



I LOVE MY CONNECT

STUDY 11

Be a People Builder

Matthew 16:18, Psalm 127:1, Psalm 92:13

There are many things we can do to help release both the church and people financially. One of those things is to have a focus on building people. Jesus said that *He* will build His church. We are wasting our time if the Lord is not involved in the process of building the house of God.

With our desire to build the church we must first and foremost be building people. It's not a case of using people to build the church but rather use the church to build people. Through building people, the church will in turn be built.

Psalm 92 tells us that those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish. It's the will of God for the people in the house of God to flourish; it's something that we should all take seriously. If we build the kind of church where people can't flourish, why would they stay planted?

We should want to see the kind of environment where people are encouraged to flourish in all areas of their life - relationships, family, business, and finances. To be healthy, flourishing, whole, healed, blessed, and prospering people with a kingdom mindset.

Let's take on a commitment to build people before we build the church - teaching, inspiring and lifting the ceilings in their lives. Sometimes that may mean we have to decide that we are going to change mindsets, spirits and mentalities and, build kingdom spirited people. The people who are going to build the church are kingdom-spirited people. Have a desire, then, to build people who will then go on to have the kind of revelation that says "I want to be part of building what is important to me, the church".

CONNECTION AND ACTION *Use these questions to promote conversation and connection.*

- Q:** How has being surrounded by a culture of generosity in church built your life?
- Q:** Sadly, most places where people work or study, and many families, are not places where people are encouraged to flourish. Why is that, do you think? Why is church different?
- Q:** The prophetic word over our church for this year is "You crown the year with your goodness". How has this been affecting your thinking, expectation and confession?
- Q:** What big or little miracles have you experienced in this "year of the Lord's favour"?
- Q:** We are coming up to our Heart for the House weekend. What have you been doing to prepare yourself spiritually and financially? What has God been saying to you as you prepare?
- Q:** What's one thing that our Heart for the House offering is going towards this year that really inspires you?

HIGHLIGHTS COMING UP

- Heart for the House – We all have a part to play! Pick up your countdown calendar from church and join with us in prayer for this powerful season.
- Hillsong Conference is on our doorstep! Please pray together that lives are impacted and the cause of Christ is empowered throughout the earth. The three ways to be involved are: Registering, register your kids or volunteer! Check out hillsongconference.com

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BIBLE AND BELIEF Use these scriptures and questions to help believers develop a Biblical worldview.

This study looks at building people up. This assumes that people have potential. to be greater than they currently are.

Read: Gen 1:26-27, 11:5-6, Jer 1:4, 1 Cor 12:4-7

Q: What do these passages tell us about people and their potential? (*Hint: They tell us that people have great potential, and that that potential is part of God's plan.*)

Read: Matt 25:14-30, 13:1-9, Phil 3:12-14

Q: What do these passages tell us about fulfilling potential? (*Hint: That fulfilling potential is not guaranteed. You could then ask "What does it take to fulfil potential?"*).

Read: Gal 5:22-26, Matt 6:33, 1 Cor 13:13, Rom 8:29, 1 Tim 3:1-13

Q: What does fulfilled human potential look like?

Q: What do people need to fulfil their potential? What scriptures can you find to support this?

Q: Think about Jesus three years with His disciples? What sort of things did Jesus do to develop the disciples' potential?

GROWING LEADERSHIP Use these questions to help people in your group grow as leaders.

Q: Discuss the difference between "using people to build the church" and "using the church to build people".

Q: As leaders, how do we avoid using people to build rather than building people?

Q: What have you done this year to build a culture of encouragement and generosity in your team, connect group, home, business or workplace?

Q: How are you leading people to experience this "year of the Lord's favour"?

Check Up

Check in with leaders in your group on how they're going with:

- Preparing themselves and their connect groups for the Heart for the House weekend.

PRAY TOGETHER

- Heart for The House Offering
- Hillsong Conference

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 or Brisbane 07 3422 8500 to let us know of anybody in your group (with their permission) who have sickness, death of a loved one, marriage challenges, surgeries.

NATION BUILDERS – Causes we are supporting through Nation Builders:

1. **Church Planting** – Supporting a new generation of dynamic leaders to plant & build churches that will serve communities, influence cities and ultimately impact nations. Including: Amsterdam, Japan, Moscow, Paris, Stockholm, Copenhagen and Hillsong Germany.

2. **Gospel Missions** – Supporting missions locally & others that are furthering the Gospel all around the world. Including: Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF), Hillsong TV and overseas workers in SE Asia.

Hillsong Amsterdam began with a dedicated couple, Richard and Debbie Vanderkolk, who were based in Hillsong London. Two years ago Hillsong Amsterdam started with a connect group of 30 people and has grown to over 300 people. Weekend services are currently being held in a nightclub which is now close to filling. This is the third venue we have grown into and we will be starting a second service in September. So far this year, we have seen 100 people make decisions and 20 get water baptised.

The team would appreciate our prayers and are thankful for the financial support provided through your Nation Builders giving which has made it possible for them to move forward in Amsterdam!

