

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: Images of Unity.

1. The People of God

- a) Deuteronomy 7:6-7
- b) 1 Peter 2:9
- c) What special responsibilities come to those who are called “His own special people”?
- d) How does this image emphasize the idea of unity?

2. The Household of God

- a) Ephesians 2:19
- b) 1 Peter 2:4-5
- c) The household of God is both a spiritual dwelling place and a family. What are your thoughts about being part of the household of God?
- d) How can churches become healthy, loving families?
- e) Share a time when you witnessed church members united and caring for each other like a healthy loving family.

3. The Temple of the Holy Spirit

- a) 1 Corinthians 3:16-17
- b) Ephesians 2:20-22
- c) Is the church the temple of the Holy Spirit, or the individual believer, or both?
- d) What changes would we make in our churches and in our own lives if we always remembered we are “a dwelling place of God in the Spirit”?

4. The Body of Christ

- a) 1 Corinthians 12:12, 14-26, 27
- b) What important lessons can we learn from the image of the church as the Body of Christ?
- c) Who is the head of the body? Ephesians 5:23, Colossians 1:18
- d) Why is it vitally important to remember Christ is the head of the body?
- e) How can we come to the place as a church where diversity is not simply tolerated but celebrated?

5. The Flock of Jesus Christ

- a) John 10:1-10 Why does Jesus chose the image of a flock of sheep to describe His followers?
- b) John 10:11-15 (see also Psalm 23) How does the Good Shepherd provide for His flock?
- c) John 10:16 What is the Good Shepherd’s desire for His flock?
- d) John 10:27 (see also John 10:4-5) How does the flock of Jesus Christ stay united?
- e) John 10:28-29 What precious promises does Jesus give to His flock?
- f) How have you seen the Good Shepherd direct your life?

6. Discussion question: Which image of the church appeals to you the most? Why?

