

# KIDMUNITY | This I Believe

## Lesson 01: What is Theology?

### Small Group Guide

#### Bottom Line:

*Theology is the study of what is true about God from the Bible.*

#### Memory Verse:

*“Let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord.”*

**Jeremiah 9:23–24a**

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## Activity One: Fact or Fiction (But in Real Life)

### Introduction for Leaders

In Large Group, we played Fact or Fiction. Some things sounded true but weren't. Some things sounded crazy but were real.

This activity helps kids see that this doesn't just happen in trivia — it happens in real life, too. Sometimes we believe things because someone told us, or because it sounded right, or because we didn't know better yet.

The goal is to help kids recognize that truth matters — especially when it comes to God.

### Quick Fact or Fiction Round

Read each statement. Kids respond with thumbs up (Fact) or thumbs down (Fiction).

1. Bats are blind.  
(Fiction — they can see, and they use echolocation.)
2. The Eiffel Tower grows taller in the summer.  
(Fact — metal expands in heat.)
3. The tongue has different sections for different tastes.  
(Fiction — that's a myth.)
4. If I try really hard to be good, I can earn my way to heaven.  
(Fiction — salvation is a gift.)
5. God created everything and then stepped away from the world.  
(Fiction — God is active and present.)

6. The Bible is where we learn what is true about God.  
(Fact.)
7. Jesus is half God and half man.  
(Fact.)

Keep explanations short. This is a warm-up, not deep teaching.

## When Have You Been Wrong?

**Say:** “Let’s talk about something real. What’s something you believed when you were younger that turned out not to be true?”

### Leader Tip:

Share your own story first. (Example: believing you grew all your inches overnight on your birthday, thinking you weren’t good at math, etc.) Avoid sensitive topics like Santa or the Tooth Fairy.

Then ask:

- What’s something you once believed about yourself that wasn’t true?
- What’s something you once believed about the Bible that you later learned wasn’t true?
- What’s something you once believed about God that changed as you grew?

If kids struggle, prompt gently:

- “Did you ever think God was always angry?”
- “Did you ever think the Bible was just stories?”
- “Did you ever think you weren’t good at something?”

## Teaching Connection

**Say:** “Sometimes we believe things because someone told us, or because it sounded right, or because we hadn’t learned the truth yet. But when it comes to the most important things in life – especially God and our faith – we can’t just guess.

That’s why we become theologians. We seek out what is true about God from the Bible.”

Reinforce Bottom Line.

# Activity Two: Write Your Own Creed

## Supplies Needed

- 1 copy of the Apostles' Creed and Nicene Creed per group
- Dry-erase board or poster paper and markers

## Leader Introduction

In Large Group, we heard about two historic creeds — the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed.

The Apostles' Creed developed when early Christians answered questions about what they believed before being baptized. Over time, those answers became a short summary of Christian belief.

The Nicene Creed was written later when false teachings about Jesus spread. Church leaders gathered to clearly defend what Scripture teaches — especially that Jesus is truly God.

Creeds are not new Scripture. They are summaries of what the Bible teaches.

Now we're going to try writing one ourselves.

## Activity Instructions

**Explain:** "A creed is a short summary of what we believe is true about God based on the Bible. The Bible is a big book. A creed gathers the core truths into one clear statement."

For 5-7 minutes:

1. Brainstorm beliefs. What do you believe is true about God, Faith and life?
2. Write everything down.
3. Refine the list to 5-10 core beliefs.

Use prompts:

- What is true about God?
- What is true about Jesus?
- What is true about the Holy Spirit?
- What is true about people?
- What is true about the Bible?
- What is true about creation?

**Leader Note:**

There may be misinformation. Don't immediately shut it down. Guide the group toward clarity as you refine the final list.

Read your group's creed aloud together.

**Compare With the Apostles' Creed**

Read the Apostles' Creed together and then discuss:

- What did we include that they didn't?
- What did they include that we didn't?
- Why do you think they focused on those beliefs?

**Teaching Connection**

**Say:** "You just practiced theology. You took what you know from the Bible and summarized what you believe is true. That's exactly what the early church did. Theology isn't guessing. It's learning, clarifying, and defending what is true about God."

**Final Discussion Questions****Kindergarten / 1st Grade**

- Where do we learn what is true about God?
- What is one thing you believe about God?
- Why is it important to know the truth?

**2nd / 3rd Grade**

- Why can believing wrong things about God be a problem?
- How does the Bible help us know what is true?
- What did you learn from writing your own creed?
- What does it mean to be a theologian?

**4th / 5th Grade**

- Why did the early church need creeds?
- How do false teachings spread?
- How does what you believe about God affect how you live?
- What is one area where you want to grow in knowing God?