Unpopular practices, such as the sale of indulgences, weakened the church and people began calling for reform.

Martin Luther argued that beliefs should be based on the Bible so he translated it into German for the first time.

Martin Luther began the Reformation by nailing a list of complaints, known as the *Ninety-Five Theses*, to the church door in Wittenberg, Germany.

William Tyndale translated the Bible into English because he believed that everyone should be able to read and interpret the Bible.
John Calvin believed that nothing people did during their lives would change God’s plan (predestination), but it was important to live a good life and obey God’s laws.

The Counter-Reformation used effective policies, such as the Spanish Inquisition, to stop the spread of Protestantism.

When King Henry VIII left the Catholic Church and created the Anglican Church, it opened the door for other churches to form.

The Council of Trent officially rejected the ideas of the Reformation thereby sharpening the distinctions between Catholic and Protestant beliefs and practices.
Through the work of missionaries, such as the Jesuits, the effects of the Catholic Reformation reached far beyond Europe.

Many Protestant congregations practiced self-government through town meetings, and began demanding national governments to share power (federalism).

When the *Treaty of Westphalia (1648)* ended the Thirty Years’ War, most of southern Europe was Catholic, and northern Europe was Protestant.