Lesson #1

- 1. Do you know of other church deaf groups in your area? Circle: Yes No
- 2. Which ones are interpreted?
- 3. Which ones are deaf worship?

In your meeting with your mentor, tell your mentor about various religions, and tell how they are different from each other.

Lesson # 2

1. Read John 17:20-23 and Ephesians 4:4-6. What do these verses say that is Christ's plan for His body, the church?

Christ wants His church to be ONE – united in Him.

2. The visible Christian church on earth is divided. How and why did that happen?

Christian people are still sinners. We disagree about the Bible and the church. The Bible warns us not to associate with people who teach false doctrine (Eph. 4:14-16; 2 Tim. 2:15-19; 2 Tim. 4:1-4; Heb. 13:9) or with people who say they follow Christ while they practice open immorality (1 Cor. 5:1-13; 2 Tim. 3:1-9).

Lesson # 3

- 1. The church that has only true believers in Jesus Christ is *the Invisible Church*
- 2. The church that has both true Christians and false Christians is *the Visible Church*
- 3. The three Christian creeds that answer false teaching are:

The Apostles' Creed The Nicene Creed The Athanasian Creed

4. Ask your mentor to show you the translation of these three creeds that he uses in worship. Please read those three creeds carefully. <u>Which one of these creeds</u> <u>does your church use most often?</u>

- 1. In the year 1054 the church divided in the "the Great Schism."
 - (a) The church is the east was called: The Eastern Orthodox Church
 - (b) The church in the **west** was called: *The Roman Catholic Church*
- 2. What was the **political** reason for this division?
 - (1) The Pope in Roman wanted to be the head of the whole church and demanded that the Eastern church obey him. The Eastern church wanted the Patriarch of Constantinople to be the head of the church. Both leaders excommunicated (kicked out) each other.
 - (2) A cultural reason for the division: The Eastern church worshipped and read the Bible in the Greek language; the Western (Roman) church worshipped and read the Bible in the Latin language.
- 3. **Theological** division: The Eastern Church and the Western Church have different words in the Nicene Creed.
 - (a) "I believe in the Holy Spirit....who proceeds from the Father and the Son,"

Western Church

(b) "I believe in the Holy Spirit....who proceeds from the Father."

Eastern Church

4. In the year 1517 who complained against the Roman Catholic Church because the church sold forgiveness of sins for money?

Martin Luther

5. Name 4 churches that started in the Old World (Europe).

Lutheran, Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Methodist, Presbyterian, Methodist, Mennonite, Church of England, Amish, Baptist, Quaker, Congregationalist

6. Name 4 churches that started in the New World (America).

Disciples of Christ, Pentecostal, Seventh Day Adventist, Jehovah Witnesses, Mormon, Christian Scientist, Spiritualist

In your meeting with your mentor, discuss the questions on page 17 of the book.

1. How did the Lutheran Church begin?

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses against indulgences (selling forgiveness) to the church door. As Luther studied the Bible, God led him to understand that we are saved by God's grace through faith alone.

2. The word "Evangelical" means

We believe that we are saved by grace through faith alone, not by our own works.

2. The word "Evangelism" means

Tell people about Jesus.

Lesson #6

What is the difference between The Confessions and "We confess our sins?"

1. The Confessions

The Confessions are writings to confess (tell together) what we believe

2. "We confess our sins"

We tell God we did wrong and we are sorry.

3. Which sentence describes the *confessional principle*?

The Lutheran Confessions accurately explain important doctrines in the Bible and the Confessions fully agree with the Bible.

Lesson #7

1. The Lutheran Confessions all together are called:

The Book of Concord

2. The first documents in the Lutheran Confessions are the three Christian creeds:

The Apostles' Creed The Nicene Creed The Athanasian Creed 3. Next is first important Lutheran confession ("AC")

The Augsburg Confession

- 2. What is the difference between Luther's Small Catechism and Luther's Large Catechism?
 - (a) Small Catechism Short, easy to read, questions and answers, for children.
 - (b) Large Catechism Long, deeper explanation, for adults
- 3. The Small Catechism teaches six important topics.
 - (a) The Ten Commandments
 - (b) The Apostles' Creed
 - (c) The Lord's Prayer
 - (d) Baptism
 - (e) Confession (The Office of the Keys)
 - (f) The Lord's Supper (The Sacrament of the Altar)

In your meeting with your mentor, discuss the meaning of the word "Apology" the title of one of the Lutheran Confessions.

Lesson # 8

- 1. We believe in how many Gods? 1
- 2. We believe that God is how many persons? 3
- 3. Who died to save us? The Son
- 4. Who makes faith in us to trust our Savior? The Holy Spirit
- 5. The Bible says that God made people like Him ("in His image;" Genesis 1:27). What does that mean?

