



Fight for Freedom

Leader Guide



Fight for Freedom

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Dear Leaders,

The Fight for Freedom is a compelling, convicting, and enlightening journey—and we encourage you to experience it with your community, however that may look. Perhaps it starts with a simple question: Who do I want to experience this with? Friends? Family? A small group? Coworkers? Or perhaps a new class at your church, designed specifically for this purpose?

Whether you've led a group before or not, starting one focused on the issue of human trafficking can feel daunting. That's why we've created this Leader's Guide—to serve as your companion as you work through *The Fight for Freedom* with your group.

What Does a Leader Do?

Your role as a leader isn't to be an expert—it's to be a facilitator. As you guide your group through each of the six Experiences, you'll be the person who:

- Reads ahead and takes notes to identify questions or discussion points that are specific to your group and community.
- Provides direction and keeps things on track.
- Reigns in discussions that veer off course or may become potentially harmful.
- Offers disclaimers that are tailored to your group's unique life experiences.
- Creates and moderates a communication platform (text thread, email chain, Facebook group, etc.) to keep everyone updated on dates, times, changes, prayer requests, and more.
- Organizes any volunteer or "take action" efforts with your church or community.

This guide isn't meant to be exhaustive—you'll need to read the book as well! Instead, it's a starting point, a summary, and a call to reflection and action. We've also left space for you to take notes on each Experience, highlighting key takeaways or noting topics that might require extra care, depending on your group members.

What's the Best Type of Group for this Experience?

There's no one-size-fits-all when it comes to the best group setting for *The Fight for Freedom*. What matters most is a shared desire to understand and take action against human trafficking. However, if you're unsure who to include, here are a few types of groups to consider:

- Bible study
- Discipleship group
- Book club
- Men's church group
- Women's church group
- Youth group
- Special interest group at church
- Human trafficking 101 class

How Should We Structure Our Group Time?

The structure of your group time will vary depending on your group's needs, so don't worry about making it "perfect" or trying to replicate someone else's approach. Instead, focus on the basics. A typical meeting for *The Fight for Freedom* lasts about 90 minutes and usually includes prayer, discussion, and learning from a field expert—whether that's in person or through resources available on the website. Here are a few tips to help you get started:

1. **Determine How Often to Meet:** Allow at least one week between each Experience. This gives group members time to read and reflect on the material. It also provides you with time to read, plan, and prepare for the next session.
2. **Choose a Day and Time:** Consider what's already working in your schedule. If your small group meets on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m., maybe you can dedicate six weeks to *The Fight for Freedom* during that time. If not, it's helpful to poll your group to decide on a day of the week, then narrow it down to a time that works for most people.
3. **Incorporate Outreach Opportunities:** Think beyond your regular meetings. Engaging in outreach activities provides real-world learning experiences for your group and reinforces the mission of *The Fight for Freedom*. When the program concludes, follow up with your group to gauge how they're processing the material and whether they feel led to take further action.

What if we want to connect with local organizations?

That's fantastic! We encourage this wholeheartedly. To help, we created our Trusted Partners page, which includes a State-by-State Guide and Global Impact list with organizations already fighting human trafficking.

Start by checking with your church to see if they already have partnerships in place. If so, connect with the church contact person. If not, you can reach out directly to an organization listed on our website. When you do, introduce your group and explain your interest in volunteering or partnering. They may require a volunteer application for each member before serving.

You don't have to schedule outreach every week—feel free to set a goal to serve after completing all six Experiences. Just keep in mind what works best for both the organization and your group's schedule.

Please note that the Trusted Partners listed on this page of the website are the only organizations that Freedom Church Alliance has vetted as partners.

Leader Tips

Before You Begin:

Pray. As you begin your own study, ask God to open your eyes to what He wants you to see as you learn about the complexities of human trafficking. Pray for each group member, too—that their hearts will be soft and their eyes open, enabling them to understand the issue rightly and learn how to love those trapped in literal bondage.

Invite. Reach out to people in your church or community who have firsthand experience with trafficking—whether as survivors, family members or friends of survivors, or those involved in anti-trafficking organizations. Look at each week’s topic and consider inviting someone whose experience or testimony aligns with the subject matter. This will help you and your group connect the concepts to real-life stories.

Connect. Consider sending an email or questionnaire to your group before you begin. You can make it as creative or in-depth as you like. This is a great way to get to know your members better and also understand if any topics might be sensitive for someone based on their personal experiences. You could also use it to collect preferred contact information.

Leader Tips

In Session Action Steps:

Register. Encourage participants to register their copy of *The Fight for Freedom* book before getting started.

- **How?** Scan the QR code inside the book. (Note: The page isn't numbered, but the QR code appears early on, right after the "Why Freedom Church Alliance?" page.)
- **Why?** By registering, you'll receive one weekly email for each of the six experiences, offering additional resources and videos.

