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Venture

**Exploring
the Great Ideas and Images
of the Christian Faith**

The Creeds

**Theology
Study & Resource Guide
Series A**

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Venture is distributed by OACES, Inc.

Mission

The mission of **O**pportunities for **A**dult **C**hristian **E**ducation and **S**pirituality (OACES) Inc. is to form faithful leaders.

Goal

The goal of OACES, Inc. is to provide engaging and affordable material that equips adult Christians with knowledge and skill for faithful living.

Acknowledgment

The Rev. Richard Brewer and Mrs. Angela Hock developed the following adult study material as an education component of the Nebraska Plan for Ministry Development. We gratefully acknowledge the support and assistance of The Rt. Rev. James E. Krotz, Diocesan Bishop of Nebraska, and the Rev. Robert Trask, Chairman of the Total Ministry Group of the Commission on Ministry for the Diocese of Nebraska. This work is the fruit of the mutual efforts of the Total Ministry Group, Bishop Krotz, Nebraska's Diocesan Missioners, Canon Tim Vann, the Episcopal lay men and women of Nebraska, and ourselves. We deeply appreciate the opportunity to serve, imagine, and create with all who contributed to this work.

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Overview

The Purpose

Venture is an adult study program that increases knowledge of the Christian heritage's great ideas and images.

The Goal

The goal of Venture is to support the mission and ministry of adult Christian.

The Structure

The following chart gives an overview of the four series that make up the **Venture** program.

Series	Theology	Liturgics	Church History	Holy Scripture
A	Creeds	Sunday and Daily Rites	The Formative Centuries	Canonical Gospels
B	Sacramental Theology	Making of the Prayer Book	Western Church Reformation	Continuing Story of Exile & Return
C	The Kingdom of God	Vows in Liturgy	Christianity Comes to America	The Exodus Story Retold
D	God in Cultural Diversity	Liturgy in a Global Village	Jerusalem	What is Scripture?

The Process

Form a group in which each person selects one of the four subjects for study. He or she may study the four subjects in any order. All four subjects, or any combination, could be studied simultaneously by various people in the group during any six session cycle. Likewise, all in the group may decide to study one subject together, and continue through the four subjects in like manner.

Each group decides on the most sensible meeting schedule for themselves.

Someone in the congregation serves as facilitator for the group's meetings. A BRIEF facilitator's guide accompanies the **venture** material. The facilitator will help convene the meetings, implement the discussion outline provided, and keep track of the meeting time. The facilitator will not teach -- the materials suggested for study are the "teacher." It could prove useful if the facilitator has some background of study in the four primary subject areas. Facilitation of the study discussion sessions could be shared by group members, if desired. An outline of reflection/discussion questions and a list of resources accompany each subject.