

Series Title: Religions and Denominations
Lesson Title: Judaism

Week 1

Memory Verse - “He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. By which will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” Hebrews 10:9-10.

DAY 1 Established by God through Moses.

1. The covenant that established the nation was made only with Israel. Deut. 5:2-3.
2. But, the plan for the nation existed long before this. Genesis 12:1-3, 7, 13:15, 17.
3. The promise would be fulfilled through Isaac and Jacob. Genesis 26:1-5, 28:13-15.
4. Jacob was called “Israel” and thus gave the nation its name. Genesis 35:10.
5. The sons of Israel became the tribes of the nation. Genesis 49:28, Exodus 1:1-5.

DAY 2 Formed in the Wilderness and Conquest.

1. Law given at Sinai, Deuteronomy 4:5-13, Exodus 34:27-28.
2. Other laws were given during the wandering. Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy.
3. The nation had a long history of rebellion, but God’s plan continued. Romans 3:1-4

DAY 3 The First Century: Pharisees, Sadducees, Essenes, Zealots, Herodians, etc.

1. Pharisees: Ultra conservatives who followed traditions of the rabbis and made up rules for others to follow that God had not spoken. Matthew 23
2. Sadducees: The “Greek” party among the Jews. Accepted only the first five books of the Old Testament. Matthew 22:23-33.
3. Essenes: A monastic sect that enforced celibacy as well as other restrictions foreign to the Bible. They were much like those of the apostasy, I Timothy 4:1-4.
4. Zealots: Political activists who figured prominently in the rebellion of 68-72 a.d. Luke 6:15, Acts 1:13.
5. Herodians: Were neither a political nor religious party. Supporters of the Herods and therefore Rome. Matthew 22:16, Mark 3:6, 12:13.

DAY 4 Three Modern Divisions

1. Orthodox: Believe in the law and the prophets, daily place on head and hand a scroll, *Tefilin*, with the words of Deuteronomy 6:5, wears fringes on their garments, wash their hands before eating as purification, eat only *Kosher* food, observes sabbath and feast days. Sabbath worship is obligatory, the sexes are separated. Instrumental music is not used.
2. Reformed: Believe truth is not limited to the Bible and not every expression of it is binding on men for all time, no fixed code of practice should exist. They keep some of the ceremonies of the Orthodox, instrumental music is used, heads are not covered, sexes are mixed, dietary laws are not strictly observed, look to a messianic age but not through a Messiah.
3. Conservative: Middle of the road group. These are Zionists, considering that their culture can better be practiced in a society where they are dominant.

DAY 5 Jew and Gentile Are Accepted Only Through Jesus Christ

1. Acts 4:12, Ephesians 2:14-3:11, Romans 3:21-26.

Series Title: Religions and Denominations
Lesson Title: The church of Christ

Week 2

Memory Verse - “And I say unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.” Matthew 16:18.

DAY 1 The church Jesus Built.

1. God planned it. Ephesians 3:8-10.
2. Came at the right time in history. Galatians 4:4.
3. It is built on the fact of His being the Son of God. Matthew 16:18
4. Foundation: The apostles and prophets with Jesus as the cornerstone.
Ephesians 2:19-22.

DAY 2 Made up of the Saved, Both Jew and Gentile, Ephesians 3:1-11.

1. Those called out of darkness, Colossians 1:13, I Peter 2:9-10, Acts 26:17-18.
2. The saved. Acts 2:47.

DAY 3 Identified by Various Terms

1. The body of Christ. Ephesians 1:19-23.
2. The house of God. I Peter 4:17-18, I Timothy 3:14-15.
3. Temple, kingdom.. Ephesians 2:18-22, Revelation 1:5, 9.

DAY 4 Organization is Local Only.

1. Churches of Christ salute you. Romans 16:16.
2. Elders in every church, Titus 1:5ff., Acts 14:23.
3. Local church is a flock with shepherds. I Peter 5:1-4, Acts 20:17, 28.
4. The universal church is not organized. Matthew 16:18, Ephesians 1:19ff.

DAY 5 Worship is God Directed.

1. Must worship in spirit and truth, John 4:24.
2. Acceptable worship is identified in scripture. II Timothy 3:16-17.
 - a. Singing, Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16-17.
 - b. Lord’s Supper, I Corinthians 11:17ff
 - c. Prayer, I Corinthians 14:16-19.
 - d. Instruction, I Corinthians 14:22-25, Acts 20:7-8.
3. In addition, contribution is made by the member to carry out work to be done.
I Corinthians 16:1-4, 9:4-18.

