



Future-proofing our children

Confirmation 1

Lesson Title

Our Creed

A Parent's Guide

Sunday School Home Schooling



Dear Parent

Welcome to the “**Our Creed**” Confirmation 1 lesson.

This document provides you with a minimum guide on how to present the lesson.

How to prepare and present the lesson

Below are some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
1	<p>Access the New Apostolic Church Website by keying-in or clicking on the following link from WhatsApp:</p> <p>https://bit.ly/3NACSSHS</p>
2	<p>Gather the following tools to ensure that you are ready for the lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible • The lesson in PDF format that is already prepared • Child’s workbook and pencils, crayons, etc. • The Video Clip which is an additional/ optional resource tool • Catechism and Questions and Answers (especially for Confirmation) <p>Note:</p> <p>2.1: An ideal time preferably to present the lesson is after the Sunday morning service in line with the normal Sunday School time to maintain the routine.</p> <p>2.2: Please keep the lesson as concise (brief) as possible, bearing in mind the attention span (to focus on the lesson) of our children - you know your child best! <i>Sunday School normally does not exceed 45 minutes.</i></p> <p>2.3: The lesson is class specific (Confirmation 1).</p> <p>2.4: Please contact your Confirmation Teacher if you need any assistance or if you need any of the above resources.</p>
3	<p>Pray (see the prayer at the end of this document) and ask God to use you as a tool to present the lesson the way He would want us to present it.</p>



Present a Confirmation Lesson at Home

How to prepare and present the lesson

We continue to share some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
4	Create a pleasant, disturbance free learning environment where you and the child/ren are at the same level. Example: Sit on a mat or around a table.
5	Read through the lesson. Re-read the lesson so that you understand it. Watch the video-clip of the lesson to get a better understanding of the lesson.
6	Make notes for yourself on important points that you would like to remember.
7	Understand the objective of the lesson that your child must remember.
8	Present the lesson to your child.
9	Show your child the video and recap on the meaning.
10	Refer your child to the activity in the child's workbook (I Also Want To...)
11	Pray, or ask your child to pray and close the lesson.

Available tools in terms of Home Schooling

Herewith some tools to enhance the quality of the lesson:

1. WhatsApp chat the lesson with another Confirmation 1 family.
2. Discuss the lesson with other parents to obtain clarity regarding the lesson before it is presented.
3. Feel free to conduct (do) your own research for additional (extra) information.



The Lesson

Lesson Title	Our Creed
Text	No Bible texts for this lesson
Catechism & Q&A	Chapter 2, Q&A 29-50
Lesson Objective	The confirmands learn the origin of the early church creeds, the significance of the early church creeds for the New Apostolic Creed and the contents of the New Apostolic Creed.

Lesson Summary:

A creed is a statement of faith of the shared beliefs of a religious community. It is a summary of the core beliefs of a doctrine of faith. A Religious denomination defines itself by its creed.

1. The origins of early church creeds:

- Christianity spread throughout the Roman Empire and many who became Christians had previous religious beliefs.
- These beliefs and Christian beliefs created confusion and disputes.
- Creeds were formulated to enable conformity to the doctrine of Christ and His Apostles.
- A few creeds were formulated: the Apostles' Creed (Apostolicum), the Creed of Nicaea-Constantinople, and the Athanasian Creed.

Let's have a look at the first two and the New Apostolic Creed. The New Apostolic Creed is closely related to the early church creeds.

The Apostles' Creed (Apostolicum)	The Creed of Nicaea-Constantinople	The New Apostolic Church Creed
"I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right	"We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost	<p>The First Article I believe in God, the Father, the Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth.</p> <p>The Second Article I believe in Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was</p>



<p>hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal [catholic] church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen."</p>	<p>of the virgin Mary, and was made man; He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried, and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; from thence He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. In one holy universal [catholic] and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen."</p>	<p>buried, entered the realm of the dead, rose again from the dead on the third day, and ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from where He will return.</p> <p>The Third Article</p> <p>I believe in the Holy Spirit, the one, holy, universal, and apostolic church, the community of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the dead, and life everlasting.</p>
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2. The significance of the early church creeds for the New Apostolic Creed:

- The doctrine of the New Apostolic Church is based upon Holy Scripture and it was the task of the apostolate to interpret the Scripture to formulate our Creed, our binding expression of faith. Only the apostolate can make changes to the Creed.
- The early church creeds summarise important contents that are in Holy Scripture.
- The first three articles of the New Apostolic Creed profess the belief in the triune God, in Jesus Christ as true God and true Man, in Jesus' birth by the virgin Mary, in His sacrificial death, in His return, the sending of the Holy Spirit, in the church, the sacraments and eternal life as formulated in the two early church creeds.

