

And More...

Now that we have finished *It's a Great Life!*, here are some Bible passages. Read them thoughtfully and prayerfully, noting down the main point and something else that stands out for you.

Day 1: Deuteronomy 6 _____

Day 2: John 1.1-14 _____

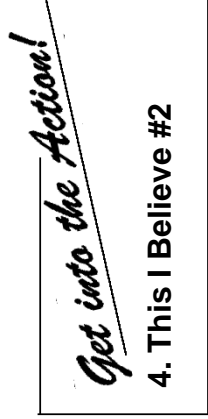
Day 3: John 8.48-59 _____

Day 4: Isaiah 55 _____

Day 5: John 10.1-18 _____

Day 6: 1 Peter 1.1-12 _____

Day 7: Psalm 19 _____



This I Believe

The *Apostle's Creed* affirms –
“I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
“I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of
the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of
the Father.

He will come again to judge the
living and the dead.
“I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.”

The *Apostles' Creed*, was not, as the
name might suggest, made by the
apostles themselves. It was, however, of
early origin. The Reformer John Calvin
stated “that the whole history of our
faith is summed up in it succinctly and
in definite order, and that it contains
nothing that is not vouched for by
genuine testimonies of Scripture.”¹

Over the past week you have
completed the readings in *It's a Great
Life!* I hope you have found it very
helpful in establishing a pattern in your
life that will maintain and promote
growth.

A number of years ago I heard
Oswald Sanders, involved for many
years in leadership in the Overseas
Missionary Fellowship (formerly the
China Inland Mission). Among other
things he shared with us how his wife
had been dying, and he said to her,
“How are you today?” She replied,
“Still growing!” And that's how it
should be for all of us! Let's see what
we discovered in our week's readings.

This week the focus has been on the
principles of growth that we spent some
time talking about in Session 2. We
spoke of five particular points there.
Let's share now some of the “extras”
we may have written down on p.25.

#1 What are the things that help
promote healthy spiritual growth?

¹ *Institutes of the Christian Religion*,
II,xvi,18.

² *I Believe in God...* p.31.Tyndale,
London, 1963.

TRINITY – one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

FATHER – Creator and Lord

CHRIST – God the Son

Virgin Birth

Cross and Redemption

Resurrection and Ascension

Second Coming

HOLY SPIRIT

The Church

Communion of Saints

Forgiveness of Sins

Resurrection of the Body

Life Everlasting

One more recent writer, Klaas Runia, has written about the Trinitarian framework of the Creeds, “This is not just an incidental matter, but it expressed the deep conviction that this Triune Being of God, as revealed in Scripture, was the very foundation and ‘explanation’ of the whole history of redemption..... we should from the outset remember that it is expressed in the form of a personal confession. In the Creeds the believers speak about God not in a scientific, detached, objectivising way, but they confess. ‘We believe in this Triune God’, they say, ‘we trust in him and expect everything from him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit’.”²