

“What Denomination Are We?”

Scripture Reading : *John 17:20-26*

A. **“What denomination is your church?”** – a common question. How do you answer it?

B. I want to provoke and challenge your thinking. How should we describe ourselves?

I. What Is A Denomination?

II. What Are The Earmarks Of A Denomination?

A. A _____ or _____ statement in addition to the Bible.

B. _____ and _____ hierarchy beyond the local congregation.

C. A _____ to distinguish from other denominations.

III. What Do We Find In The Bible?

A. The “universal church” – the collection of all Christians, of all locales, of all times.

B. Local congregations – groups of Christians within a given geographical location who work and worship together under common oversight.

C. No creedal statements beside the Scriptures.

D. No organization beyond the local congregation except Jesus Himself as the head.

E. What name was given to the universal church in the New Testament?

F. What denominations do we read about?