**The Apostles’ Creed and our Faith Today**

**Part 1 The Resurrection**

*I believe in Jesus Christ, who …suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;*

Read 1 Corinthians 15 v 1-8 and 12-19

1. Why does Paul describe Christ’s death and resurrection as of ‘first importance’ (v3 and v19)?
2. What does Paul appeal to as evidence for the resurrection? (Answer = eye-witnesses) Why is eye witness testimony so significant?
3. Do you think the evidence for the resurrection is compelling? Also consider the empty tomb, the willingness of the apostles to die for their faith
4. How should the resurrection shape the way we understand our faith? Do you consider it to be the most fundamental fact or truth on which your faith rests?

**Part 2 The Creed and Faith Today**

1. In working through the creed in recent weeks, are their particular items in the creed or in the sermons that have spoken to you or reminded you of aspects of our faith that are often neglected?
2. Do you think there are matters that are missing in the creed that are of equal importance to what is included? For example, the creed says nothing of the life of Christ between birth and the passion, and there is nothing from the Old Testament apart from Genesis chapter 1. Give reasons for what you might suggest.
3. We tend in evangelical and charismatic churches to put an emphasis on personal spiritual experience, for example in conversion and in the work of the Holy Spirit. Are there dangers in relying on or seeking ‘spiritual experiences’? In what ways is the Creed a balance to this emphasis?
4. Why is what we believe prior to, and the basis of, everything we say and do in Church and as Christians in daily life?

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