



Hold Fast to Faith | Part 4

Romans 8:26-30

Rev. Dr. Nathan Weaver

Hold Fast To Faith: Part 4 - June 2023

Scripture:

Romans 8:26-30

*Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. **27** And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because[g] the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. **28** And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good,[h] for those who are called according to his purpose. **29** For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. **30** And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.*

This week we are wrapping up this four-part series through the Nicene Creed. Each week we have discussed something that the Creed "does" for us.

1. The Creed teaches us the basics of faith
2. The Creed provides a boundary around orthodox belief
3. The Creed fosters true unity
4. The Creed helps form a Christian mind

The first and great commandment is to "Love God with all of your heart, all of your soul, and all of your mind" (Mt. 22:37). Loving God with our mind is sometimes neglected. Recent times have made it seem as though Christian faith and academia are somehow at odds. There have been many contributing factors to this. However, at its

root, intellectualism is a pursuit of truth and of telling the truth. Jesus is the Truth, and so we as Christians have a responsibility for being intellectuals. The Creed is both a spiritual and well-reasoned intellectual document.

The final part of the creed focuses on the Holy Spirit.

- The Holy Spirit calls to the lost
- The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin
- The Holy Spirit delivers grace
- The Holy Spirit gives new life
- The Holy Spirit Transforms our hearts
- The Holy Spirit Inspired the words of Scripture and inspires us to understand
- The Holy Spirit empowers us to wage war against satan's domain.

The Creed goes on to describe the four marks of the church. The church is "one, holy, catholic, and apostolic." Each of these words describes an essential aspect of what it means for us to be the body of Christ.

Questions:

1. What is your understanding of the Holy Spirit?
2. How have you witnessed the work of the Holy Spirit in your life?
3. How can we, Christians, seek to love God with our minds?

