

LESSON 9

Creeds, Doctrine, Symbols, and Seasons

GOAL/PURPOSE: To understand why we have creeds, doctrine, symbols, and seasons in our church today and find out more about them. By the end of this lesson, youth should know why we say the things we say in worship and what many of the pictures they see around churches mean.

**Begin the class with prayer.*

**Offer a quick review of last week's lesson or the material so far.*

DISCUSSION:

- 1) How did creeds come to be?
- 2) What is the purpose of a creed? (to state what we believe)
- 3) Are there any creeds you have had to learn (Scout's motto, sports team chant, etc.)
- 4) Do any of you recognize the Apostles Creed? What kinds of things does it affirm?
- 5) Can you see how the Apostles Creed and others have meaning in your life today? If so, explain.
- 6) How can you recite the creeds in church in such a way that they are truly a profession of your beliefs?

ACTIVITY:

Name that logo. Hold up certain logos of football teams, products, schools, etc. and see if students can name them. After a logo has been named ask if the symbol has any meaning for them.

MATERIALS NEEDED: printed logos

DISCUSSION CONT.

- 7) What is a symbol?
- 8) What is the purpose of a symbol?
- 9) What can symbols teach us about God? (God is peace, God is the Beginning and the End, God is hope, etc.)
- 10) What are the more common symbols you see that related to Christianity? (cross, ICTHUS fish on cars, etc.)
- 11) Have students share which symbols if any are particularly meaningful for them.
- 12) Why is it important for us to pay attention to the seasons of the church? (b/c they remind us of the life and ministry of Jesus and the history of Christianity and the Church)
- 13) What seasons of the church are most meaningful to you and why?

Explain that this *season* of Confirmation has been great as you have gotten to know the students better, have seen Christ at work in them and are excited to see how they will be living examples of Christ in the world.

Ask students what parts of Confirmation they have enjoyed the most. (You are likely to finish this lesson early. Take time to answer any questions the students may have that have not already been addressed. Also ask if any of the student's relatives or friends will be coming to the Confirmation Service.)

Let everyone give (long distance) high fives and hugs and just celebrate their accomplishment of completing Confirmation.

**Close in prayer, praising God for bringing each student into your Confirmation class! Ask God to "make firm" the lives, hearts, and commitments of your students so they can love and serve Him forever ~*