3. The contents of the New Apostolic Creed

The first three Articles of Faith largely correspond to the Apostolicum (see above). It emphasises the significance of this early church confession.

• **The Fourth Article**

I believe that the Lord Jesus rules His church and thereto sent His Apostles, and until His return still sends them with the commission to teach, to forgive sins in His name, and to baptise with water and Holy Spirit.



- **The Fifth Article**

I believe that those designated by God for a ministry are ordained only by apostles, and that authority, blessing, and sanctification for their ministration come forth out of the Apostle ministry.

The 4th and 5th Articles of Faith represent an interpretation and further development of the early Church creeds as they apply to the ministries.

- **The Sixth Article**

I believe that the Holy Baptism with water is the first step to a renewal of a human being in the Holy Spirit, and that the person baptised is adopted into the fellowship of those who believe in Jesus Christ and profess Him as their Lord.

- **The Seventh Article**

I believe that Holy Communion was instituted by the Lord Himself in memory of the once brought, fully valid sacrifice, and bitter suffering and death of Christ. The worthy partaking of Holy Communion establishes our fellowship with Jesus Christ, our Lord. It is celebrated with unleavened bread and wine; both must be consecrated and dispensed by a minister authorised by an Apostle.

- **The Eight Article**

I believe that those baptised with water must, through an Apostle, receive the gift of the Holy Spirit to attain the childhood in God and thereby the prerequisite for becoming a firstling.

The 6th, 7th and 8th Articles of Faith deals with the three Sacraments of the Church.

- **The Ninth Article**

I believe that the Lord Jesus will return as surely as He ascended into heaven and that He will take to Himself the firstfruits of the dead and living who have hoped for and were prepared for His coming; that after the marriage in heaven He will return to earth with them to establish His kingdom of peace, and that they will reign with Him as a royal priesthood. After the conclusion of the kingdom of peace, He will hold the Last Judgement. Then God will create a new heaven and a new earth and dwell with His people.

In the 9th Article of Faith the belief in Jesus Christ's return and what will take place thereafter is declared.

- **The Tenth Article**

I believe that I am obliged to obey the worldly authorities provided no godly laws are thereby transgressed.

The 10th Article of Faith explains the relationship the Church believes should exist between the individual and society.

- As New Apostolic Christians we are to profess the Articles of Faith and the creed is to define our attitude of faith.



- The creed serves to make other people familiar with the most important elements of the New Apostolic faith in concise form.

What does this lesson mean for us today?

- It gave us an understanding of how creeds originated in the early church.
- It explained our own creed's development.
- It gave a brief explanation of the articles of faith in the New Apostolic Creed.
- We want to profess the Creed of the New Apostolic Church.

Learn our Creed by heart and live by it. It is important that you understand each article of faith and it is a good way to tell others of what you believe in.

Some questions that we can ask:

1. How was the New Apostolic Creed formulated and by whom?

Answer: The Creed is based on the Holy Scripture. The apostolate is responsible for the interpretation of the Scripture and they too are responsible for the changes in the Creed.

2. How many Articles of Faith do we have in our Creed?

Answer: Ten Articles of Faith

3. Which Articles of Faith deals with the Sacraments of the Church?

Answer: Articles 6, 7 and 8

A Prayer for Daddy and Mommy to pray before the lesson:

Dear God, thank you for this day

Bless all parents and children

May we feel your presence

Bless the lesson we will have

Please teach us how to serve you

And help us to do your will

So that we grow closer to you

Send Jesus to fetch us

And may we be ready to meet Him

Amen