

# GROWTH GUIDE

FOR YOU. YOUR FAMILY. YOUR GROUP.

## Ties that Bind

For the week of Jan. 6, 2019

Full message available at [highpoint.church/currentseries](http://highpoint.church/currentseries)

**GOAL:** Get a vision for relationships.

### GET GOING:

#### A 2019 PREVIEW--WHAT RELATIONSHIPS WILL WE EXPLORE?

It's the year of relationships at Highpoint. Together we will explore what they look like, what they're all about, and how to grow them and deepen them to the glory of God. *Which series most excites you? Why?*

**January and February:** Explore God. Meet Him. Learn about Him. Know Him. Glorify Him. Love Him.

**February and March:** We'll explore our relationship with our spouse by discovering the seven choices that keep couples together.

April: We'll return to our study in the book of Acts and explore the young church's model of relationships.

**May and June:** We'll discover more about relationships within our families, including a look at parenting. You'll learn how to identify and personalize your own family's values.

**July:** How do we make our relationships better? This month we'll explore more about how to grow better together.

August: Our focus will be on a vision for growing our church relationships.

**September and October:** How do you heal when past relationships have hurt you?—that's what we'll learn about and experience together this fall.

**November:** A large portion of our body is single—so together we'll learn what God's Word says about how to relate best to each other in all different scenarios and stages.



## **BUT BEFORE WE BEGIN:**

Pastor Ron told us about a self-inventory, a series of questions, about your life this last year and your vision for 2019. You can download it [here](#) or pick it up at your campus. Answer the “out with the old in 2018” and “in with the new in 2019.” He encourages us to answer these questions individually, as a family, or as a growth group.

## **KEEP GROWING:**

### **A GUIDING PASSAGE--ECCLESIASTES 4**

#### **Brainstorm together: What are things you shouldn't do alone?**

Ideas to get you started:

- You shouldn't drive cross-country alone.
- You shouldn't give birth alone.
- You shouldn't grieve alone.

#### **More ideas:**

- You shouldn't pray about a specific, big something alone.
- You shouldn't have a conversation alone.
- You shouldn't hike or bike through a remote area alone.
- You shouldn't watch a scary movie alone.
- You shouldn't teeter-totter alone (no fun.)
- You shouldn't hear a medical report on a serious condition alone.
- You shouldn't do life alone.

#### **Read Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12 together.**

1. Two are better than one, says Ecclesiastes 4:9. How has this been your experience? Share a funny or profound way this has been true in your life.

2. In this passage, we see that we're united in relationship for three reasons. Why are these necessary to every growing, trusting relationship? Give specific ways you've experienced these three or ways you'd like to see your group reach out to each other and the body of Christ.

- We're united in relationship to help each other.
- We're united in relationship to provide for each other.
- We're united in relationship to protect each other.

“We're called to help each other. We're called to care for one another,” Pastor Ron said, “That's so important for us to remember in a new season and new year that you have the opportunity and the ability to care for other people.”



## **BUT IT'S NOT ENOUGH...**

**3.** We can do all we can, but we can never fully meet each other's needs. We need God. A three-fold cord binds a relationship together. God is the only one to hold this knot together. He wants to hold us tight. He wants to keep us going in the right direction. What are ways to acknowledge and encourage God's place in your relationships—personally and as a small group?

**Memory Verse:** *“Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken” (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12).*