Series Title: Religions and Denominations
Lesson Title: Post First Century

Week 3

Memory Verse - "...and from among your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them." Acts 20:30

DAY 1 Apostolic Period.

1. Early church had the guidance of the Apostles and Prophets. Ephesians 4:11-14.
2. Even then, there were apostasies and false teachers.
 - a. Jesus foretold this, Matthew 24:4-13.
 - b. Paul warned about it, Romans 16:17-18, I Timothy 4:1-4.
 - c. Peter warned as well, II Peter 2-3.
 - d. John dealt with false teachers, the Gnostics, I John, II John, Revelation 2-3.

DAY 2 Early Departures 1. Church Organization

1. "Bishops" elevated above "elders," holding authority over cities or territories. Already in place by the time of Ignatius, 110 a.d. "Be zealous to do all things in harmony with God, with the bishop presiding in the place of God and the presbyters in the place of the Council of the Apostles ..."
2. Compare this with the New Testament teaching on church organization as found in last week's lesson.

DAY 3 Early Departures 2. Person of Christ

1. Gnostics were active during life of apostles. Denied that Jesus came in the flesh, was a phantom. Luke 24:36-43, I John, II John, Colossians 2:18-22.
2. Later issues surrounded His humanity as versus His Godhood. Council of Nicea in 325 and the councils that followed discussed this issue. See John 1:1-3, 8:24, 56-59, 10:22-33, Hebrews 1:8.

DAY 4 Early Departures 3. Nature of man

1. This doctrine says that all men are born with the sin of Adam and thus his condemnation. Added to this later was the doctrine of "total depravity" that man has a totally depraved nature and desires only to do evil continually. (Psalm 51:5, Romans 5:12, Ephesians 2:3).
2. Man becomes a sinner by sinning not by birth. See Romans 5:12-14.

DAY 5 Other Specific Departures.

Prayers for the dead, 300. Making the sign of the cross, 300. Candles, 320. Veneration of angels and dead saints, use of images, 375. The Mass, 394. Exaltation of Mary. Term "Mother of God" first applied at Council of Trent, 394. Clergy dress, 500. Purgatory, 593. Latin in worship, 600. Prayers to Mary and dead Saints, 600. Instrumental music introduced but opposed, 600. Title of pope, or universal bishop, given to Boniface III by Emperor Phocas, 606. Kissing the pope's foot, began with pope Constantine, 709. Temporal power of popes given by Pepin, King of France, 750. Worship of the cross, images and relics authorized, 786. Holy water, mixed with salt, and blessed by a priest, 850. College of Cardinals (now 70) introduced, 927. Canonization of dead saints, 995. Fasting on Friday, 998.

Series Title: Religions and Denominations
Lesson Title: Eastern Orthodox Church

Week 4

Memory Verse - "Every plant which my heavenly Father planted not, shall be rooted up."
Matthew 15:13.

DAY 1 Origin

1. In 330 AD, Emperor Constantine moved the capital of the Roman Empire from Rome to the newly named city of Constantinople. It effectively divided the churches into east and west, and further divided them by the difference between Greek and Latin. Different doctrinal points of view developed because of the geographical, social and language differences. After several hundred years of antagonism, the Eastern Church was formed around the Bishop of Constantinople and the Roman Catholic Church formed around Rome.
2. Under the heading of Eastern Orthodox are national churches such as Russian, Albanian, Ukrainian, Greek, etc., and they may be referred to as the Orthodox Catholic Church of the East, or like titles.
3. Discuss Galatians 1:6-9, II John 9-10.

DAY 2 Authority

1. Doctrinal structure is based on the Bible, *Septuagint* Translation, the decrees of the first seven general councils, definitions of lesser local councils, progressive traditions and icons. The Nicene Creed is of greater authority than other creeds written by general councils.
2. Their "pope" is not infallible, though the Church is, and infallible teaching is expressed through the Ecumenical Councils. Discuss human creeds, councils, traditions versus the Bible. Colossians 2:8, 20-23.

DAY 3 Some Doctrines

1. Baptism is by immersion except in "emergencies." Infants are either plunged entirely under water or have water poured over the entire body. See Romans 6:1-6, Acts 8:26-39, Colossians 2:12.
(a) Belief and repentance precede baptism, Mark 16:15-16, Acts 2:38.
2. Instrumental music has never been used in their worship except among some Greek Orthodox Churches in the U.S. Ephesians 5:19.
3. Unlike Catholicism, priest may marry. Apostles could marry. I Corinthians 9:5.