`He made us perfect, without sin.

- 6. Jesus Christ is BOTH True God and True Man
- 7. Jesus Christ is our Savior because...

He offered His life to forgive all of our sins.

- What does *justification* mean?
 God forgives our sins and judges us as holy (declares us righteous).
- God says that we are righteous (right with Him), why?
 Because Jesus died on the cross to forgive our sins. We receive that gift by faith.
- 3. How do people get faith in God?

The Holy Spirit gives us faith through the Word of God.

As God's children, we have power to do good things, how?
 The Holy Spirit helps us.

Lesson # 10

- 1. What does the word *means* in the "<u>Means</u> of Grace" mean? <u>Ways</u> that God brings His grace and forgives our sins.
- 2. What are the "Means of Grace?"

The Gospel (Word of God) Baptism The Lord's Supper

3. The Means of Grace give us (what?)

Forgiveness for our sins; relationship with God

4. The Church is... people who believe in Jesus Christ

Lesson # 11

- 1. Does God want (desire) people to go to hell? NO!
- 2. Some people trust Jesus; they are saved and they will go to heaven. Who is responsible for that?

God alone is responsible.

3. Some people don't trust Jesus; the are lost. If they die in their unbelief, they will go to hell. Who is responsible for that?

Those people themselves are responsible.

4. When Jesus comes again...

all people will see Him, both believers and unbelievers.

- 5. Jesus comes again... only once.
- 6. When Jesus comes again... *all people will be raised from the dead.*
- 7. In the final judgment
 - (a) what will happen to believers? They will go to heaven.
 - (b) what will happen to unbelievers? *They will go to hell and suffer eternal punishment.*
- 8. Lutheran worship emphasizes... God's work for us.

In your meeting with your mentor, discuss the questions on page 25 of the book.

Lesson # 12

- 1. What does the word *orthodox* mean? *Right teaching*
- 2. The Eastern Orthodox Church started when it split from what other church?

The Roman Catholic Church

- 3. There are two large branches of the the Eastern Orthodox church in the America. Each branch is called by the name of another nation or language. They are:
 - (a) The **Greek** Orthodox Church
 - (b) The Russian Orthodox Church

Lesson #13

- 1 The Eastern Orthodox church has two sources of doctrine:
 - (a) **Bible**
 - (b) Tradition

2. Eastern Orthodox Bibles add a section that Lutherans and most other Protestant Christians do not accept as God's Holy Word. That added section is called (what?)

The Apocrypha

3. The Eastern Orthodox Church teaches that...

we can help God and work with God to go to heaven.

4. Lutherans believe that...

God's works alone bring us to heaven.

Lesson # 14

- 1. The Orthodox Church has (how many?) <u>7</u> sacraments.
- 2. Lutherans have (how many?) <u>2</u> sacraments.
- 3. The Orthodox Church has three parts to baptism:

Baptism with water Anointing with oil (Chrismation) The Lord's Supper (Eucharist)

4. The Orthodox Church believes that they are the only true church on earth. Why?

The Orthodox Church believes that they alone have kept a true line of connection of bishops back to Jesus' 12 Disciples. They believe that without those bishops, you can't have a true Christian church.

Lesson #15

- 1. The headquarters for the Roman Catholic Church is (where?) Rome, Italy
- 2. The head of the the Roman Catholic Church is (who?) The Pope
- 3 The Roman Catholic Church has three sources of doctrine:

The Bible Decision of the church councils The Pope

1. The Roman Catholic Church teaches that...

Christ's forgiveness plus our good works pays our way to heaven.

2. The Lutheran Church teaches that...

Christ sacrifice alone pays for all of our sins and brings us to heaven.

- The Roman Catholic Church teaches that the *first* step toward salvation is (what?)
 Baptism
- 4. Both Catholics and Lutherans teach, "We are saved by grace." But...
 - (a) Lutherans teach that GRACE means what?

God's free gift of forgiveness for all of our sins that gives us full salvation.

(b) Catholics teach that GRACE means what?

God's power in us that makes us better people so we can do good works that earn our forgiveness and salvation.

Lesson # 17

CATHOLIC	DOCTRINE	LUTHERAN
	1. A Christian congregation (local church) can call and ordain it's minister.	✓
~	2. A minister of the church must receive his ordination from a bishop.	
✓	 The only true Christian church has people who believe in Jesus Christ and obey the church's bishops and Pope. 	
	 A true Christian church is any group of Christian people who believe in Jesus, teach the Bible correctly, and serve the sacraments. 	✓

Lesson #18

- 1. The Roman Catholic Church has (how many) <u>7</u> sacraments
- The Roman Catholic Church teaches that their sacraments give people what?
 Power ("grace") to do good works that earn forgiveness.
- The Roman Catholic Church teaches which sacrament removes original sin?
 Baptism
- 4. The Roman Catholic Church teaches that their sacrament of confirmation gives what?

