

# SISTERHOOD CONNECT GROUP STUDY



Connect Study 3

## **Bathsheba - Included**

*'When Bathsheba went to King Solomon [...], the king stood up to meet her, bowed down to her and sat down on his throne. He had a throne brought for the king's mother, and she sat down at his right hand.'*  
(1Kings 2:19, NIV)

We read Bathsheba's story in 2 Samuel 11. She was married to Uriah, and King David saw her when she was having a bath as part of her ritual purification. David sent for her that he might sleep with her. Bathsheba conceived a child where upon David killed her husband Uriah and took her as his wife. She did not only lose her husband, but later also her child. Bathsheba's story is full of disgrace, disempowerment, displacement, and shame. She could have well lived as a victim but it was her own decision to grow into the new identity and authority that was given to her as the king's wife. As we can see later on in her story (1 Kings 1-2), she succeeded in doing so and was thus able to take on her role as the most powerful woman in the kingdom.

**Consider the following questions in relation to your own life:**

- **Read 2 Samuel 11:1-5 and 26-27.** How much say do you think Bathsheba had in all that happened? Pray for women around the world today who feel equally powerless.
- **Read Hebrews 4:16.** How can you live in the new status God has given you rather than being defined by what has happened and the shame and guilt that came with it? What difference would it make in your life?
- **Read John 8:1-11.** People were accusing the woman for what she had done, but Jesus honoured her. What voices do you need to stop listening to (internal and external)? Discuss how you can replace those voices with what Jesus is saying about you.



- **Read 1 Kings 1:11-21 and 28-31.** Bathsheba has grown from being a woman the king could take advantage of to being a woman of authority who took responsibility. In what area of your life do you need to take on the responsibility and authority God has given you?
- **Read Matthew 1:6.** Bathsheba is one of the women named in the lineage of Christ. What does that say to you?

**Study Tip:** Especially in a story like Bathsheba's, it is oftentimes insightful to look at the verbs. David saw, sent to get, and slept: there is no interaction or emotion involved. Bathsheba came, went, and conceived: she did not have a voice to question the king. It was a very different world.

### Church Highlights

- Salvations, that people come to know Jesus
- Pastor Brian and Bobbie Houston
- Colour Conference

### Pray Together

Pray for each other that you may grow into the dignity and identity Jesus has given you!

### 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.

