sensitive (pusong ma-mon).

Share an incident when you focused on how a brother or sister of-fended or disappointed you — or you felt you disappointed or offended a sibling in our Light of Jesus Family— instead of focusing on how Jesus loves us and serves us first.

Ask: Is there someone in Community you must forgive or ask for-giveness from? How do you plan to do it?

"I Believe in The Communion of Saints"

Ask for sharing on incidents when members received answers to their prayers through or from their favorite saints.

III. PRAY FOR EACH OTHER

Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for giving us a special gift: a Family that transcends the borders of this Feast and includes the Saints in Heaven.

Pull the curtain between the visible and invisible world, and stand with Mama Mary and your favorite saints and the millions of Martyrs who died for our Creed, and as God's one big Family, together with the Church Triumphant, Church Penitent, and Church Militant, declare your identity, your destiny, and your Family…

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, 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.

Say: Welcome to the Family! And hug each other.

Notes: