



I LOVE MY CONNECT

STUDY 9

A harvest Beyond My Wildest Dreams

*'O Lord, my God,
You have performed many wonders for us,
And your plans for us
Are too numerous for us to list.
God, you have no equal.
If I tried to recite your wonderful deeds,
I would never come to the end of them.
(Psalm 40:5, NLT)*

This marks the start of a new series entitled *Harvest, Baby, Harvest*. God's desire is that we should see a harvest beyond our wildest dreams. The challenge is not to be passive but to partner with God and plant the right seeds. We need to recognize that the seeds we sowed in the past are not going to be enough for the harvest of the future. We need to keep laying down our lives.

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

- Q:** Read Psalm 40:5. What immediately springs to mind when you read this verse? Which of God's wonderful deeds have been beyond your wildest dreams?
- Q:** Read Proverbs 16:1. What has God put on your heart that you are seeing take shape differently to what you expected?
- Q:** Read Matthew 13:1-8,18-23. When it comes to sharing our faith what do we learn from this parable? What is our responsibility?
- Q:** Read Ecclesiastes 11:1-4. What do these verses teach us about how and when to sow seeds?

Prayer: Pray for each other that you will persevere in sowing to see a harvest beyond your wildest dreams

HIGHLIGHTS COMING UP

- With the release of our new live album "Glorious Ruins", be sure to keep the team, the album and its impacts across the globe in your prayers!
- Friday (Brisbane) & Sunday Night Live - During the month of August we present the Gospel in new and innovative ways! What a great opportunity to bring friends and family to Church!!

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Sowing and reaping

'Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. People reap what they sow. Those who sow to please their sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; those who sow to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.' (Galatians 6:7-10 TNIV)

'The seeds that I plant are directly related to the harvest that I receive.'
Julia A'Bell

- Take some time to share with each other the areas in which you want to see a harvest (e.g. health, godly children, good marriage, family and friends getting saved, a job or promotion, success in exams, deeper relationship with God etc)
- Write down what you need to sow in order to reap a harvest in two of those areas. Try to be specific. (E.g. Health – walk every day, cut down on coffee).
- Discuss how you can achieve this (e.g. asking God for wisdom about the exact steps to take; being accountable; setting manageable goals etc.)

PRAY TOGETHER

- Ps Brian & Bobbie Houston
- Decisions for Jesus in our Services
- Friday & Sunday Night Live Services

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 Use this section to inspire and inform people on the difference their giving can make. Together we support

1. **Church Planting.** Moscow, Paris, NYC, Stockholm, Amsterdam, Germany, Japan and Toronto.
2. **Gospel Missions.** Missions Aviation Fellowship, Sports Chaplaincy, overseas workers in China, Kazakstan, Pakistan, Thailand and South East Asia.

In previous years, we sowed seed into Churches in London, Kiev and Cape Town. Today we see incredible fruit! How exciting that we can now plant seed into new Churches like NYC and Germany. Your giving TODAY will make a difference in the nations TOMORROW.

A great way to inspire your group would be to show the clip of Ps Brian speaking at our Heart & Soul Night on MyHillsong. He encouraged every connect group to set a Faith Goal. We have provided some really practical guidelines on MyHillsong.com/MyConnectGroup/Studies&Resources to help you with this. Once you have set your Faith Goal, please enter it on MyHillsong in the *Connect Group/Details* section. Thank you!