

WARM UP | Read aloud the Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen



INSTRUMENT PANEL

2 What is the test for something being an essential?



3 How do you handle disagreements over non-essentials?



READ | John 17:20-23, 2 Timothy 2:23-25

BACKGROUND |

The five basic doctrines of the Christian faith are taken from a book called "The Fundamentals" edited by R.A. Torrey.

The essentials are the important issues all Christians agree upon:

1. The Trinity: God is one "What" and three "Whos" with each "Who" possessing all the attributes of Deity and personality.

2. The Person of Jesus Christ: Jesus is 100% God and 100% man for all eternity.

3. The Second Coming: Jesus Christ is coming bodily to earth to rule and judge.

4. Salvation: It is by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.

5. The Scripture: It is entirely inerrant and sufficient for all Christian life.

QUESTIONS |

1 Do you agree with Torrey's list of essentials?

**MY RESPONSE AS A PROMISE KEEPER** |

What do I need to apply from what I have learned from this study?

IT'S TIME FOR PRAYER |**CONSIDER THIS** |

*There's a Methodist minister named J. Gordon Melton who has an interesting hobby. He collects lists of church denominations in the United States. His research has revealed there are 1517 different recognised denominations in the USA. Additionally there are a few "peculiar" groups in his list such as: **The Church of the Mystery of Universal Wisdom.** They believe they can communicate with aliens and they seek guidance from flying saucers. **The Embassy of Heaven** considers all earthly governments illegitimate and issues its own license plates for cars. **The Nudist Christian Church of the Blessed Virgin Jesus.** Now, I'm not quite sure what this group teaches but I'm pretty sure I could recognise them from a mile away. They'd be the ones with no clothes on. And the last one that caught my attention was **The Church of God Anonymous.** They're kind of hard to find since they're... (pause) anonymous.*

WRAP UP | St Augustine

said: "In essentials, unity; in doubtful things, liberty; but in all things, love."