

God the Father Almighty

The Creed opens by telling us something about the God that we confess. It answers the question, “Who is this God that we believe in? It answers this question by describing God as 1) Father, 2) Almighty, and 3) Creator.

Read

Read Isaiah 40:21-31. What characteristics of God do you see here?

God the Father

1 Peter 1:3 – “Praise be to the God and **Father** of our Lord Jesus Christ...”

Matthew 6:9 – “Our **Father** in heaven...”

The picture of a Father helps us understand who God is and what he is like.

The Scriptures describe God our Father in a remarkable way. Both Jesus and Paul talk about God using the Aramaic word *Abba*, which quite literally translates “daddy.” It’s an endearing term, speaking of an innocent intimacy shared between father and child.

Galatians 4:6-7: “Because you are his sons [and daughters], God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “*Abba, Father.*” So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.”

The Creed reminds us that God is our **perfect Father**, unlike our imperfect earthly father’s. He is the source of life and we are made in his image. He is not a distant, cold impersonal father. He makes himself available. He is a God who wants to be known. He has revealed himself to us. This Father is not disinterested in you; rather he is your daddy.

Discuss

How does the idea of God as father affect the way you approach or think about God?

God Almighty

The Creed describes the Father God as “Almighty.”

An Old Testament Hebrew name for God was *El Shaddai*. This name speaks of a God that nothing is too difficult for. It speaks of a God who is in control, holding all things together and acting with supreme power.

Jeremiah 32:17 – “Ah, Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.”

In confessing God the Almighty we are reminded that:

1. What seems impossible to us is perfectly possible for God.

While things may seem out of control to us, things are never out of God's control. Things are never beyond his reach to restore and redeem.

2. We are reminded that all power and authority in this world derive from God. Rulers, governments and leaders of all kind derive their authority from God and are responsible to him for the way they exercise it.

Romans 13:1 -- "Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God."

So, to say, "I believe in God, the Father Almighty," we confess a loving daddy who is powerful to do the impossible in our lives and in our world.

Write & Pray

Write out a prayer to the Father Almighty, asking for his parental care and Kingly authority in your life. Then pray into these things as a group.