

## STUDY 13

### What will you bring to the table?

*'He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.'* (Ephesians 4:16 (NLT))

Julia preached on taking your place at the table and bringing what it is God has gifted you to bring to benefit the Church.

- **When you don't know what you're meant to be doing, or you do know and you are not doing it, you rob the Body of Christ of being everything it can be.**
- **When we look for our place, we often look for a place where people will recognize and praise us for our work, when we should look for the place God sets for us.**
- **Often the unglamorous things are the most powerful things to bring**
- **Comparison can hinder us from taking our place at the table**
- **You can bring: you, your gifts and talents, humility, a celebration of others, a smile and a love for Jesus**

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

- Q:** Read Ephesians 4:11-16. What would the church (local and global) look like if everyone truly grasped this passage? Where do you see yourself fitting into this picture?
- Q:** Read Ephesians 5:15-17. Discuss how you can make the most of every opportunity; doing what the Lord wants you to do.
- Q:** Read Ephesians 2:10 & 4:7; Psalm 139:14 and Romans 12:3-6. How have you been gifted? Discuss how you can bring your abilities to every area of your life.
- Q:** What stops you from bringing what you have to the table? E.g. insecurity, comparison, need for praise.

**Prayer:** Pray for each other that you will be sensitive to the Holy Spirit, and that you will be enabled to bring what you can to every situation.

#### HIGHLIGHTS COMING UP

- Men's Conference is all about causing men to take a stand for righteousness & truth. Please speak with the men in your Connect Group and go to [www.mensconference.com](http://www.mensconference.com) to register them today!

More  
over the  
page

## **A letter of encouragement**

Write a card, text, email or letter to someone that encourages them about what you see them bring to the table. Be specific about the particular qualities that you see in them and how you have seen them in action in the church. Remember that it does not have to be spectacular for it to be significant.

E.g. 'I love the way that you greet the women coming to Sisterhood and make them feel valued' or 'You have a real gift when it comes to listening to people and then coming up with just the right word of advice' or 'When you pray I sense that you have a genuine and deep relationship with Jesus and it makes me want to know him better.'

Then, if you are able to, add a sentence about what you have observed them bring to another area of life e.g. their family, marriage, work, friendships etc.

### **PRAY TOGETHER**

- Ps Brian & Bobbie Houston
- Decisions for Jesus in our services
- New Small Group Leaders

### **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.

## **NATION BUILDERS – ON MISSION**

One of the best ways you can be 'On Mission' is to regularly PRAY for the Nation Builders causes we support, and regularly inspire your group to receive your Nation Builders offering. Your giving makes a massive difference in helping us 'reach and influencing the world'. We have also uploaded three new video resources to play in your Connect Group – check them out on Myhillsong

Mark & Joyce Wilkinson, Berlin, Germany

Mark and Joyce are graduates of Hillsong College and pioneered a Church in Berlin. Berlin is a city of 3.5 million people. In a typical week, only 5000 people attend evangelical churches – 99.8% of the city do not attend church and there is not one church over 500 people. At the beginning of 2013 Berlin CLC moved to a new venue, a night club in central Berlin. They started with 1 service and are about to begin their 3rd service. Last weekend there were over 400 people in their church! Please pray for Mark and Joyce, for people to continue to come to Christ and for a new venue for 2014