

When Helping Hurts

Leader Overview

Welcome

When Helping Hurts is a paradigm-forming contemporary classic on the subject of poverty alleviation. It is an ideal introduction to life-changing and offers the perfect context for engagement. The video provides expert instruction and prompts for conversation, deeper learning, and taking action.

Series Overview

Week 1: Reconsidering the Meaning of Poverty

View the issue of poverty with fresh eyes and discover that there may be something deeper going on than we often assume.

Week 2: Seeing God at Work

Learn about the various kinds of poverty, and how God uses relationship to heal them all.

Week 3: Understanding Why Good Intentions Are Not Enough

Discover how well-meaning attempts at helping the poor may actually harm them—and discuss more powerful and healthy ways to engage the materially poor.

Week 4: Joining God's Work

Explore the differences between needs based development and asset based development.

Week 5: Fostering Change

Consider some ways that materially rich people can help foster change for the materially poor.

Week 6: Moving Forward

Reflect on all your group has learned and consider what role your group (and group members) have to play in the sphere of poverty alleviation.

Discipleship Insights

- This study may be challenging for some of your group members because it pushes back on many commonly held beliefs about the poor. It may help to tell your group this up front so that your members won't feel blindsided by this new information.
- Though we write our study guide materials so that they can be done without RightNow Media videos, the Life Group team strongly recommends that you do watch every video in this series. The videos are very well done, and contain expert speakers, testimonies, and presentations that will greatly enhance your group experience.
- This study is based off the book, *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself*. If you or your group members would like to dive deeper into this material, this book is a great place to start!