



**04 | Mon – Creed** | Read [Luke 6:43-45](#)

What you believe is your creed. Everyone has one. It might be something you have adopted like the Apostle's Creed or the Nicene Creed. For many, it is a set of informal beliefs that have become a part of you over your lifetime. What you believe guides your thoughts, your words and ultimately your actions. It is easy to say "I believe (this or that)" but how you live reveals what you truly believe. What is your creed? How do you live when no one else is looking?

**05 | Tue – What was he thinking?** | Read [Mark 1:21-34](#)

Jesus had a creed which guided his life. We get a glimpse of his beliefs from what he said and what he did, as reported by the gospel writers. When reading this account written by Mark, it might be interesting to jot down a brief list of the things Jesus did and said. Then ask yourself, what was Jesus thinking at the time? What did he believe about the people he was with, about their circumstances, their worth? What motivated him?

**06 | Wed – Can you be more specific?** | Read [Luke 4:14-22](#)

The "Bible" in Jesus' day was a scroll of the Old Testament. Each Sabbath the rabbi unrolled and read the next portion from where he had stopped last week. On this day, Jesus was the guest rabbi in his hometown. After reading the next section (from Isaiah 61), Jesus clearly stated his creed. Could you articulate your purpose in life as clearly as Jesus did? Why not take some time to think how you would state your personal creed (beliefs) if asked?

**07 | Thu – Start here** | Read [Matthew 22:34-40](#)

The Jewish people had many laws and beliefs that guided their lives. For several thousand years, memorizing the first five books of the Old Testament was a requirement for all Jewish men and is still the practice in orthodox Jewish schools today. One law expert tested Jesus by asking which, in his opinion, was God's most important law. Jesus' answer reveals what should be foundational to any Christian's personal creed. How does that fit with yours?

**08 | Fri – It can be a challenge** | Read [1 Corinthians 10:23-33](#)

Loving God is sometimes easier than loving people. Paul reminds us the freedom Jesus gives is not meant to be self-indulgent. We express love for others by treating them and their beliefs (creed) with respect. Even if we feel the personal freedom to speak or act a certain way, love motivates us to restrain ourselves for another's benefit. Have you had opportunities to practice this kind of love when another person's convictions do not match your own? Think about how Jesus valued every human being, even those he disagreed with.

**09 | Sat – Uniquely gifted** | Read [Ephesians 4:1-4, 11-13](#) / [Romans 12:4-8](#)

God has gifted all of us to live out our creed in ways that can help others grow. Some of those gifts are listed in Ephesians 4 and Romans 12. Do you recognize what your gifts are? Do you understand how God can use you to change someone's world for the better? Are you using your gifts to point others to Jesus? Belief is not enough - see James 2:14. How are you putting your creed into action? Consider finding a trusted friend to process these ideas with.