



I LOVE MY CONNECT

STUDY 7

No Other Name

Acts 3, Ephesians 1:13-14, Colossians 1:18-20

Our names have limitations. There is one name above every name that is without limitations: Jesus Christ. Much is represented in names – identity, credibility, reputation, authority, heritage, legacy, family. When we live by the name of Jesus we can access all the beautiful things God has for us. To live by any other name, we will live by the limitations of that name.

Through the name of Jesus, we are sons and daughters of God, so we no longer live by the limitations of our world; we are sealed by the Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance, and are able to live expansive lives. Jesus gives us the ability to live big, wide lives, and opens up the supernatural power of God in us, in our homes, in our families, and everywhere we go.

His powerful and personal name is an exclusive name with inclusive potential. While sometimes our paths are difficult, when we call on the name of Jesus, we can trust we are saved as we pass through a narrow gate into a glorious future with God. We are empowered to live our lives in the inclusive fashion Jesus showed all people. We build our lives not on what we lack but on what we have – the name of Jesus – and see his limitless power work in our lives as we lift people up in his name.

No longer do we live small lives with small thinking and small faith. God enlarges our lives into God-given opportunities and he takes us where we could never go, leads us to do what we could never do, and causes us to see what we could never see in our own name. There is no other name by which we live. As his church, we represent his beautiful, wonderful name that sustains all things and holds the universe together. Let us ask God, in the name of Jesus to enlarge our lives, to give us access into the beautiful, glorious future he has for us with him.

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

ICEBREAKER: What nickname did you have growing up? How did you get it?

Q: Think of some prominent names in our world today. What do those names evoke? (**Leader's Note:** The person could be famous or infamous).

Q: If a person or group were to identify themselves with one of those names, what does that mean for their identity, reputation, and lifestyle?

Q: In this light, what does identifying with the name of Jesus mean for our identity, reputation, authority, heritage, legacy and family?

Q: When you think about the name of Jesus, what does that evoke for you?

Q: What does it mean to say that Jesus is an *exclusive* name with *inclusive* potential?

Q: How can we adequately represent the name of Jesus, and all it contains, to our world?

HIGHLIGHTS COMING UP

- With the release of our new live album "No Other Name", 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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BIBLE AND BELIEF Use these questions and scriptures to help believers develop a biblical worldview.

Read: Acts 3

- Q:** What stands out to you about the healing of the crippled beggar? (vv 1-10)
- Q:** Why did Peter use the phrase "in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth" (v6)?
- Q:** How did "the name of Jesus" produce healing in the crippled man?
- Q:** Quickly summarise Peter's message to the onlookers (vv 11-26). What are the key points he makes?
- Q:** What does Peter's sermon tell us about what God:
 - planned to do,
 - is now doing, and
 - is going to do through Jesus?
- Q:** What key ideas can you draw from v 16?
- Q:** What does it mean to "have faith" in the name of Jesus (v16)?
- Q:** Why do we talk about "the name of Jesus" and not just about Jesus?

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

- Q:** Share some reports of good things Jesus is doing amongst the people you lead.
- Q:** What does it mean to lead in Jesus' name rather than your own?
- Q:** Think of leaders who model an expansive faith in Jesus. What do they do that models it?
- Q:** How is an expansive faith in Jesus empowering and being modelled in your leadership?
- Q:** How can an expansive faith in Jesus shape how you lead in the workplace or in business?
- Q:** Brainstorm practical ways we can build into our teams a more expansive faith in Jesus.
- Q:** What can you do to demonstrate the personal and inclusive nature of Jesus in your team or group, in church life or outside?

PRAY TOGETHER

- Opportunities to share your story with others
- Decisions for Jesus in our Services
- Hillsong Conference Europe

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 to pray for our churches in Kiev and Moscow, especially at this uncertain time. If you follow Ps Bobbie on twitter /instagram , you will have seen amazing pictures contrasting the atmosphere of value and hope inside the Colour services with the tragic scenes on the streets: "Let's keep praying God's will into all this unrest and tension. Many of us might be removed from this geographically, but these are our brothers and sisters. Our hearts are with them, right?" Let's express the convictions of our hearts and please take the time to give a great Nation Builders offering.