The Holy Spirit, to help equip us for service.

- 5. The Roman Catholic Church teaches what happens in the Eucharist (the Mass; Lord's Supper)? Write a check in front of every sentence that <u>agrees with Catholic</u> <u>teaching</u>:
 - ____ The bread and wine only represent (symbolize) the body and blood of Jesus.
 - ✓ The bread and wine change to become Jesus' body and blood, and they don't stay bread and wine any more.
 - ✓ The priest (minister) offers Jesus body and blood back to God as a new sacrifice for our sins.
- 6. The Roman Catholic Church teaches that we do two different kinds of sins. Explain what these mean:
 - (a) Mortal sin = Serious sins that deserve eternal punishment in hell
 - (b) Venial sin = Small sins that deserve only small, short punishment
- 6. The Roman Catholic Church teaches what must we do what to remove guilt for sins?

be truly sorry about what we did wrong (repent of our sins) confess our sins do good works (penance) to pay for our sin

7. The Roman Catholic Church teaches that who is the only person that can officiate a wedding?

a Catholic priest

- 8. Explain the difference between the Lutheran and Catholic beliefs about **saints**.
 - (a) Lutherans teach that *saints* are who? *all true believers, both living and dead*
 - (b) Catholics teach that *saints* are who? *people who have lived an especially holy life, so they can give special blessings, even after they die.*

9. The Bible says that we must worship only God and pray only to Him through Jesus Christ. But Roman Catholics also pray to whom?

saints

In your meeting with your mentor, discuss the questions on page 35 of the book.

Lesson # 19

- 1. Reformed churches follow the teaching of who? John Calvin
- 2. Name some denominations (churches) that follow Calvinist teachings.

Reformed (Reformed Church in America, & Christian Reformed Church) **Presbyterian** (Presbyterian Church USA, Presbyterian Church in America) **Episcopal Church Congregational churches**

3. Name some of the confessions that explain Calvinist teachings.

Westminster Confession Belgic Confession Heidelberg Catechism Canons of the Council of Dort

Lesson # 20		

CALVINIST	DOCTRINE	LUTHERAN
✓	1. The Bible is the true Word of God.	✓
~	2. God is Three-in-One (the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, Holy Spirit)	✓
√	3. We are born as sinners, completely lost. We can do nothing to save ourselves.	✓
~	4. Only God's grace saves us.	~
~	5. Grace and faith are God's free gifts.	~
~	6. We can't work to earn our salvation.	✓
√	7. God chooses people for salvation; He gives them grace and faith.	✓

CALVINIST	DOCTRINE	LUTHERAN
~	8. God chooses people for punishment in hell; God does not give them grace or faith.	
	God wants ALL people to be saved; God's grace is free for everyone.	~
~	10. If a person is saved, only God is responsible for that.	✓
~	11. If a person is lost, only God is responsible for that.	
	12. If a person is lost, only that person is himself responsible for that.	~
	13. Jesus died for all people.	✓
1	14. Jesus died only for people that God already chose to save.	
	15. If you believe, God gave you that faith. But God does not force you to believe. You can reject His grace.	~
1	 You can't stop God's grace. If God chose to save you, you can't reject faith. 	
~	17. If you believe in Jesus, you can never lose your faith.	
	18. If you believe in Jesus now, you can later decide to reject Him and will will become lost again.	~

When you meet with your mentor, discuss what the Calvinist five points of TULIP mean. Also discuss which points agree with the Bible and which points disagree.

Lesson # 21		
CALVINIST	DOCTRINE	LUTHERAN
•	 God gives people faith directly through the Holy Spirit. God's Word (the Bible), Baptism, and the Lord's Supper only encourage people to grow in grace, but those means have no power to give God's grace. 	
	2. God gives people faith and forgiveness only through the Gospel, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper	~

3. Calvinists teach that Jesus' true body and blood are NOT in the Lord's Supper, why?

Calvinists teach Jesus' body limited to one place, so Jesus can't be in heaven and on earth at the same time. His body is in heaven so His body can't be in the Lord's Supper.

4. Lutherans teach that Jesus' true body and blood REALLY ARE in the Lord's Supper, why?

Jesus clearly said in the Lord's Supper: "THIS <u>IS</u> MY BODY... THIS <u>IS</u> MY BLOOD." Even in His human nature, Jesus Christ is still true God. He has no limits.

