



# I LOVE MY CONNECT

## CONNECT 3

### Guard your gift

*'The woman gave birth to a boy and named him Samson. He grew and the Lord blessed him, and the Spirit of the Lord began to stir him while he was in Mahaneh Dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.'*  
(Judges 13:24, 25)

At Colour, Beth Moore spoke about the life of Samson in relation to guarding our gift. Just as Samson was filled with the Holy Spirit, Beth reminded us that every believer is enormously gifted and empowered by the Holy Spirit. However there are dangers that come with gift and anointing. Samson was taken out because he failed to guard his gift. One of the most tragic verses in the Bible is found in Judges 16:20: *'But he did not know that the Lord had left him.'* (Judges 16:20) We need to stay sensitive to the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Take some time to consider the following questions:

- 'An unguarded anointing is an accident waiting to happen.' Beth Moore. Do you know what your gifts and strengths are? In what ways do you think you can guard your gift? In what ways can your gifts and strengths become a weakness?
- Read 1 Corinthians 12:7-11. What does this passage teach us about the gifts and anointing of the Holy Spirit?
- Conceit is a danger when it comes to gift. How can we avoid seeking to be puffed up by praise?

**Pray:** Pray for each other that you will stay filled with the Holy Spirit and guard the gifts that you have been given.

**Note to leaders:** The idea of these abbreviated studies is that we provide a springboard for conversation and prayer out of the message but then leave plenty of time for the other important aspects of connection, care, encouragement and mobilisation.

#### HIGHLIGHTS COMING UP

- EASTER WEEKEND – Who can you invite to church during this powerful weekend!! From our Good Friday services (joining in Communion) to our Resurrection Sunday services (with Jay John Sunday night), we will be celebrating the Cross = Love message of Jesus. See [myhillsong.com/easter](http://myhillsong.com/easter) for service times and everything you need to know.

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## 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 we can make a difference as a connect 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'.

Hillsong Church, Kiev & Moscow

Please take the time in your group to pray for our church in Kiev and Moscow at this time of global uncertainty. Let's pray for peace in this region and for wisdom for the governments involved. Please pray for our Pastors and our people in both Moscow and Kiev, that they will continue to focus on Jesus and that the church will go from strength to strength in these challenging times.

