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: The Experience of Unity in the Early Church.

1. Preparing for Pentecost
   a) Acts 1:4-5, 8 What important instruction and promise did Jesus give to His disciples?
   b) Acts 1:12-14
      i) What is the significance of the names included here?
      ii) What are some prayers they might have prayed?

2. Experiencing the presence of the Holy Spirit
   a) Acts 2:1-4 What is the relationship between the description of the disciples in verse 1 and the events described in verses 2-4? (all together...all filled)
   b) Acts 2:5-13 Why do you think the coming of the Holy Spirit in power on the Day of Pentecost was accompanied by such dramatic signs and wonders?
   c) Acts 2:38-41 What was the response of many who heard the truth about Jesus preached in the power of the Holy Spirit?
   d) Share a time when you sensed the Holy Spirit at work in a powerful way.

3. Growing together in Christ
   a) Acts 2:42, 44-47 What important activities were part of the life of the new believers?
   b) How do these activities give visible evidence of oneness in Christ?
   c) Acts 2:43 What were some of the signs and wonders God worked through the apostles? How were these events also an evidence of oneness in Christ?
   d) Why is church unity essential in order for the Lord to add to the church those who were being saved?

4. Sharing all things in common
   a) Acts 4:32-37 Why did the early Christian believers in Jerusalem share all things in common?
   b) What lesson can we learn from the experience of early Christians for our lives today?
   c) Acts 5:1-11 What important lessons can we learn from the tragic story of Ananias and Sapphira?
   d) What can we do to avoid the traps of selfishness and covetousness?

5. Caring for the poor together
   a) Acts 11:27-30 Why is caring for the poor an important part of Christian service? (see also Galatians 2:10; Romans 15:26)
   b) How is your local church caring for those in need in your community?
   c) How can we discern between those who are genuinely in need and those who are seeking to take advantage of your generosity?
   d) Share a time when you found joy assisting someone in need.