Lesson # 22

1. Calvinists teach that the Law of God does what for our justification (salvation)?

Calvinist teach that when we obey the Law, that shows that we have God's grace and that we are really saved. Calvinists teach that the Law supports and strengthens your justification, and the Law makes you a better person.

2. Congregationalist churches that settled in America first followed which church teaching?

Calvinist

3. Over time congregationalist churches became more...

loose (liberal)

When you meet with your mentor, discuss the government or structure of various Christian denominations in America and Europe.

Lesson # 23

1. Who established (started) the Church of England? King Henry VIII

Your book does not explain the <u>reason</u> this person broke away from the Roman Catholic Church. You can research that question on your own. Tell your mentor what you know about the history of the Church of England.

2. What is the name of the Church of England in the United States?

The Episcopal Church

3. Church bodies around the world that are part of the Church of England are called *The <u>Anglican</u> Communion.*

- 4. Episcopal and Anglican churches unite on four points in their confession of faith:
 - (a) The Scripture (Bible) as the rule of faith
 - (b) The Apostles' Creed and Nicene Creed
 - (c) Sacraments: Baptism & Lord's Supper
 - (d) Episcopal (hierarchical) church government
- 5. Various Episcopal churches can be "High," "Low," or "Broad." Explain what that means:
 - (a) High Church *church structure and rituals like the Roman Catholic Church*
 - (b) Low Church *beliefs, practices, and structure like Protestant churches*
 - (c) Broad Church accepting any beliefs and practices ("tolerant")
- 6. Your church is... (circle one) High. Low. Broad.

In your meeting with your mentor, discuss the questions on page 44 of the book.

Lesson # 24

- Who is the started Arminian doctrine? Jacob Arminius
 ...in what country? Holland (the Netherlands)
- 2. Calvinists, Arminians, and Lutherans disagree about several doctrines. Describe those differences:
 - (a) Human Free Will

Calvinists teach **People have no free will.** They have no power of their own to believe or reject the Gospel. The people God chooses to save, He makes faith in them.

- Arminians teach *Even lost people have free will. They have power to either believe or reject the Gospel.*
- Lutherans teach **People have no power to believe the Gospel; if they** believe, God made faith in them. But God does not force faith in people; they have power to say "No!" to God's gift.
- (c) Predestination

Calvinists teach God has already decided which people He has chosen to give faith and salvation, and which people He won't give faith and he will send them to hell.

Arminians teach God wants all people to be saved. The Gospel is effective for all people.

Lutherans teach God wants all people to be saved. The Gospel is effective for all people.

(d) Limited vs. Unlimited Atonement

Calvinists teach *Jesus died only for those people God has chosen to save.* Arminians teach *Jesus died for all people.*

Lutherans teach Jesus died for all people.

(e) Eternal Security

Calvinists teach	Truly believing Christians can't lose their faith & salvation.
Arminians teach	Christians can turn away from God's grace and lose their faith & salvation.
Lutherans teach	Christians can turn away from God's grace and lose their faith & salvation.

Lesson # 25

- Who started the Methodist Church? John Wesley
 ...in what country? England
- 2. **No** The Methodists are very strict about the doctrine their pastors teach and what the people believe.

Lesson # 26

- 1. Methodist teaching about their Means of Grace (God's Word, Baptism, the Lord's Supper, Prayer) agree with.... **Calvinists**
- 2. **Yes** Methodists believe that we can do our own good works that help us get eternal life.
- 3. **No** Methodists teach that in the Lord's Supper, Jesus gives us His true body and blood.
- 4. **Yes** John Wesley taught that Christians should become so holy that they don't do any more sins.

5. Methodist teach...

the church does not need to have bishops; having bishops is only a human custom.

Lesson # 27

1. Who started the the Salvation Army? William Booth

...in what country? England

- 2. The doctrines of the Salvation Army are similar to.... *Methodists*
- 3. **Yes** The Salvation Army teaches that Christians should become so holy that they don't do any more sins.
- 4. **No** The Salvation Army teaches that the Lord's Supper is an important part of their worship.
- 5. What are some good things that the Salvation Army does for our community?

Care for homeless people Help people addicted to drugs and alcohol Help in emergencies.

Lesson # 28

1. What is the largest perfectionist church? *Church of the Nazarene Note: This church is identified in the book, but not in the video.*

- 2. **No** Holiness church teaching about the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is similar to Lutheran teaching about baptism.
- 3. **Yes** Perfectionistic churches teach that the Holy Spirit makes Christians so holy that they don't do any more sins.
- 4. **Yes** Many perfectionist churches believe that Jesus promised that we can all be healed of sickness if we have enough faith.

