Discussion Questions

1. In your experience with others, or based on your understanding, how do most denominations organize? What is the organization like for a mainstream denomination? What about the local parts of the denomination? How are local groups organized? Is there any connection between the organization of a local denomination and the origins of denominations?

2. According to the New Testament, how is the church organized? Where is the church of Christ headquartered (1 Cor. 3:11; Col. 1:18; Phil. 3:20)? What about the local congregations? How does God provide for oversight in a local church (Acts 14:21-23; Titus 1:5)? What are elders? What designations are used for elders in the New Testament? What are the qualifications for elders (1 Tim. 3:1-8; Tit. 1:5-11)?

3. What does it mean that the local church is autonomous?