DAY 4 More Doctrines

1. Prayers to the faithful dead to intercede for them. See Ecclesiastes 9:1-10.
2. Marriage can be dissolved only in the case of unchastity. Remarriage is permitted only if the church permitted the divorce and one may divorce two or three times, but a fourth is forbidden. Matthew 19:1-12.

DAY 5 Questions

1. Is God to be persuaded to accept man's traditions or man to be persuaded to accept God's teaching? II Corinthians 5:11.
2. Did the Apostles receive all of the truth? John 16:13.
3. Who are Christians to obey? Acts 3:22-23; 5:29, Hebrews 6:8-9.

Series Title: Religions and Denominations
Lesson Title: Roman Catholic Church

Week 5

Memory Verse - "And call no man your father on the earth: for one is your Father, even he who is in heaven." Matthew 23:9.

DAY 1 Origin

1. Catholicism grew out of division and conflict between the Eastern and Western Churches. A power struggle had been in progress for centuries.
2. The Roman Bishop gained both civil and religious power and in 606 took the title of universal *papa* or Pope. Compare these developments with the church in the New Testament.

DAY 2 Authority

1. Tradition is to be held as the highest authority in the church, even above the Bible. The Fourth Council of Tolouse, 1229 AD ... "Forbids the laity to have in their possession any copy of the books of the Old and New Testament except at the Psalter and such portions of them as are contained in the Breviary or the hours of the Blessed Virgin; most strictly forbids these works in the vulgar tongue." (*Cyclopedia by McClintock & Strong*, Vol. 10, p. 500). See Matthew 15:3-9.
2. "If the sacred books are permitted ... in the vernacular, there will arise ... more than harm than good." Council of Trent. "The Bible is not to be read by all; the Pope forbids it; all must not read it." Catholic Dictionary, p. 82. Fortunately, this is no longer imposed, but tradition is still held in higher authority than the Bible. See Galatians 1:6-9, II John 9-11, I Timothy 3:16-17, Revelation 22:18-19, I Corinthians 4:6.

DAY 3 Foundation of the Church

1. "Peter established the church; he was the first pope and his successors were popes" - *Faith of Our Fathers*, p. 78.
2. The Fact of Jesus' being the Son of God is the foundation of the church that He built. Matthew 16:16-19, I Peter 2:4-6. Ephesians 5:23, Colossians 1:18.
3. Peter was married, Matthew 8:14, I Corinthians 9:5, would not allow others to worship him, Acts 10:25-26, Matthew 4:10.

DAY 4 The Priesthood

1. The Priest is "another Christ...who holds the place of God." There is "More certainty of doing the will of God by obedience to superiors than by obedience to Jesus Christ." *The Spouse of Christ*, pp. 92-93.
2. Discuss: Matthew 23:9-10, I Timothy 2:5, I Peter 2:5-9, Revelation 1:5-6.

DAY 5 Baptism

1. Most usually for infants, pouring of water on the head, though immersion and sprinkling are acceptable. It removes "original sin."
2. Discuss: Romans 6:1-6, Colossians 2:12, Ephesians 4:5 - Ezekiel 18:20, II Samuel 12:23-24, Matthew 18:10.

Series Title: Religions and Denominations
Lesson Title: Lutheran Church

Week 6

Memory Verse - “And in none other is there salvation: for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, wherein we must be saved.” Acts 4:12

DAY 1 Origin

1. Martin Luther, a Catholic monk, nailed a list of 95 objections to Roman Catholicism to the door of the Church at Wittenburg, Germany, October 31, 1517. This opened the door of the Reformation. The Lutheran Church is the oldest existing Protestant Denomination. Luther principally opposed “indulgences.”
2. Various trials were held but Luther refused to renounce his views. He was banned from the Catholic Church in 1521. Churches were formed that became “Lutheran” Churches though Luther opposed the use of his name this way; he insisted they call themselves Christians. So, for the first fifty years, followers of Luther called themselves Evangelicals or “Reformed Churches.” Only when they needed to distinguish themselves from the followers of Huldreich Zwingli did they take the name “Lutheran.” Discuss the origin of Lutheranism as it relates to the New Testament church.

