**KNOW WHAT YOU BELIEVE**

**Beginning the process of creating an “I Believe” statement**

A statement of faith is a personal creed or belief statement expressing your beliefs about the Trinity (God, Jesus, Holy Spirit) and your Christian walk and witness. This statement is a work in progress and develops over time. Use the below activity to help you start the process of creating an “I Believe” statement. As your faith grows and deepens, it is always good to re-visit your statement. Many students find that re-writing their statement of faith helps to put their faith into words and connects them to faith in a more meaningful way.

To start, simply complete the “I Believe” lines on the next page. Use the topics listed below to help you create your sentences. Complete the entire sheet and then let it sit for a while (a few weeks or a couple of months).

When you revisit your work…tweak, delete, and/or add sentences. Begin grouping sentences into four groups:

1. God the Father
2. God the Son (Jesus)
3. God the Holy Spirit
4. Christian Walk and Faith Witness

Then again, let the process sit for a while.

When ready, begin to form the sentences you have grouped into a paragraph.

*You are well on your way to developing a personal “I Believe” Statement!*

Just a few pointers:

* Relax, don’t rush the process. It could take months or even a couple of years to complete. Be sure to pray before you brainstorm sentences and form paragraphs.
* Share your writing with others who are going through the same process. Sometimes hearing someone else’s belief statements can help you form your own statements.
* Feel free to add verses to your sentences. If you’re not sure if you’re being theologically correct in your faith statement, talk it over with your youth director or pastor. Scripture is also a great place to check yourself.
* Throughout your life you may want to re-visit and tweak your statement of faith.
* Don’t get rid of your previous statements. It’s fun to look back and see how your faith has grown.

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Consider writing sentences on the following:

* God the Father (His character, His role in the Trinity, Names referring to God)
* God the Son (His character, His role in the Trinity, Names referring to Jesus, Heaven)
* God the Holy Spirit (His character, His role in the Trinity, Names referring to the Holy Spirit)
* Christian Walk and Faith Witness (How will you live each day as a believer? What elements are important to your faith? What kind of witness will you give as a believer?)

What do you believe about…

Grace Baptism Sin Blessings Goodness

Mercy Communion Heaven God’s Will Temptation

Forgiveness Prayer Hope Service Sanctification

Holiness Suffering Faith Redemption Spiritual gifts

Resurrection Evil Scripture 10 Commandments Church

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