

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 Most Convincing Proof.

Key thought: Oneness in Christ is not only the most convincing proof we are His disciples; it is also the most convincing proof of who Jesus is—our life-transforming Savior.

1. Gathered as one

- a) John 11:51-52
- b) Ephesians 1:7-10
- c) How is Jesus able to gather together as one such a diverse group of people from every nation, kindred, tongue, and people?
- d) Why does our oneness in Christ transcend all of our differences?
- e) Share an experience where oneness in Christ helped you to overcome an obstacle to unity.

2. Transformed and called to a ministry of reconciliation

- a) 2 Corinthians 5:17-21
- b) Ephesians 2:13-16
- c) Galatians 2:20
- d) Give some examples of transformed lives in the early Christian community.

3. Practical demonstrations of oneness in Christ

- a) Ephesians 4:25-5:2

- b) Colossians 3:1-17
- c) 1 Peter 2:11-12
- d) Oneness in Christ is much more than unity of doctrine—it is unity in everyday life.
- e) Who has been the most powerful witness to you of oneness in Christ?

4. Unity in the midst of diversity

- a) Romans 14:1-6 What issues were causing contention among church members in Rome?
- b) What are some issues that cause contention among church members today?
- c) If the Bible does not provide explicit instructions about a certain activity, how should we respond to those who view that activity in a different way than we do? (see 1 Corinthians 8:4-13)
- d) In what area of life do you find it most difficult to accept those who are “different” from you? How can we overcome those barriers to oneness in Christ?

5. United in mission

- a) Acts 5:42
- b) Acts 8:1,4
- c) Does partnership in mission bring us together, or is oneness in Christ necessary before we begin our mission in Jesus’ name?
- d) Share an experience where a common commitment to mission brought a diverse group together.