DAY 2 Organization

1. Local congregation is overseen by a church council made up of the pastor, elders, deacons and trustees. Above this is the synod, consisting of a group of churches. The highest ruling body over a number of synods is the conference, also called a synod.
2. Note the Bible meaning of “pastor,” and local church organization in the N.T., Acts 14:23, 20:17, 28, I Peter 5:1-4, Philippians 1:1.
3. Were there any “synods” among churches in the N.T.? What about Acts 15?

DAY 3 Authority

1. Luther insisted on the Bible as authority. However, in 1529, Luther wrote his Longer and Shorter Catechisms and in 1530, Melancthon wrote the Augsburg Confession. These, with the Smalcald Articles of Faith and the Formula of Concord of 1577, The Nicene, Apostles and Athanasian Creeds, form the basis of Lutheran doctrine.
2. John 6:63, Matthew 22:29, Galatians 1:6-9, II Timothy 3:16-17, II Peter 1:20-21.

DAY 4 Faith Only

1. The major position of Luther was salvation by faith only. He said that good works are important but all blessings are obtained by faith only. There is nothing a person must do to obtain eternal life except believe. The German translation of the Bible adds the word “alone” to Romans 3:28. John 3:16, Ephesians 2:8f
2. Obedience is necessary. Hebrews 5:9, James 2:14-26.

DAY 5 Other Doctrines

1. Baptism can be by immersion, sprinkling or pouring, adults or infants. John 3:23, Matthew 3:16, Acts 8:38-39, Romans 6:4, Colossians 2:12.
2. Ten Commandments are valid though the second one is omitted. II Cor. 3:7-11..

Series Title: Religions and Denominations
Lesson Title: Presbyterian Church

Week 7

Memory Verse - “Therefore, as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin; and so death passed unto all men, for that all sinned.” Romans 5:12.

DAY 1 Origin, Authority, Organization

1. John Calvin is the foundation of the Presbyterian Church though he did not establish it. Calvinism permeates many denominations. John Knox of Scotland, a friend of Calvin's, managed to make Presbyterianism the state religion of Scotland.
2. Though, like all denominations, the Bible is claimed as the basis of authority. However, it is what Calvin said the Bible teaches that is the doctrinal basis. Congregations are grouped into a district known as a presbytery that ordains and installs ministers and reviews cases brought before them.. The highest body in the Church is the general assembly, made up of clergy and lay members which makes final decision in matters of faith and doctrine, supervising presbyteries..
3. Discuss this structure and doctrinal basis as compared with the N.T.

DAY 2 Sovereignty of God

1. Calvinism starts with the absolute sovereignty of God. However, they make this mean that God is in absolute control of every detail of existence, past, present and future. This is supposedly the *unlimited foreknowledge* of God. But, to say *God could not avoid knowing everything* only limits the power of God.
2. While it is true that God is supreme over all, He has allowed man free will to determine his own course. Genesis 6:5-8, 18:20-21, 22:11-12, Jeremiah 7:31, 19:5.
 - a. The very nature of prayer shows that God's mind can be changed. Exodus 32:10-14.

DAY 3 Doctrines of Calvin

1. Acrostic of TULIP- Total depravity, unconditional election, limited atonement, irresistible grace, perseverance of the Saints.
2. **Total Depravity:** Man is born totally depraved, completely inclined to sin, having no good thought or deed, wholly inclined to evil. Romans 5:12-14.
3. **Unconditional Election:** Predestination. John 3:16, Hebrews 5:9, Acts 10:34-35.

DAY 4 Doctrines Continued

1. **Limited Atonement:** Jesus died for only the Elect. I John 2:2, Romans 5:6.
2. **Irresistible Grace:** Direct Operation of Holy Spirit. Acts 20:32, Romans 1:16-17, 10:17, I Corinthians 1:18, James 1:18.
3. **Perseverance of the Saints:** Elect can ever be lost. Galatians 5:4, I Timothy 4:1, II Peter 2:20-22.

DAY 5 Doctrines Continued

1. Infant sprinkling. Romans 6:4, Colossians 2:12.
2. Faith alone will save. Note the contradiction of this position with Predestination. Romans 6:17-18, Hebrews 5:9.

Series Title: Religions and Denominations
Lesson Title: Episcopal Church

Week 8

Memory Verse - "But he answered and said, Every plant which my heavenly Father planted not, shall be rooted up." Matthew 15:13.

