

The Absolute Basics of the Christian Faith

PART ONE: WHY THE BASICS? 09.01.19

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth,
I believe 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 to the dead.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty.

From there, 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

Why do we need to know the “basics?”

1. We need a place to _____

*“Scripture is the starting point of doctrine, and Scripture is the
judge of doctrine.” J. Ellsworth Kalas*

*“Although most people own a Bible and know some of its
content, our research found that most Americans have little
idea how to integrate core biblical principles to form a unified
and meaningful response to the challenges and opportunities
of life.” Barna Research as reported by Focus on the Family*

2. Our faith is not a _____ into the unknown; we have
evidence that enables, supports, and nurtures Christian faith

*“The disciples saw Jesus do many other miraculous signs in
addition to the ones recorded in this book. But these are
written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the
Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will
have life by the power of his name.” Jn. 20:30-31*

3. The basics are _____ in developing a
Christian worldview

“There is a great difference between knowing about God and

knowing God in a way that affects who we are.”

4. We need to be _____ to share our faith
because God has chosen to partner with us in reaching the
world with the Gospel (“Good News” of Jesus Christ)

*“How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good
news!” Rom. 10:15*

5. What we _____ (really) matters; what we think
determines how we feel, what we feel determines what we
do

*“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let
God transform you into a new person by changing the way
you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you,
which is good and pleasing and perfect.” Rom. 12:2*

6. Many people in our world have no Christian _____;
we have a whole generation of religious “Nones”

*“Americans claiming ‘no religion’ — sometimes referred to as
‘nones’ because of how they answer the question ‘what is your
religious tradition?’ — now represent about 23.1 percent of
the population, up from 21.6 percent in 2016.” March
2019, General Social Survey*

7. There may be some things we’ve learned that may need to
be _____

*“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what
is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives.
It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is
right.” 2 Tim. 3:16*

8. All religions and religious traditions are _____

*“Jesus told him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one
can come to the Father except through me.’” Jn. 14:6*

9. What we believe has vital, _____ consequences

*“If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your
heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be
saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made
right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that
you are saved.” Rom. 10:9-10*