One Church, One Faith

MAIN IDEAS

- There is one true church of Jesus.
- The true church is characterized by the teaching, belief, and practice of certain essential truths of the Christian faith.
- Creeds and confessions help the church to remember these truths.

MEMORY WORK

(Review the Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker 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, dead, and buried.

The third day he rose 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

(Review the Five Solas of the Reformation)

Salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, on the authority of Scripture alone, for the alory of God alone.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE LESSON

1) 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 2) Romans 10:9-10

3) Ephesians 4:1-6

AS YOU WALK BY THE WAY

Read and talk about the Scriptures listed above. As the church has grown and spread across the whole world, many different church "denominations" have come about. But the true measure or test of whether or not someone is a member of Jesus' true church is whether or not he or she believes, teaches, and practices what is essential. Scripture is always the final authority for what is essential. But "creeds" that are based on Scripture, like the Apostles' Creed, can also help us. Statements such as the "Five Solas of the Reformation" can remind us of the essential truths regarding salvation. Ask: Why is it important that you know these essentials? Do you believe and embrace these truths? Is there anything you are unsure about?

Review Ephesians 4:1-6. Ask: When Christians differ on certain practices, why are verses 2-3 so important to live out? What might this look like if you have a friend who goes to a church that practices baptism differently? Can you think of other situations in which you need to apply these truths?

ACTIVITY

See if you can find the underlined words in the word find.

Word Find

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____ is by ____ alone, through faith ____, in ____ alone,

on the _____ of ____ alone, for the ____ of God alone.