DAY 1 Origin, Authority and Organization

1. England was Catholic when Henry VIII became king. Wanting to divorce Catherine of Aragon in 1527, Henry was refused a divorce by the Pope. He managed, by intrigue and pressure, to gain the separation of the English churches from Papal domination. After the American revolution, the name was changed in America from Anglican Church to Protestant Episcopal Church.
2. The Church is highly organized, similar to Catholic. "Episcopal" is from the Greek *episkopos*, meaning Bishop. So they are "Bishop ruled." However, they are dominated by diocesan conventions a general convention and a written constitution and canons of government for the Church and the Book of Common Prayer that states the doctrinal standards of the Church..
3. Compare this with other churches you have looked at and the N.T. Church.

DAY 2 Creeds, commandments and prayer.

1. The *Apostles Creed* must be believed and followed.
2. The Ten Commandments as found in Exodus 20 must be obeyed.
II Corinthians 3:7-15, Galatians 5:4.
3. The "Lord's Prayer," Matthew 6:9ff is to be prayed today, including "thy kingdom come" because it came "imperfectly" on the day of Pentecost.

DAY 3 Baptism

1. Following the line of their origin, the Catholic Church, pouring is used as baptism though immersion would be acceptable with older people. See Week 5, Day 5.
2. Infants are born in sin, children of wrath, inherited from their parents. Baptism makes infants children of God, members of Christ and brings remission of sins. Romans 4:15, 5:12.
3. Whatever parents promise for their child at baptism, the child is obligated to believe and obey. But, each person is accountable for his own choices and deeds. No one can bind an infant to whatever they promise he will do. Matthew 15:7-9, Mark 7:6-7.

DAY 4 Sacraments

1. Two sacraments are necessary to salvation as compared to seven sacraments for the Greek Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches - Baptism and Lord's Supper.
 - a. "Sacrament" is a visible sign conferring grace or life. The term is not found in the Bible and the listing is man made. We must obey God in every thing he commands to have divine life. Romans 6:17-18, I Peter 1:14-17.

DAY 5 Death of Christ

1. Christ died to reconcile God to man, but - II Corinthians 5:18-20, Romans 5:10.

Series Title: Religions and Denominations
Lesson Title: Methodist Church

Week 9

Memory Verse - "the churches of Christ salute you." Romans 16:16

DAY 1 Origin, Organization and Authority

1. It grew out of a "holiness" movement at Oxford while John and Charles Wesley were there. It was a reaction to the cold formalism of the existing Church. Wesley attempted to keep it within the Church of England as a lay movement, eventually forming his followers into lay preachers, groups known as "societies," a circuit system of itinerant ministers, and annual conferences. The name Methodist comes from their methodical manner of life. Wesley died in 1791 before the Methodism attained separate church status in England. It was eventually known as the Methodist Episcopal Church.
2. While claiming the Bible as the basis of authority, the Methodist Discipline presents all rules and doctrines governing Methodism. The organization is intricate involving a General Conference, Bishops, etc. The General Conference elects Elders and Deacons. Galatians 1:6-9, Revelation 22:18-19.

DAY 2 Salvation

1. Salvation is by *faith only*. James 2:14-26
2. "Baptism" is by sprinkling, pouring or immersion. Romans 6:1-6.
3. Though infants are saved by baptism, baptism is not essential to salvation for adults. Mark 16:15-16 Acts 2:38, 22:16, I Peter 3:21.
4. Baptism of infants is justified on the basis of Matthew 19:14. Discuss this passage.

DAY 3 Various Doctrines

1. Like the Episcopal Church, there are two sacraments, Baptism and Lord's Supper.
 - a. In the N.T., it is called breaking bread, Acts 2:42, communion, I Corinthians 10:16, Lord's Supper, I Corinthians 11:20, the Lord's table, I Corinthians 10:21, but never "sacrament."
2. No one can be accepted for membership in the Church without six months probation. Acts 2:47..
3. The term "reverend" is to be used. Psalm 111:9.

DAY 4 Various Doctrines continued.

1. "The Church" is composed of many branches (denominations) and the Methodist Church is but one. Mathew 16:18. Only one body.
2. The Lord's Supper is observed four times a year. Matthew 26:26, Acts 20:7.

DAY 5 Various Doctrines continued

1. No member of the Church can preach without a license from the Church and women may be preachers except as traveling evangelists.. I Timothy 2:12-15.
2. The dedication of an organ (instrument of music) is prescribed: "in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit."
 - a. There is no authority for an organ to begin with and so could not be in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Actually John Wesley objected to instrumental music.

