

NICENE Creed

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made human. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried. The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come. Amen.

<This Week>

11/3 **Service I** 9:30-10:30 (Japanese)
 Communion 10:30-45
 Service II 11:00-12:30 (Japanese and English / Kid's Mini Church)
 Christmas choir rehearsal 13:30-15:00

11/8 **PAWS** 20:00-21:00

<Coming Week>

11/10 **Service I** 9:30-10:30 (Japanese)
 Communion 10:30-45
 Service II 11:00-12:30 (Japanese and English / Kid's Mini Church)
 M's Kitchen (Lunch Service)

11/15 **PAWS** 20:00-21:00

<Next Communion> **11/10 10:30**

<Meetings> (For more info and schedule, please talk to the leaders)

- ❖ **Mini-Church** (Small gathering with a friendly and warm atmosphere)
- ❖ **New Life Class** (First Step to follower's life)
- ❖ **Covenant Class** (Membership Class)

<Offering> Our operating cost is covered by members' spontaneous offerings.

We believe that offering is a part of worship and it's a responsibility of each believer (Malachi 3:10). It also says, "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver (II Cor. 9:6-7)." We don't pass around the offering basket since we don't want anyone who is not able to give for some reason to feel pressure or awkward (especially for visitors). We also would like everyone to do it spontaneously. Please put the offerings in the box on the counter.

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<https://yourchurch.jp>

bulletin

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November 3, 2019 (Mark 9:38-50)

Christians' Elitism and Exclusiveness Mari Ikeda

A. Making faith a tool to justify ourselves and exclude others

1. Conflicts among believers (38-40)

2. Disrespect for “non-believers” (41)

B. Awfulness of that sin (42-48)

C. To leave from that sin accompanies pains (49-50)

Summary

We have the nature of justifying ourselves and excluding others. We even mistreat our faith as the privilege we won by our own strength and make it a tool to exclude others. What awful the most is that we are not aware of this in most times. In order for us to adopt Jesus' tolerance, we need to discard our intolerance. It is a painful process, but is the only path to be at peace with each other and live a fruitful life.

For Discussion

- 1) What things does Jesus tell us here to accept?
- 2) What things does He tell us to cut off?
- 3) How can we do that?

38 “Teacher,” said John, “we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us.” 39 “Do not stop him,” Jesus said. “For no one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me, 40 for whoever is not against us is for us. 41 Truly I tell you, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to the Messiah will certainly not lose their reward.

42 “If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them if a large millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea. 43 If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. [44] 45 And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. [46] 47 And if your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, 48 where ““the worms that eat them do not die, and the fire is not quenched.”

49 Everyone will be salted with fire. 50 “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt among yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”

クリスチャンの特権意識と排他性 池田真理

A. 信仰を、自分を正当化し他人を排除する道具にしてしまう

1. 信仰者同士の対立 (38-40)

2. 信仰を持たない人を軽んじる(41)

B. その罪の恐ろしさ(42-48)

C. その罪から離れることには痛みが伴う(49-50)

メッセージのポイント

私たちは自分を正当化して他人を排除する性質を持っています。信仰も、私たちがそれを自分で手に入れた特権だと勘違いして、他人を排除するための道具にしてしまいます。恐ろしいのは、多くの場合、私たちがそれに気がついていない点です。私たちがイエス様のような寛容さを身につけるには、不寛容な自分を捨てる必要があります。それは痛みを伴うプロセスですが、それが互いに平和に暮らし、実りある人生を歩むための道です。

話し合いのために

- 1) イエス様がここで「受け入れなさい」と言っていることはなんですか？
- 2) 「切り捨てなさい」と言っていることはなんですか？
- 3) どうすればそれができますか？

38 ヨハネがイエスに言った。「先生、あなたのお名前を使って悪霊を追い出している者を見ましたが、私たちに従わないので、やめさせました。」39 イエスは言われた。「やめさせてはならない。私の名を使って奇跡を行い、そのすぐ後で、私の悪口は言えまい。40 私たちに逆らわない者は、私たちの味方なのである。41 よく言うておく。あなたがたがキリストに属する者だという理由で、一杯の水を飲ませてくれる人は、必ずその報いを受ける。」

42 「また、私を信じるこれらの小さな者の一人をつまずかせる者は、ろばの引く石臼を首に懸けられて、海に投げ込まれてしまう方がはるかによい。43 もし片方の手があなたをつまずかせるなら、切り捨てなさい。両手がそろったままゲヘナの消えない火の中に落ちるよりは、片手になって命に入る方がよい。† 45 もし、片方の足があなたをつまずかせるなら、切り捨てなさい。両足がそろったままゲヘナに投げ込まれるよりは、片足になって命に入る方がよい。† 47 もし片方の目があなたをつまずかせるなら、えぐり出さなさい。両目がそろったままゲヘナに投げ込まれるよりは、一つの目になって神の国に入る方がよい。48 ゲヘナでは蛆が尽きることも、火が消えることもない。

49 人は皆、火で塩気を付けられねばならない。50 塩は良いものである。だが、塩に塩気がなくなれば、あなたがたは何によって塩に味を付けるのか。自分自身の内に塩を持ちなさい。そして、互いに平和に過ごさなさい。」