- 1. What is the largest Pentecostal church in the world? Assemblies of God
- 2. What are the four teachings of the Pentecostal "full gospel"?

Christ the Savior Christ the Sanctifier Christ the Healer Christ the Coming King

- 3. The Full Gospel and Pentecostal churches teaches what? Write a check in front of every sentence that <u>agrees with Pentecostal teaching</u>:
 - ✓ (a) Speaking in tongues is the true proof you are saved.
 - ✓ (b) Some people are not healed from sickness because they do not have enough faith.
 - \checkmark (c) Jesus will come again to set up His kingdom on earth for 1000 years.
- 4. A Pentecostal friend tells you, "You must experience the baptism in the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues to be truly Spirit filled." What do you answer?

The Bible teaches that all who have saving faith in Christ have received the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:3; 1 John 4:13-17).

1 Corinthians 12 teaches that God gives different spiritual gifts to different people.

In your meeting with your mentor, discuss the questions on page 48 of the book.

Lesson # 30

- 1. Who started the Mennonite Church? *Menno Simons*
- 2. What is the name of the strict group that broke away from the Mennonites? **Amish**
- 3. Mennonites refuse to baptize (who?) *infants (babies)*
- 4. **Yes** Mennonites and Amish teach we must have faith + experience + good works for God to save us.

- 1. Amish and Mennonites teach "nonconformity." That means what? *They separate themselves from society and worldly things.*
- 2. **Yes** Mennonites do not get involved in civil government or military service.
- 3. Another name for Quakers is "Society of Friends."
- 4. Quakers teach that we must feel an experience of God's Spirit leading us. They call that experience their *"Inner Light."*
- 5. **No** An important part of Quaker life is studying and learning the Bible.
- In their worship ("meeting") time, Quakers sit quietly, waiting for what?
 the Holy Spirit

Lesson # 32

- 1. Baptists teach that the only true Baptism is done (how?) *Immersion (under water)*
- 2. Baptists do only "believer's baptism." What does that mean?

They only baptize people who say they believe in Jesus. They don't baptize babies or young children.

- 3. **No** Baptists believe that babies can believe in Jesus.
- 4. **No** Baptist teachers emphasize their church confessions (like as Lutherans do).
- 5. **No** Baptists believe that Jesus gives us His real body and blood in the Lord's Supper.
- 6. A friend tells you, "If you can't name the date when you accepted Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior, you are not really saved." What do you answer?

My salvation depends only on what Jesus Christ did for me on the cross. My salvation does not depend on the calendar. See Acts 16:29-32. The jailer asked, "What must I do to be saved?" Notice that Paul did NOT answer, "Name the date when you accepted Jesus..." He said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved..." I do and I am! My salvation depends fully on Christ's work, not mine.

- 7. A friend tells you, "If you were baptized as a baby, that was not a true baptism. You must be baptized again." What do you answer?
 - (1) The Bible teaches that baptism is God's work, not work. I don't do baptism, but Christ did baptism in me. See Romans 6.
 - (2) The Bible clearly teaches that babies are sinners who need salvation (Psalm 51:5)
 - (3) The Bible clearly teaches that babies and little children can know Christ and have saving faith. (Psalm 22:9-10; Luke 1:15 & 41; Mark 10:13-16)

The Bible teaches that saving faith does not depend on what you know (information about Christ), but rather faith is Who you know (relationship with Christ).

In Mark 10:13-16 Jesus says, "Let the children come to me, and don't hinder them. The Kingdom of Heaven belongs to them!" Then He reminds us adults that we must have faith like little children, not that children must wait to have an adult faith.

As for baptism, please read Acts 2.38-39, Romans 6, and Colossians 2.11-12 to see if this blessing can also apply to children.

In your meeting with your mentor, discuss the questions on page 52 of the book, especially question #8.

Lesson # 33

- 1. Religious liberals accept as their highest authority, what? Human Reason
- 2. The opposite of Liberal is... *Conservative*
- 3. What do liberals teach? Check the liberal doctrines:
 - <u>√ (a)</u> All religions are the same.
 - (b) The whole Bible is the true Word of God.
 - ✓ (c) God in the Old Testament and Jesus in the New Testament are different.
 - (d) God created the world in seven days.
 - (e) Evolution is true.
 - (f) Jesus was born from a virgin woman (without sex).
 - ✓ (g) Jesus was only a good wise teacher.
 - (h) Jesus rose again from the dead.
 - (i) Only people who trust Jesus will be saved.
 - (j) Hell is real.
 - \mathbf{V} (k) No one can really know what is true.

- 4. **Yes** Liberalism is growing in most Christian churches.
- 5. **No** Christian liberals often break away from their churches to start new religions.