Series Title: Religions and Denominations
Lesson Title: Baptist Church

Week 10

Memory Verse - "Ye see that by works a man is justified, and not only by faith." James 2:24

DAY 1 Origin, Organization and Authority.

1. The first known Baptist Church was formed by John Smyth in 1607 in London. They were first known as brethren, disciples of Christ, Christians or believers. The name "Baptist" was first used in 1644. They are divided into numerous kinds of Baptists.
2. They are strongly congregational, though they are formed into associations as Conventions, such as the American Baptists and Southern Baptists. Many Baptist complain that the Conventions have too much power over the local congregations. In practical practice, in local Baptist churches, the Deacons have considerable control, as the "Pastor," (preacher) may be the most powerful influence.
3. Their appeal is to the Bible. There are *Confessions of Faith* that have been used that state Baptist beliefs, they are not appealed to like the Methodists do their *Discipline*. The *Philadelphia Confession of Faith* is more popular with those who are more Calvinistic and the *New Hampshire Confession* by those who are less Calvinistic. Discuss the Baptist Church in relation to the N.T.

DAY 2 Baptism

1. Today, most Baptists say their name comes from the fact that they Baptize. Years ago, they said it came from John the Baptist because the church was established by John.
2. Baptism, for adults only, is not for remission of sins but makes one a member of the Church. Mark 16:15-16, Acts 2:38, I Peter 3:21.

DAY 3 Salvation by Faith Only

1. They claim salvation is by faith alone before repentance. (Mark 1:14, Acts 20:21).
2. Their prime passage - John 3:16.
3. Note the necessity of obedience, Romans 6:17-18, James 2:14-26.
4. Salvation by Grace - "The idea of grace rules out good works, baptism, or any other man-performed act as the ground of redemption." Herschel Hobbs, *Fundamentals of Our Faith*, p. 104.

DAY 4 Once Saved, Always Saved

1. This is a holdover from Calvinism. Galatians 5:4, Hebrews 6:4-6, II Peter 2:20-22.
2. Some of their passages. John 8:50, 10:27-29, 11:25-26, I John 3:6, 9.

DAY 5 Premillennialism

1. The theory of the physical reign of Christ over a literal kingdom for a thousand years is a popular doctrine among Baptists now.
2. Fact is, the kingdom was established in the first century, Mark 9:1, Colossians 1:13, Revelation 1:9.

Series Title: Religions and Denominations
Lesson Title: Mennonites, Etc.

Week 11

**Memory Verse - "I am become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some."
I Corinthians 9:22.**

DAY 1 Origins, Organization, Authority

1. The ferment of Protestations against Catholicism produced many religious ideas. Menno Simons broke with the Catholic Church in 1536 and started the movement that bears his name. It was the heart of the Anabaptist movement. Jacob Amman led a split from the Mennonites in 1693 over some doctrinal differences and formed the Amish community. The most conservative retain the old country ways of dress, rejection of automobiles, telephones, higher education, etc., and most are farmers. Mennonites vary from this extreme to the most liberal.
2. They have Bishops, Ministers and Deacons mostly who serve without pay. There is a Mennonite Central Committee with State and District Conferences. Other than appealing to these organizations, the local congregation is self governing. They claim that the Bible is authority for their existence.

DAY 2 Various Practices

1. Women wear a white covering on top of the head. (I Corinthians 11:2-16).
2. Forbid short hair, jewelry, oppose secret societies, refuse to take oaths or serve in the military in any capacity, there is no union membership. Discuss these items from a Biblical standpoint.

DAY 3 Various Practices continued

1. The Lord's Supper is observed twice a year with footwashing connected with it and the "kiss of peace" following. The sexes are separated in this last. Discuss these from a Biblical standpoint.
2. "Baptism" is by pouring, for believers only, but is not necessary to salvation.

DAY 4 Amish

1. A group within the Mennonites named after Jacob Amman, a Swiss Mennonite Bishop. They are sometimes named the Amish Mennonite Church.
2. Withdrawal from wayward members is strictly observed and those so disciplined are shunned even though they repent. I Corinthians 5:1-13, II Corinthians 2:1-11.

