

ICC Statement of Faith – Nicene Creed

While we recognize that leadership and communication training is beneficial for everyone, there are a few distinctives that set our organization apart. In order to help us act as a community, united in mind, spirit, and purpose (Phil 2:2), we hold to a creed, a statement of the essential beliefs that we hold in common. This creed is not the sum total of everything each of us believes or practices. It does, however, delineate key features that bond us together as we work for united goals.

ICC representatives subscribe to the Nicene Creed, a statement of faith embraced by all stripes of Christ-followers: Protestants, Roman Catholics, and Eastern Orthodox believers. The Creed was written in 325 AD, which is before the Roman Catholic Church was formed and before the ancient writings of Scripture were canonized into the Bible as we know it today. We have selected the most common English translation of the Creed.

ICC is not a church. We are an organization of Christ followers joined by a common mission. We recognize that any words chosen to describe our faith have the potential to be both inclusive and exclusive. Our goal in selecting the Nicene Creed is to include fellow Christ followers.

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.
Who, for us men for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.
*And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father *[and the Son]; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.*
*And I believe one holy **catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

*Because the Western and Eastern churches held differing interpretations of whether the original wording was sufficient to clarify a belief in the precise nature of the Trinity the words [and the Son] were added in brackets. For centuries, theologians have had deep intellectual discussions on the subject. ICC welcomes anyone who agrees with the essence of the Nicene Creed, with or without the additional bracketed words.

**catholic is interpreted as the universal church