

**GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY,
CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH
WEEK #2— APOSTLES' CREED**

LUKE 11:11-13

“You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him.”

SYMMETRY:

The Bible is vocal and loud about God’s delight in you, His pleasure in you, and His desire for a personal relationship with you. (Psalm 18:19)

Our God is an infinitely powerful and yet intensely personal Father.

We all have a tendency to think of Him as one or the other. Both are vital to our faith—we serve a God who is infinitely powerful and yet He makes Himself near to us.

The gospel not only reconciles us to the Father, but then begins to reconcile us to one another.

Clarity:

To be a God of love is to have wrath.

God proves His love by refusing to turn a blind eye to our selfish and destructive actions and attitudes.

Since God loves you, He will expose your secret sin.

Community:

God has not only called us to Himself but also to each other.

We walk together as the communion of saints brought together by our Father.

Counsel:

God the Father almighty is infinitely powerful and intensely personal, that should shape how we counsel ourselves and others.

Do you believe that God is good? Do you believe that God is for you and not against you regardless of your life circumstances? If you believe these two things you can join with the chorus of Christians across 2,000 years of history who have said, “I believe in God the Father almighty creator of heaven and earth.”

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DISCUSSION/REFLECTION GUIDE

We all have to wrestle with the question of whether we believe God is good. Why is that question foundational?

When have you struggled to believe God is good? When have you wanted something and didn't understand why God wasn't saying yes?

What is the difference between deism and Christianity?

How does it affect your view of God to know that He delights in you? How does it affect your view of yourself?

How should the fact that God is infinitely powerful and intensely personal shape our daily lives? Our relationships?

Which of the two attributes do you tend to think of most when you think about God: powerful or personal? Why do you relate to Him in that way? Why is it vital to relate to God as both/and, not either/or?

How does each phrase in the Lord's Prayer reveal God's character as both personal and powerful?

What's your primary takeaway in response to the teaching on "God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth"?

Many people have found their faith immeasurably strengthened and matured by being forced to think through areas of faith they would not have explored without the Apostles' Creed. See the creed as an invitation to explore and discover areas of the gospel that otherwise you might miss or overlook.

—Alister McGrath, [Apostles' Creed: 6 Studies for Individuals or Groups](#)