



Sermon Discussion Questions

Apostles' Creed: Part 3 – I Believe in the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13-23)

May 24th, 2026

The Apostles Creed

Danny Strong

Sermon Overview

Main Idea

This is the third and final message on the Apostles' Creed. The creed wasn't written by the apostles, but it was created by the apostles in the sense that it is the distillation of the apostles essential teaching as recorded in the New Testament. Some theologians would even say that the creed is the flushing out of what Jesus told his disciples in Matthew 28:19 to "baptize disciples in the name of the Father of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." The Creed comes to us in those same three parts—The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The creed is not merely believing that something is true. It is believing "in." This is what I trust. This is what I'm building my life one. We've looked at the Father and the Son in the first two parts of this series. Now comes the third and final part, "I believe in the Holy Spirit."

Summary – "I believe in the Holy Spirit who creates a supernatural community with an infinitely bright future."

Sermon Outline

1. The Spirit That Creates (Eph 1:13-19)
2. The Spirit-created Supernatural Community (Eph 1:19-23)
3. The Supernatural Community Has an Infinitely Bright Future (Eph 1:7, 19-20)

Quotations

Rich Mullins song "I believe what I believe. It makes me who I am. I did not make it. Not, it is making me. It is the very truth of God and not the invention of any man."

Discussion Questions

Initial Engagement

- What is the main idea of the text, or what did the sermon focus on?
- What insight from the text or sermon stood out to you most? Why?

Deeper Reflection

1. Read Paul's prayer in Eph 1:3-14. Who is the Holy Spirit? In v.15-19, what does the Spirit do (in the hearts of believers)? What does it mean to be sealed with the promised Holy Spirit? Can you find any references in the Old Testament prophets where God promised that believers would one day be given a new heart and a new spirit?



Sermon Discussion Questions

2. What is the difference between the “mind” of a person and the “heart” of a person?
3. Read Eph 1:19-23 and discuss the highly exalted identity given to the church. The Father didn’t just give the church to Christ. He gave Christ as “the head of all things to the church.” What does that mean? Can you be a believer in Jesus but not in the church? How does the Spirit enable unity in the church?
4. The Holy Spirit creates a supernatural community (the church) that has an infinitely bright future. In what ways is this bright future described in the final parts of the Apostles’ Creed? How do we live a life that is characterized by Spirit-dependency?
5. Danny mentioned several reasons that we should study the Apostles’ Creed. Why do think this creed has value? How might this inform what should be areas of primary concern rather than secondary or tertiary beliefs?

Final Response

- What is one thing you want to remember or one way you hope to change in light of this sermon or discussion?