Lesson # 34

1 Which is more important to a Unionist Church?

One visible church organization

- 2. **Yes** Unionists believe that doctrine is not important because creates walls and separates people into groups.
- Read in your Bible 1 Corinthians 1:10
 What must happen first before churches unite?

We must agree.

Lesson # 35

- Who started the Moravian Church? John (Jan) Huss
 When? 1457 Where? Bohemia and Moravia
- 2. Which is more important to the Moravian Church? *Living holy*
- 3. Which is more important to the restorationist "Christian Churches"? (Check one) *Christian character*
- 4. **Yes** "The Christian Churches" want no written creeds.
- 5. Who started the Disciples of Christ church? *Alexander Cambell*
- 6. These are called "restorationist" churches because they believe that they restored what?

New Testament Christianity

1. The Disciples of Christ church teaches what? Write a check in front of every sentence that <u>agrees with Disciples of Christ teaching</u>:

\checkmark d. None of the above

2. Which is more important to the Disciples of Christ church?

Church organization & practice

Lesson # 37

- 1. **No** The Disciples of Christ church supports the Apostles' Creed.
- 2. **Yes** The Disciples of Christ and other Churches of Christ teach that babies have no sin.
- 3. **Yes** The Disciples of Christ and other Churches of Christ teach that a person who dies without having been baptized can't go to heaven.

Lesson # 38

1. Most Community Churches identify with which Christian denomination?

None

- 2. What is the UCC church? United Church of Christ
- 3. The UCC is a merger of which denominations?

the Congregationalist Church the Christian Church the Reformed Church in the US the Evangelical Synod of North America

4. **No** These churches joined together because their doctrines agreed.

1. Write the words *confession*, *conservative*, and *liberal* on the correct lines in this sentence:

Long ago the church bodies that formed the UCC were <u>conservative</u>, but they had no common <u>confession</u> of faith, so they gradually became <u>liberal</u>.

2. The UCC teaches what? Write a check in front of every sentence that <u>agrees with</u> <u>UCC teaching</u>:

e. Believe anything you want.

Lesson # 40

- 1. What is the WCC? *The World Council Churches*
- 2. What is the NCC? The National Council Churches
- 3. What is the ACCC? The American Council of Christian Churches
- 4. Which of these organizations are conservative, and which are liberal?
 - (a) WCC Liberal
 - (b) NCC Liberal
 - (c) ACCC Conservative
- 5. How many church denominations belong to the WCC? More than 300
- 6. The WCC has three goals for cooperation:
 - (a) *Missions*
 - (b) Social and international problems
 - (c) Discussion of doctrinal disagreements
- 7. Name three large Christian denominations in America which DON'T belong to the NCC:

The Southern Baptist Church The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod The Roman Catholic Church

- 1. The word "*millennium*" means (what?) 1000 years
- 2. Explain:
 - (a) Pre-millennialism

Jesus will return, saved people will rise from the dead, then Jesus will establish a 1000-year kingdom on earth.

(b) Post-millennialism

Through the work of the Holy Spirit, Christians will establish a righteous kingdom on earth for 1000 years. Then Satan and his followers will revolt. Then Jesus will return for Judgment Day.

(c) Amillennialism*

There will be no Christian kingdom on earth (see John 18:36). Jesus will return only once. That will happen on Judgment Day. When Revelation 20:6 talks about Christ ruling "1000 years," that is a symbolic number, meaning Christ ruling His kingdom in our hearts right now.

- Lutherans see which one of these three ideas agreeing with the Bible's teaching?
 Amillennialism*
- * Both the book and the video both describe amillennialism in the last part of this lesson. However, the book does not tell us that name "amillennialism." Please discuss this topic with your mentor. Together study Bible verses that clearly describe Jesus coming again at the end of the world.

Lesson # 42

- The Adventism began when William Miller taught that Jesus would come again in (what year?) 1844
- 2. After William Miller's prediction failed, he gave up. But his followers stayed together. They found a new leader, who gave them special prophecies and revelations.

Her name was (who?) Ellen White

3. Seventh-Day Adventists worship on Saturday. Why?

The "Sabbath Day" in the Ten Commandments.

- 4. Most other Christians worship on Sunday. Why? We celebrate Jesus rising from the dead on the first day of the week (Sunday). (The Sabbath Day law is a Jewish ceremonial law.)
- 5. Adventists teach that when people die, their souls will (do what?) *sleep* until the Final Judgment Day.
- 6. What do Adventists say will happen to the souls of lost unbelievers after the Final Judgment?

Adventists teach that the life of the souls of unbelievers will end (be annihilated). They will not suffer eternally in hell.

