

Prayer Journals

Memory Work: 1st Article and explain meaning in your own words

Review Memory Work:

How does your explanation relate to what you might tell a friend about God if they asked? This is a good way to start your "Statement of Faith" which our second year students share on Confirmation Sunday.

The Creed (an 'ordinary' part of the **Service of the Word** in our **liturgical** worship)

a. *Definitions*

1. *Creed* – public confession of what Christians believe about the triune God
2. *Liturgy*: a general order to how we worship
 - i. *Ordinary* – parts of worship that always stay the same
 - ii. *Propers* – parts of worship that change Sunday to Sunday or with the church year seasons
3. *Service of the Word* - part of our Lutheran worship that focuses on God's Word and what it means for our lives

b. *Apostles' Creed* – basic confession of Christian faith

c. *Nicene Creed* – generally spoken together on Communion and Festival Sundays (dated around A.D. 325)

d. *Athanasian Creed* – a lengthy confession, sometimes used on Trinity Sunday (dated around A.D. 600)

Using pages 53-61 of your *Keeping the Faith* book, please fill in the blanks.

What's a Creed?

1. A creed is a _____ of what _____.
2. The _____ is the best known _____ in the Christian church.
3. It explains in a focused way what we know about _____ - _____, _____ and _____.
4. A creed is sometimes called a _____ of _____. At First Lutheran we also say, *Statement of Faith*.
5. When you believe something, you _____ it with your mind, _____ it with your lips and _____ it with your heart.
6. We know that _____ is the only way to heaven. What we believe, teach and confess about God is contained in the _____. It is divided into _____ articles, or sections. The first article tells what we know about God, _____.
7. Just believing sincerely in anything is not enough to get to heaven. Acts 4:12 tells us Who we must believe in - _____. (example with pill bottles)

The First Article

1. Why do we call God "Father?"
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
2. When we say that God is 'almighty' we say we believe He can _____.
3. "Maker" describes the fact that God fashioned _____ & _____. In fact, He _____ them, making them out of nothing. He simply spoke and they came into being.
4. When we say that God made all things, that includes all creatures. List the three categories of creatures described in your *Keeping the Faith* book (p. 56):

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

5. How can we know that human beings are the “brightest and best” of all God’s creatures?
(see Genesis 1:27) _____
6. What does God do for us? Use Martin Luther’s explanation to the First Article of the Apostles’ Creed.

7. Why does God do all this for us? _____

Evolution vs. Creation

1. Most evolutionists say that our world started as the result of a Big _____, or explosion, and somehow everything _____ into _____.
2. Then, evolutionists say, things starting _____, becoming what they are today, taking _____ and _____ of years. Many say that different species changed into another (like apes into humans.)
3. Evolution is a theory that was proposed by _____ . Some people believed this theory was more reasonable and believable than believing in almighty God as the Creator of all things, and the _____ & _____ of life itself.
4. It is curious, however, that before he died, Charles Darwin _____ his own theories of evolution.
5. Christians accept by faith that the Bible is God’s Word and through scripture He reveals His truth. Write what Isaiah 42:5 says about God and our creation:

Angels

1. God created angels too! They are _____ creatures, but at times they assumed a _____ form to bring news, messages or warnings to people from God. (Luke 1:26)
2. Their task is to _____ and _____ God. Angel means “messenger!”
3. In the beginning all angels were created holy, but some rebelled against God and fell into sin. The devil was one of those angels. Evil angels exist and we cannot overcome them on our own. However, God’s power is greater than any evil in the world, and with His help we can “arm” ourselves against them and all evil.
4. The story of the fallen angels is not in any one Bible passage, but instead can be pieced together with passages throughout Scripture. Match the passage on the left with the summary on the right:

Jude 6	1. Satan and his devilish followers revolted in heaven against the rule of God.
1 Peter 5:8	2. The fallen angels left their high position by their own choice.
Matthew 25:41	3. Hell was prepared as a place of punishment for the evil angels.
Mark 5:9	4. By sending Jesus and forgiving us, the Father in heaven has rescued all believers from the devil’s power and kingdom.
Colossians 1:12-14	5. Unbelievers are spiritually dead.
Revelation 12:7	6. There are many thousands of evil angels.
Ephesians 2:1-2	7. The evil angels roam the earth trying to win people to their evil kingdom.