DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What problems in the church contributed to the Protestant Reformation? Why was the church unable to suppress dissent as it had earlier?

2. What were the basic similarities and differences between the ideas of Luther and Zwingli? Between Luther and Calvin? How did the differences tend to affect the success of the Protestant movement?

3. Why did the Reformation begin in Germany? What political factors contributed to its success there as opposed to France, Spain, or Italy?

4. What was the Catholic Counter-Reformation? What reforms did the Council of Trent introduce? Was the Protestant Reformation healthy for the Catholic Church?

5. Why did Henry VIII break with Rome? Was the “new” church he established really Protestant? How did the English church change under his successors?

6. How did the Reformation affect women in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries? How did relations between men and women, family size, and child care change during this period?