DAY 5 Hutterities

1. Originated with Jacob Hutter in the sixteenth century, an Anabaptist. They are similar to the Amish
2. Insist on a communal society where there is little private ownership. They live on large farms generally removed from society, the sexes separated in dorms until marriage and then in apartments. They eat in a communal dining room, grow their own food and enough to sell as well. They are governed by a Bishop and elders. Acts 2:43-45, 4:32-36.

Memory Verse - "... speaking one to another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord." Ephesians 5:19.

DAY 1 Origin, Organization, Authority

1. Originated when brethren divided in the last century over Missionary Societies and Instrumental music. Before the advent of the American Christian Missionary Society in 1849, all were united as simply churches of Christ. Those who accepted the Missionary Society, later to become the United Christian Missionary Society, also added instrumental music in worship. These two items formed the basis of the budding Christian Church. Thus a new denomination, the Christian Church, was formed. "Christian Church" is more a designation for the local level and "Disciples of Christ" on a national level. There are some local churches still using "church of Christ."
2. The fondness for societies, conventions and organizations other than the local church drove the Christian Church to ultimately have a general representative government over the churches. Here policies are set, problems are solved, offices are appointed, etc. They also belong to national denominational organizations such as The National Council of Churches of Christ."
3. They have become very liberal in their attitude toward the Bible though there is a conservative branch that is not so liberal. The value the opinions of men most highly. Discuss these points in keeping with the N.T. Romans 1:16-17, II Timothy 3:16-17.

DAY 2 Church

1. They maintain they are Christians along with all others in the denominational world. Thus, Baptist Christians, Lutheran Christians, Presbyterian Christians, etc. Ephesians 4:1-6. They will swap pulpits with denominational preachers.
2. The name "Christian" is used only three times and refers to individuals, not churches, Acts 11:26, 26:28, I Peter 4:16. (Isaiah 62:2). The name "disciple" is also used in the N.T. only of an individual person who follows Christ.

DAY 3 Baptism

1. Though the Christian Church does insist on immersion of believers only, they practice open membership, accepting as a member one who has been sprinkled as an infant if that person is satisfied with their baptism. Romans 6:1-6, Colossians 2:12, Acts 2:47, Mark 16:15-16.

DAY 4 Cooperative Efforts.

1. From the American Christian Bible Society in 1845 to the United Christian Missionary Society in 1919, they have had a multitude of cooperative efforts. Compare this with independence of local churches in the N.T.

DAY 5 Instrumental Music

1. One of the basic practices that caused division. Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16.

Memory Verse - "But though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach unto you any gospel other than that we preached unto you, let him be anathema" Galatians 1:8.

DAY 1 Origin

1. Joseph Smith claimed an angel directed him to golden plates on which was inscribed in "reformed Egyptian" the Book of Mormon. With its publication and the formation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in 1830, the Mormon Church began.
2. Organization is similar to Roman Catholic but with different names. See the organization of the N.T. Church.

DAY 2 Doctrinal Basis

1. The *Book of Mormon* is more a propaganda piece, containing very little Mormon "doctrine." A grave contradiction exists between what was claimed for its translation and the truth. Thousands of changes were made before it arrived at the printer and four thousands changes made since then.
2. *Doctrine and Covenants* contain the real doctrinal basis of the Mormons. Thousands of changes have been made in its revelations.
3. They claim to believe the Bible only so far as it is translated correctly but do not believe it to be reliable in the original text or in translation.
4. The Bible is sufficient; we need no further revelation.. Jude 3, II Timothy 3:16-17, II Peter 1:3, Galatians 1:6-9, II John 9.
 - a. The gospel saves, Romans 1:16. The gospel builds us up, Acts 20:32. What is revealed is sufficient for belief, John 20:30-31.

DAY 3 Organization

1. Organization is similar to Roman Catholic but with different names. The President and Prophet is at the head, with his two counselors. The President is elected from the board of Apostles who control the various functions of the Church.. The overall church is divided into Stakes composed of six to twelve congregations called Wards. See the organization of the N.T. Church.

DAY 4 God and Jesus

1. God is a material being, having once been a human on a world somewhere in this universe, just as we are. As a reward for his faithfulness to the god of his world, he was given this world as his own to become the god of this world. He propagates this world with his children. We may become gods if we are faithful to Mormonism. John 4:24, Luke 24:39, Isaiah 45:18.

DAY 5 Baptism for the dead.

1. Based on I Corinthians 15:29, they claim that those living can be baptized those who have died, bringing the dead remission of sins. This is practiced in the temple and is the reason for their genealogical work.