

WE BELIEVE

EXPLORING THE NICENE CREED

STUDY GUIDE SIXTEEN – FROM SERMON ON MAY 31/26

As we finish our We Believe series through the Nicene Creed, we end with one of the most hope-filled truths of the Christian faith: “We look forward to the life in the world to come.” The Bible tells a sweeping story—from creation, to exile, to redemption, to restoration. Humanity was made for communion with God, but sin fractured that home. Yet through Jesus Christ, God has come to bring His people home again. This study explores the Christian hope of resurrection, renewal, and the promise that one day God will dwell fully with His people in a restored creation.

PART 1 – WE WERE MADE FOR HOME

Read Genesis 1:26-31. What stands out to you about the goodness and purposefulness of creation?

Read Genesis 2:8-15. What aspects of Eden help paint a picture of “home” as God intended it?

What are some ways people try to create a sense of “home” or fulfillment apart from God?

PART 2 – EXILE AND THE ACHE OF A BROKEN WORLD

Read Genesis 3:22-24. What changed after sin entered the world?

Read Romans 8:22-23. What does Paul say creation is doing? What does this passage teach us about the present condition of the world?

Why do you think even good things in life eventually leave us longing for more?

PART 3 – JESUS CAME TO BRING US HOME

Read John 1:14. What does it mean that Jesus “dwelt among us”? Why is this significant?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:20-26.

Why is Jesus’ resurrection essential to Christian hope?

The sermon emphasized that Jesus was raised bodily, not merely spiritually. Why is the bodily resurrection important?

PART 4 – HOME AT LAST

Read Revelation 21:1-5.

What details in this passage most encourage or comfort you?

According to Revelation 21, what ultimately makes heaven “heaven”?

Read Revelation 22:1-5.

What images or themes from Eden in Genesis reappear in the new creation?

Which of the questions discussed in the sermon about eternity (recognizing one another, meaningful work, creation, memory, worship, etc.) most interests or encourages you personally? Why?

PART 5 – LIVING AS PEOPLE WHO “LOOK FORWARD”

Read Psalm 90:1-2.

What do you think Moses meant when he called God our “dwelling place”?

Read Psalm 90:12.

What does it mean to “number our days”? How might this change the way we live?

Read Psalm 90:14. Where do people often look for satisfaction instead of God?

Read Psalm 90:17 and 1 Corinthians 15:58.

How do these passages encourage us that our work and faithfulness matter?

Christians are people who “look forward.” How can the hope of the world to come shape the way we face suffering, grief, temptation, or discouragement today?

PERSONAL REFLECTION AND RESPONSE

What would change in your daily life if you truly lived with the confidence that your ultimate home is with God?

CLOSE YOUR TIME TOGETHER BY PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER