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 3: "Commission"

WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT:

In **Talk 1** of our amazing series, CREED, we explored the Creed's first gift—Conviction: The Creed defines who you are.

In **Talk 2**, we explored the Creed's second gift—Communion: The Creed defines where you belong.

In **Talk 3**, we'll explore the Creed's third gift—Commission: The Creed defines how you live.

By *Commission*, we refer to the dictionary's first definition of the word: *an instruction, command, duty, given to a person or a group of people; the act of passing a responsibility to someone else.*

Other synonyms are *work, project, mission, assignment, undertaking, exercise, enterprise, endeavor, solution.*

I. REVIEW THE KEY BIBLE VERSES:

Before Jesus ascended to Heaven, His farewell speech was the Great Commission: *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. [19] Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* (Matthew 28:18-20 NIV)

The Creed compels you to evangelize.

If you really understand the Creed, we're not just fans. We're Jesus Followers. Our Creed is born out of a personal encounter with God.

Truth: *A Catholic is an Evangelist.*

The key message: Tell them your Love Story.

Bottom line, we're evangelizing people to follow Jesus.

Check out what happened in this Bible story: *The next day John was standing there again with two of his disciples, [36] when he saw Jesus walking by. "There is the Lamb of God!" he said. [37] The two disciples heard him say this and went with Jesus. [38] Jesus turned, saw them following him, and asked, "What are you looking for?" They answered, "Where do you live, Rabbi?" (This word means "Teacher.") [39] "Come and see," he answered. (It was then about four o'clock in the afternoon.) So they went with him and saw where he lived, and spent the rest of that day with him.* (John 1:35-39 GNT)

CREED

Talk 1: *Conviction*

Talk 2: *Communion*

Talk 3: *Commission*

Talk 4: *Big Day*

Notes:

Jesus didn't tell those two disciples of John the Baptist, "Go to the library and read about me…" Nor did He say, "Google me and research what others say about me…"

Instead, Jesus said, "*Come and see.*"

What does that mean?

One word: Relationship.

Problem: Many Catholics are sacramentalized but not evangelized."

II. ASK FOR REACTIONS AND REFLECTIONS

Ask members on their reflections on the three crucial spiritual principles about evangelism:

1. Real Evangelism
At The Feast, bottom line, we're evangelizing people to follow Jesus. We want them to know Him, give their life to Him, and follow Him forever.

2. Relational Evangelism
If evangelism is all about bringing someone into a personal relationship with Jesus, evangelism must be relational too.

Relational evangelism is organic evangelism.

It happens naturally, through the platform of relationships. The world will be won to Christ not by preaching around the pulpit but by storytelling around the dining table.

Andrew was not a preacher. He evangelized not because he was a preacher, but because he was a brother. When God thought of who will share His amazing Love to the world, He wasn't thinking of preachers. He was thinking of brothers, sisters, fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, grandfathers, grandmothers, uncles, aunts, teachers, students, employers, employees, entrepreneurs, and friends.

Andrew evangelized *Kuya* Peter because they had a relationship.

Ask: Have you experienced God's Family in the way He designed it to be?

3. Real-Life Evangelism
The Gospel says, *"The first thing Andrew did"* was to look for Peter and tell him, "I've found Jesus."

The first thing!

Change your script!

When Feasters invite people to The Feast, they use a script very similar to mine: "Come to The Feast. It will make you feel better." Here's a new script for you. Don't talk about The Feast. *Talk about Jesus.* What He's done in your life. *Tell them your love story.*

Ask: Do you already have a love story to tell? Have you turned over your life to Him? Are you following Him? Can you actually say that He's now the center of your life? If not, now is the time to start your story with Jesus.

III. PRAY FOR EACH OTHER

Pray that members will have the courage to tell their story to someone who needs to become a Jesus Follower.

Notes:

Pray that everyone will have the time, resources, and the grace of will-power to schedule a meet-up with people they hope to evangelize.

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Pray that everyone will remember the Creed is God's Love Story in summary form.

Once again, close by confessing this Creed.

And together, declare our identity, our destiny, and our 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.

Notes: