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 descendants? (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.