

THE CREED

THE THIRD ARTICLE (PART 2)

ACTIVITY

STAY CLOSE

Materials: several tissues

Determine a start and finish line as far apart as your space allows. Divide the group into relay teams, and give each team a tissue at the start line. Explain, **Your goal is to get the tissue from the start line to the finish line. The only rules are that (a) it can only be tossed, not simply handed from person to person, (b) you must be standing still when you toss it, (c) every team member must have had a turn tossing before you can again touch the tissue, and (d) how you get it from here to there is up to your team. Go!** (Do not give any further explanation.)

Ask the winners, **How did you win?** (They will probably include things like needing close physical proximity, communicating, giving and receiving directions, and so on.)

Say, **In our spiritual life, we also need to stay close to God and listen to Him even as we support and encourage one another. God keeps us close to Him through the Means of Grace. We listen to God in His Word and stay close to Him as He works in us through the Word and through the elements of water, bread, and wine in Baptism and Communion.**

Conclude, **When you and I don't listen to God's Word and don't receive the Sacraments, the tissue hits the floor. In this analogy, can you think what the tissue represents? (Our relationship with Jesus.) By God's grace, the Spirit does not let us remain on the floor but works tirelessly to renew the contact. Going to church on Sundays may sometimes seem like it has no effect on your life, but every time you are there, the strategy the winning team used is operating. How?** (Allow for discussion.)