

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are beginning an important series of studies on Oneness in Christ. Our topic today: Creation and Fall.

1. Love—the foundation for unity

- a) Genesis 1:26-27 What does this inspired record teach us both about our Creator and His intention for our human family?
- b) 1 John 4:7, 8, 16 What is the clearest evidence of our unity with our Creator?
- c) Genesis 2:7, 21-25 How do you see love and oneness revealed in the inspired accounts of the creation of man and woman?

2. The tragic story of disobedience and its consequences

- a) Genesis 3:1-6 – the tragic story of disobedience
- b) Consequences of disobedience
 - i) Genesis 3:7 – consequence #1
 - ii) Genesis 3:8 – consequence #2
 - iii) Genesis 3:12 – consequence #3
 - iv) Genesis 3:17-19 – consequence #4
 - v) Genesis 4:8 – consequence #5
 - vi) What other negative consequences do you see as a result of rebellion against our loving Creator?

3. Ongoing disunity and separation

- a) Genesis 11:1-9 What does the construction of the Tower of Babel tell us about its builders?

- b) If our loving Creator desires us to experience oneness with Himself and with each other, why did He bring confusion at the Tower of Babel?
- c) What evidences do you see of disunity and separation today?
- d) How can we assist in the process of bringing God’s creation back together in loving unity with Him and with each other?

4. The journey towards oneness with God

- a) Hebrews 11:8-19 What lessons can we learn from the patriarch Abraham about the journey towards oneness with God? (see also Genesis 22:1-14)
- b) Think of some other Bible characters who were called to leave that which was familiar to them in order to experience a closer relationship with God.
- c) Share a time when God called you out of your comfort zone in order to draw you closer to Him.

5. Blessed to bless

- a) Genesis 12:1-3 Why did the LORD God promise such abundant blessings for Abram and his descendents? (see also Deuteronomy 7:6-11 and Galatians 3:29)
- b) What special blessings are promised to Christians and what blessing are we called to share with others? 1 Peter 2:9
- c) Share an experience where you were blessed when you told someone else what God has done for you.

