



# I LOVE MY CONNECT

## STUDY 6

### The Upward Call

*Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

*Philippians 3:12 -14*

Pastor Bobbie preached a message concerning our upward call in Christ Jesus. She reminded us that every single one of us has a personal call and that we also have a corporate call as a Sisterhood movement. We need to stay on the path and never lose sight of our personal and collective upward call in the middle of blessings and favour. We are blessed for a reason and that is for the benefit of humanity.

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

- Q.** Read Philippians 3:12-14 and 2 Timothy 1:9. What do you see as the call on your life? What are some of the things you need to forget in order to be able to move forward?
- Q.** Read 2 Corinthians 2:14-16. When have you felt like a part of Christ's triumphal procession? What can you do to remind yourself of the bigger picture? Share an experience of when a Christian was an exquisite fragrance to you.
- Q.** Read Isaiah 58:11; Psalm 23:2 and Psalm 92:12-14. These promises need to be read in context. Blessing results from our positioning ourselves correctly. Discuss how we can position ourselves to be blessed.
- Q.** Read Ezekiel 34: 11-12; Psalm 23:1-6 and John 21:17. What are the responsibilities of shepherds? Discuss how you can be shepherds to the people in your world. Be practical and specific.

**Pray:** Pray for one another that you will continue in the upward call of Christ.

#### HIGHLIGHTS COMING UP

- Sunday Night visits Friday Night ( Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May) – Sunday Night services are visiting Friday night. The international food festival will also be on, check [myhillsong.com](http://myhillsong.com) for service times!
- Mother's Days – We will be celebrating and honouring all the mums! Mobilise your group to bring mums to church on this special occasion.

More  
over the  
page



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## Never Forget:

Forgetting the past is important in order to move forward. But at the same time Pastor Bobbie Houston challenged us to remember our foundations in our relationship with Jesus Christ. As we remember the beginnings of our journey with God it will stir up a passion in us and we will not simply walk in green pastures but we will seek to 'green' the world around us.

Take a few minutes either to write down or share your favourite memories.

### Never forget:

- The day you were saved
- How you felt "BC" (Before Christ)
- Your moment of decision
- How you felt the morning after
- The first time you sensed His tangible presence
- Your first taste of persecution
- Your first defining moment
- Your first sense of calling on your life
- The first verses that resonated in your spirit
- The conviction of finding your planting
- What moves you with compassion

### PASTORAL CARE

- We have a pastoral care team at church to walk alongside of 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 – ON MISSION

One of the best ways you can be 'On Mission' is to regularly inspire your group to receive Nation Builders. Nation Builders is the Missions Giving of Hillsong Church. Your giving makes a massive difference in helping us achieve our mission of 'reaching and influencing the world'. The information below lets you know the Causes we are supporting this year. As a connect group, please take the time to complete your Nation Builders Faith Goal this week. It's a great way to keep your group focussed on the difference we can make together. Below are the causes for 2013-

1. **CHURCH PLANTING** – Supporting a new generation of dynamic leaders to plant and build churches that will serve communities, influence cities and ultimately impact nations. Including: Amsterdam, Japan, Germany, Moscow, Paris, Stockholm, Berlin.
2. **GOSPEL MISSIONS** – Supporting missions locally and others that are furthering the gospel to all four corners of the globe. Including Mission Aviation Fellowship, Sports Chaplaincy, Hillsong TV and supporting overseas workers in China, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Thailand and South East Asia.