Lesson # 43

- Dispensationalists believe that world history is divided into (how many?) 7 periods of time (dispensations).
- 2. Dispensationalists teach that right now we are living in sixth dispensation, which is period of the <u>Church</u>, and this is only time in history that God deals with people on the basis of the Gospel of <u>Grace</u>.
- 3. Dispensationalists teach that the *Millennium* will be (how many?) <u>1000</u> years.
- 4. Dispensationalists teach that Christ's millennial kingdom will be...

an earthly political kingdom.

- 5. Dispensationalists teach that Christ will come back (how many?) <u>3</u> times. (*Plus His first coming as the Baby in Bethlehem, four times total.*)
- 6. What do dispensationalists teach about "the rapture"?

Jesus will return secretly. All Christians living on earth will disappear, leaving behind all unbelievers. The bodies of Christians who have died will rise from the dead and go straight to heaven.

7. Dispensationalists quote Matthew 24:40-41 to support their teaching about the rapture. They forget to read verses that come before. Read verses 37-41. In Jesus' teaching...

the people who are "taken" are: LOST

the people who are "left" are: SAVED

In your meeting with your mentor, discuss the questions on page 64 of the book.

Explain the differences between:

Social cults

Groups that isolate themselves under a controlling leader and brainwash their group members.

Spiritual (religious) cults

Religions that use the Bible, Christian words, and even the name of Christ, but they teach a false gospel, and their "Christ" is very different than Christ in the Bible.

Lesson #45

Unitarian-Universalists teach what? Write a check in front of every sentence that agrees with Unitarian-Universalist teaching:

- 1. The Bible is the true Word of God.
- _ ✓ 2. The only authority for knowing what true is human reason and experience.
- 3. God is Three-in-One (the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, Holy Spirit)
- _____4. Jesus is both True God and True Man.
- _____5. If heaven real, all people will go there.
- ____6. Hell is a real.
- ✓ 7. Believe anything you want.

Lesson # 46

- 1. Who started the Jehovah's Witness church? *Charles Taze Russell*
- 2. The name of organization that strictly controls the Jehovah's Witness church and its doctrine is (what?) *The Watchtower Society*
- 3. Jehovah's Witnesses teach from their own translation of the Bible called

The New World Translation

- 4. Jehovah's Witnesses teach what? Write a check in front of every sentence that <u>agrees with JW teaching</u>:
 - \checkmark a. The Bible is the true Word of God.
 - ✓ b. The only authority for knowing what true is the Watchtower Society.
 - c. God is Three-in-One (the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, Holy Spirit)
 - ✓ d. Jehovah is God's only correct name and title.
 - _____e. Jesus Christ is both True God and True Man.
 - _____ f. Jehovah first made Christ as an angel named Michael.
 - _____g. Jesus died on the cross and bodily rose again on the third day.
 - _____h. The Holy Spirit is only a name that means God's power.
 - _____ i. We can be saved faith in Jesus Christ alone, not by our good works.
 - ____j. Only 144,000 people will be in heaven. All other Jehovah's Witnesses will live on a perfect earth.
 - ____ k. Hell is a real.
 - I. Believe anything you want.

Deaf Christians commonly sign the word "Bible" as "Jesus-book." Jehovah's Witnesses teach Deaf people a different sign: "B-law." This is because JWs see God's Word as a book of rules, rather than the Gospel that shows us our Savior Jesus Christ.

Lesson # 47

The information about The Worldwide Church of God printed in the book is out of date. After the founder of the church died, the church leaders read the Bible with open eyes and saw clearly the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ. Now they reject their founder's false doctrines and they are true Christians, in the Calvinist tradition.

1. What is the official name of the Mormon church?

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

- 2. Who started the Mormon church? Joseph Smith
- 3. He started the Mormon church in what state? New York
- 4. Who became the next Mormon leader? Brigham Young
- Today the headquarters for the Mormon church is in what city?
 Salt Lake City, Utah

6. The Book of Mormon claims to tell what story?

The Book of Mormon says that Jewish people came to North America during Old Testament times (600 BC) and they became the American Indians. The book has religious teaching (salvation by works), prophecies about the United States and Joseph Smith.

7. Who is Moroni?

Joseph Smith said that Moroni was an "angel" (the spirit of a dead person from the Mormon story) who appeared to Smith and led him to gold plates that had the Book of Mormon written on them.

Some information for questions #6 and #7 is in the book, page 69, the box titled "Moroni." The video lesson does not explain The Book of Mormon.

