Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing an important series of studies on Oneness in Christ. Our topic today: Unity and Broken Relationships.

1. John Mark—healing a broken relationship
   a) Who was John Mark? Acts 12:12, Colossians 4:10
   b) After witnessing the remarkable deliverance of Peter, what was John Mark’s next adventure? Acts 12:25, 13:4-5
   c) Why did John Mark decide to leave Paul and Barnabas near the beginning of their first missionary journey and return to Jerusalem Acts 13:13 (see also Acts 13:6-12)
   d) How did John Mark’s early departure affect the apostle Paul’s attitude toward this young missionary in training? Acts 15:36-40
   e) How did Paul’s attitude toward John Mark reflect the grace of God shown to him on the Damascus Road?
   f) What evidence is there in Scripture that Paul’s attitude toward John Mark changed, and that their broken relationship was restored? Colossians 4:10-11, 2 Timothy 4:11
   g) What might have brought about the healing of this broken relationship?
   h) Share a time when an awareness of God’s grace and unfailing love led to healing of a broken relationship.

2. Onesimus—from runaway slave to spiritual son
   a) Philemon 1-7 Who was Philemon?
   b) Philemon 8-12 Who was Onesimus?
   c) Philemon 13-18 What transformation had taken place in Onesimus and what appeal did Paul make to Philemon?
   d) How did this story end? Colossians 4:9
   f) Share a time when you struggled with extending forgiveness to someone who had hurt you. How did your story end?

3. Corinth—from division to collaboration
   a) What divisions were present in the church in Corinth? 1 Corinthians 3:5-11
   b) What steps did Jesus recommend when desiring to resolve a conflict in the church? Matthew 18:15-17
   c) How does the Holy Spirit bring unity in the church in the midst of our differences of personality and ability? 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 12-27
   d) How can we learn to identify our spiritual gifts and use them, not in competition but in collaboration with others in the church?
   e) Share an experience using your spiritual gifts to build up the Body of Christ.