

Getting to “Amen”

*I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit;
the one holy church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting.
Amen.*

Psalm 106:48 (NIV),
“Let all the people say, ‘Amen!’”

“I will _____ to these things.”

Matthew 22:37 (NIV): “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”

Investigate three things:

- _____
- The lives of _____ you respect
- _____

“I will _____ in these things.”

Romans 10:11 (The Message): “Scripture reassures us, ‘No one who trusts God like this—heart and soul—will ever regret it.’”

*“Faith is not belief without proof
but trust without reservation”*

Elton Trueblood

“I will _____ because these things are true.”

Matthew 7:21 (NCV): “Not all those who say that I am their Lord will enter the kingdom of heaven. The only people who will enter the kingdom of heaven are those who do what my Father in heaven wants.”

Discussion Questions

Have someone read Luke 12:16-21 to the group. In this story, Jesus described a man who enjoyed the benefits of this life as if it would go on forever. He gave no thought of his accountability to God. Have the group suggest a one-sentence “moral of the story” from this passage.

Jesus expected us to commit to him, not just study him. In Chapter 23 (pages 215-223), Tom pointed out four reasons people will study Jesus but then hesitate when it comes to committing to him. If you are a Christ-follower, share with the group which of these four reasons caused you to hesitate before committing to Christ. If you are examining the claims of Christ, share with the group which of these four reasons may be behind your own hesitation to put your faith in him.

Have someone read Luke 18:9-14 to the group. In Chapter 24, Tom said, “Jesus wanted us to see ourselves in this story, and he gave us only two roles to choose between: we can be like the man who denied his need for God’s forgiveness, or we can be like the man who cried out for it.” Based on this story, would Jesus agree with the popular notion that “God accepts all people”? What disappointed Jesus about the Pharisee: the man’s good works or the man’s attitude toward his good works? Why? How can this story help us in our own relationship with God?

Summarize the “A-B-C’s” of a commitment to Christ that Tom described in Chapter 24 (pages 225-232). If you have made a commitment to Christ during this study, share your decision with the group if you feel comfortable in doing so.

In Chapter 25, Tom pointed out that a commitment to Christ is the beginning of a lifelong climb toward spiritual maturity. Summarize the “H.I.L.L.” acronym Tom used in Chapter 25 (pages 233-239) to explain why a believer follows Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:21 in the Living Bible says, “Test everything that is said to be sure it is true, and if it is, then accept it.” If you are still considering a commitment to Christ, what remains to be tested? In other words, what questions or issues remain unresolved?

Looking back over these past weeks of reading and group discussion, what has been the most helpful thing you have learned or experienced in this study?

Who else should be part of a study like this? Would some members of your study group be willing to enlist these additional people into a new study of this material?

The Anchor Course



“Amen”