

# SISTERHOOD CONNECT GROUP

## STUDY



Connect Study 1

### Abigail – the peace maker

*'Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.'* (Psalm 34:14 NIV)

#### **Read 1 Samuel 25 – the story of Abigail.**

Abigail was a courageous woman who stood up against evil in order to make peace. Her husband Nabal was a foolish and arrogant man and because of his actions, a war was about to break out between Nabal's household and David. Yet Abigail stepped in and let herself be used by God to bring peace into the situation. In the midst of an imperfect world, Abigail had a godly influence.

- **Peacemaking is not for the faint hearted and is a brave invitation to affect lineage going forward.**

In the midst of an imperfect world, we have the daily choice between life and death, right and wrong, wisdom and foolishness, selflessness and selfishness. It is a bold and courageous decision to stand up for peace.

Why did it take courage for Abigail to bring peace into the situation? How do you think her peacemaking affected David's future (1 Samuel 25:28-31)? How did it affect her own future (1 Samuel 25:39-42)?

Read Matthew 5:9; Romans 14:19 and Hebrews 12:14. In what way can you be a part of bringing peace into your situation? (Remember that peacemaking is not the same as appeasement which is peace at any price).

- **Peacemaking is a sign of maturity.**

Peace is part of the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

Read 1 Samuel 25:9-11, 23-27. How did Nabal show his immaturity and Abigail her maturity?

Read Galatians 5:22-25. How can you keep in step with the Spirit in your life in order for the fruit of peace to grow? Share experiences of being a peacemaker in your own life.



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- **Peace is the gift this world will be lining up for in the days that are ahead.**

Read Isaiah 9:6 and Luke 19:41-44. Jesus came as the Prince of peace but many of his contemporaries did not recognise him and so chose war. We live in a world that does not know peace but we have a gospel of peace (Ephesians 6:15).

How does this affect the way we view what is going on in the world at the moment? How does it impact the way we pray? In what ways can we be peacemakers in our world?

**Study Tip:** When studying in the Old Testament always look for a connection to the New Testament: What does the New Testament say about the topic?

**Pray:** Pray for one another that with God's help you would be able to bring peace into your current situation. Pray for the nations and for the spread of the gospel.

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## CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

- Colour Conference, register online: [hillsong.com/colour](http://hillsong.com/colour)
- Easter Services

## NATION BUILDERS

At the start of the year we have the opportunity as Connect Group to set the Faith Goal for what we are believing to give towards Nation Builders. Nation Builders is the Missions Giving of Hillsong Church. Together as Connect Groups we are believing for UNUSUAL things to happen. Take the time during your next meeting to inspire your group to set a Faith Goal for 2015, and let's believe together for our Nation Builders to spark UNUSUAL miracles!

## PASTORAL CARE

We have a pastoral care team at church to walk alongside people in your group who may be going through a tough time.

Please contact the church office Sydney 02 8853 5353, Melbourne 03 9720 2099, Brisbane 07 3422 8500 or Newcastle 02 4927 1888 to let us know of anybody in your group (with their permission) who have sickness, death of a loved one, marriage challenges, surgeries.