Lesson #48

- 1. Mormons teach what? Write a check in front of every sentence that <u>agrees with</u> <u>Mormon teaching</u>:
 - _____ a. The church of Christ disappeared until Joseph Smith restored it.
 - b. There is only one true God.
 - \checkmark c. Long ago God the Father was a man; later he became God.
 - ✓ d. Good Mormon people, after they die, become angels, then they will eventually become gods.
 - _____e. We are saved by faith alone in Jesus' sacrifice for our sins.
 - ✓ f. Jesus made it possible for us to become saved, if we fully obey God's Law.
 - _____ g. Besides the Bible, Mormons have other scriptures they value higher than the Bible.
- 2. Mormons often get baptized on behalf of dead friends and relatives. Why?

The get baptized for dead friends and relatives so the souls of those people can move from hell to heaven, learn the Mormon "gospel," and have an opportunity to be saved.

NOTE: This is reason the Mormon church has a strong interest in ancestry and genealogies.

Lesson # 49

Watch video # 49

Read pages 70 – 72 in Churches in America (""Christian Science")

The Christian Science religion has a confusing name. This religion is <u>not Christian</u>, and it is <u>not science</u>, as we normally use those words. Mind Science religions use the old Greek meaning for the word "science" = deep knowledge.

- 1. Who started the Christian Science church? Mary Baker Eddy
- 2. What is the name of the book she wrote?

Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures

- 3. Christian Science teaches what? Write a check in front of every sentence that <u>agrees with Christian Science teaching</u>:
 - _____a. The Bible is completely true and it has no errors.
 - b. God is Three-in-One (the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, Holy Spirit)
 - _____ c. Sickness in the world is because of sin.
 - _____d. Christ died on the cross to forgive our sins.
 - _____ e. Jesus is our teacher and example; Jesus is not our Savior.
 - \checkmark f. Sin, sickness, and death are not real.
 - _____ g. If you know the Christ Idea, you will never be sick.

- 1. **Yes** New Thought religions teach that you can control sin, sickness, and other problems by using the power of your mind.
- 2. **No** The Bible agrees with spiritualist teaching that after people die, their spirits can communicate with living people.
- 3. **No** The Bible agrees with spiritualist teaching that after people die, their souls continue to develop and become perfect.
- 4. **Yes** The Bible teaches that religions that appear to communicate with spirits of dead people are really the doctrines of demons.

The New Age Movement borrows ideas from two old Eastern religions:

Hinduism and Buddhism

Lesson # 52

1. Explain what the word *pantheism* means:

All is God. God is not a person. Everything in the world is part of the universal mind or energy called "God."

2. Explain how the Bible's teaching about God and creation (the world) is the opposite of pantheism:

God the Creator is not the same as the world He created.

God is perfect and holy. The world is broken, filled with sin, evil, sadness, and pain. God and the world are NOT the same!

3. Explain what the word *reincarnation* means:

Reincarnation teaches that after people die, they come back to life as another person or animal. This allows them to become better in each life and finally reach perfection, or suffer for the sins of previous lives.

(This is salvation by works. If we can make ourselves perfect, Christ died for nothing!)

- 4. Read Hebrews 9:27-28.
 - (a) How often do people live and die? Once only 1 time
 - (b) After people die, what is the next thing that happens to them? Face Judgment

Churches in America

Answer Key

Lesson # 53

Match

New Age teaches:

- The world is improving, gradually evolving toward perfection.
- 2. The spirits of people who have died can guide you.
- Correct politics will solve the ∧ world's problems.
- 4. We all have divine energy ~ that can make us healthy.

The Bible teaches:

- a. While we show Christian love to our neighbor
 and do what is right, our highest trust is in God, not government.
- b. The world is stuck in sin; evil will grow stronger until the Final Judgment.
- c. God is our healer, and He has given uswonderful gifts in medical science to help us.
- d. We must receive our spiritual guidance from God alone. Any other spiritual being or force is from the devil.

Lesson # 54

- 1. Why is this study important? Read the these Bible verses. Describe in a few words what they teach us:
 - (a) John 8:31-32

We must hold on to the truth of God's Word.

Jesus said: "If you abide [continue to live] in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

(b) Acts 17:10-11

We must study the Bible to see if every teaching is true.

"Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so."

(c) 2 Corinthians 11:3-4

We must be careful not to be fooled by false doctrine.

"But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not

received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it!"

(d) Galatians 1:6-8

We must be careful not to be fooled by false doctrine.

"I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed."

(e) 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22

"Test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil."

(f) 2 Timothy 4:1-5

Be bold and faithful to God's Word in all teaching.

"I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry."

(g) 1 John 4:1

We must be careful not to be fooled by false doctrine.

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

2. What have you learned in this course that you will find helpful in the future?

In your meeting with your mentor, discuss the questions on page 77 of the book.