

## Pray

- ◆ Pray for the journey CenterPointe is taking to discover our Next Steps of ministry.
- ◆ Is there a verse of Scripture that has really spoke to you lately which you need to keep close and pray about? Share with your Growth Group.
- ◆ Who is sick, hurting, or needing help?
- ◆ Who are you sharing the love of Christ with?
- ◆ Who are you rejoicing with?
- ◆ How have you seen the goodness of God in your life?

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## MISSION SPOTLIGHT

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### TED & JEN BERTLESON

The body of CenterPointe has five areas of strategic focus within our worldwide mission work: church planting, orphan care, anti-slavery, urban ministries, and unreached people groups. Ted and Jen are working in 4 of these focus areas!

Ted is working on training local believers and pastors who spread the Good News of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection to several unreached people groups in Ethiopia. God has provided, and over 500 churches have formed in SW Ethiopia and Southern Sudan. Pray for travel safety and that the seed planted will continue to produce a bountiful harvest!

Jen is working alongside EWAR (Ellilta Women at Risk), a group that helps women escape from prostitution. They have been asked to submit a grant (due April 4th) that will provide a sustainable financial partnership for the next 20 years!! Pray that they will have favor with the decision makers. If approved EWAR will be able to go from helping 100 women a year to 1000, and it will have a lasting intergenerational impact.

We are thankful for the sweet spirits of Ted and Jen and for the way that God is using their gifts to transform communities in Ethiopia with the love of Jesus! We support their ministry at \$200 each month thanks to the generous offerings from the people of CenterPointe.

# MESSAGE NOTES

April 7, 2019

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Help the Hurting // Mark 2:17 & Mark 12:31 // Brian Bolton, Pastor

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**Mark 2:16-17 (NIV)** - When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

**Mark 12:31 (NIV)** - ...'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

**"Love whoever is in front of YOU, and love them well."**  
Brad Rhoads, Grace Marriage

# GROWTH GUIDE

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April 7 - April 13, 2019

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*Growth Groups are sermon-based small groups that meet primarily in homes.  
To join a group, visit [mycpointe.com/growthgroups](http://mycpointe.com/growthgroups)*

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your Growth Group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps. You can use this study guide with your Growth Group, your family, or on your own.

## Pray

Ask God to clear your mind and help you focus. Ask God to speak to you as you work thru this guide by yourself and with your Growth Group.

## Open

1. What is one idea that stood out to you from last week's message? Was there a main idea or concept which spoke to you?

## Read, Hear, & Live the Word

Read each passage listed below. As you read each passage journal or answer these questions.

1. What do we learn from Jesus or the Early Church about helping people who are hurting? How did they help those who were hurting?

\*Do a little research and try to understand some of the cultural issues taking place during that time.

2. How was the hurting person's life or even family changed when their hurts were healed?

Matthew 4:23-25

Matthew 8:1-13

Matthew 14:13-21 & 34-36

Matthew 19:13-15

Matthew 20:29-33

Acts 2:42-47

Acts 3:1-11

1. What spoke to you most from these scriptures?
2. What must you/we do in our lives to be more effective at helping the hurting in our community?
3. Finish this sentence in one short statement.  
According to Jesus and the early church, to help the hurting we must...

## Your Input Is Needed

In your Growth Group come up with one short sentence which defines "Helping the Hurting" according to Jesus & the Early Church. E-mail this short statement to Brian Bolton at [brian@mycpointe.com](mailto:brian@mycpointe.com)