













# Go Deeper ...

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use these questions for further study individually or in a small group

# ... the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints, ...

This section of the Creed focuses on the covenant people of God.

## **Begin in Prayer:**

Read Hebrews 11:1-12:3. Pause to reflect on all those who have gone before us in the faith, both in biblical times and in the past 2,000 years. Give thanks and praise to God for His faithfulness through the ages and for the faithfulness of all the saints who have gone before us. Name specific people who have been part of your spiritual heritage and offer thanksgiving to God for their lives.

## The holy catholic Church

What do you think of when you hear the word "church?" Do you have positive, negative, neutral, or mixed feelings about the Church? Explain.

What does scripture mean by the Church? (Col 1:24; Eph 2:19; 1Pet 2:5)

How else is the Church described? (1Cor 12:14; Eph 2:12, 19, 21, 3:14-15; Col 1:12 & 13; Heb 12:22-23)

How does someone become part of God's Church? (Acts 2:37-38, 8:12, 18:8, 22:16; Eph 2:13; John 3:3-6)

What does it mean that the Church is: One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic? Why are each of these important?

#### The Communion of Saints

What does it mean to be a saint? Who are the saints?

Read 1Corinthians 12:12-31. What image does Paul use to describe the communion (fellowship/covenant-relationship) of the saints?

How does this passage speak against radical individualism?

Why do Christians need to be part of the larger body?

How should the members of the body of Christ treat one another?

Why is it good to have a diversity of gifts, people, and opinions all within one church body? What are the challenges of this?

In a world which is increasingly polarized and tribal how is the Church called to be different? What keeps us from being different?

How can you take steps to more fully commit to being an active and healthy part of our local church body?

Close in Prayer: Take time to pray for First Covenant and for the Global Church

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