Inform. Let your group know to review the following sections in *The Fight for Freedom* book:

- Glossary of Terms (pg. IV)
- Welcome to *The Fight for Freedom* (pg. VIII)
- Why Freedom Church Alliance?
- How to Use This Book (pg. XII)

Read. Read through the experience ahead of time and communicate the reading assignment to your group. Take notes on any warnings you'd like to address or key points you want to highlight. It may also be helpful to read any Scripture used in the experience in its full context and in your group's preferred translation.

Leader Tips

In Session Action Steps:

Watch. Encourage your group to engage in the videos by scanning the QR codes throughout the book.

- **How?** Simply hold your phone over the QR codes (in picture mode), and you'll be directed to the Freedom Church Alliance website, where you can watch the video for that Experience. Each video is clearly labeled.
- **Why?** These QR codes provide video experiences that help deepen your understanding of each topic.

If you don't have your book on hand to access the QR codes, you can find the videos by following these steps:

1. Go to www.freedomchurchalliance.org
2. Click the three lines at the top right of the homepage.
3. Select the "Resources" button under the "Take Action" section.
4. Click the "Videos" button at the bottom left corner.

Leader Tips

In Session Action Steps:

Action. Familiarize yourself with the “Ways to Take Action” opportunities and discuss these with your group.

- **How?** Visit www.freedomchurchalliance.org. In the top right menu, click “Ways to Take Action” under the “Take Action” section. Review the opportunities for prayer, learning, volunteering, and giving.
- **Why?** To learn how to engage in the fight against human trafficking and connect with anti-trafficking organizations as your knowledge and awareness grow.

To explore opportunities with anti-trafficking organizations, visit our Anti-Trafficking Partners page. It includes a list of our Trusted Partners, as well as a State-by-State Guide and National/Global Guide. (Note: Only the Trusted Partner organizations have been vetted by Freedom Church Alliance.)

To connect with our Trusted Partners, click on their logo, and a pop-up menu will direct you to their website and/or volunteer opportunities. To reach organizations in the State-by-State or National/Global Guide, simply click on their name to visit their website and find their contact information.

Leader Tips

In Session Approach:

Be sensitive. Review the terms in the Introduction of *The Fight for Freedom* book. Be mindful of the language you use, always showing respect for victims and survivors.

Moderate. As the leader, it's important to moderate the discussion. While you can't control everything group members may say, you can help steer the conversation in a healthier direction if it starts to go off-topic or veer into victim-blaming.

Discuss and Reflect. Prepare a brief summary of the topics covered in the Experience, or use the bullet points provided in this guide. Then, use the reflection questions for each Experience to guide your group in discussing that week's topic.

Pray. Always close your group meetings by praying—not only for your members but also for victims, survivors, and those fighting human trafficking—and yes, also for the buyers and traffickers.

Encourage. At the start of your first meeting and at the end of every meeting thereafter, remind group members to read the experience you'll be covering next. This helps keep everyone engaged and prepared.

Experience 1

Discuss

Topics covered:

- Human Trafficking Definition
- Overview of Sex Trafficking
- Overview of Labor Trafficking
- Recognizing Trafficking
- The Church's Role

Summary:

- It's estimated that over 40 million people are currently trapped in some form of human trafficking.
- Labor trafficking is more common than sex trafficking, although both are forms of human trafficking.
- As "ministers of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:18), the church has a responsibility to participate in God's restorative work in the world, which includes engaging in the fight against human trafficking.

Ways to act:

- Watch *Nefarious*
- Be aware of the signs of human trafficking

Reflect:

- What did you learn about human trafficking that you didn't already know? Why did this surprise you?
- How does the Bible speak to the church's role in fighting human trafficking? (Hint: Start with Isaiah 1:17.)
- How does the definition of redemption (to buy back and to restore to original intent) from Lauren's story relate to the hope survivors have? How does it highlight why the church must be engaged in the fight against human trafficking—and the hope that every believer has?

Experience 2

Discuss

Topics covered:

- Preparing to Pray
- Praying with Boldness and for Boldness
- Freedom Church Alliance: Rooted in Prayer

Summary:

- We prepare to pray by putting on the armor of God.
- Prayer is a powerful weapon in the fight against human trafficking.
- Prayer is what birthed the Freedom Church Alliance and continues to empower its work.
- One of our greatest gifts as children of God is the ability to ask Him to intervene and bring transformation.

Ways to act:

- Read *Deepening the Soul for Justice* and invite others to read it with you. (Consider reading it as a group after finishing *The Fight for Freedom*.)

Reflect:

- How does putting on the full armor of God help you not only abide in Christ but also empower you to pray bold and confident prayers?
- What aspects of spiritual warfare intimidate you the most?
- Which piece of armor is the most difficult for you to “put on”? Which one is the easiest?
- Why is it important to understand that prayer both began and sustains the Freedom Church Alliance’s fight against human trafficking? How does this understanding relate to your personal fight against human trafficking?
- In what ways have you been encouraged to engage in the fight against human trafficking through prayer during this experience?

Experience 3

Discuss

Topics covered:

- How Pornography Creates Demand for Human Trafficking
- The Profitability of Human Trafficking and its Impact on Demand
- The Pervasiveness of Human Trafficking
- How to Address Demand
- Ways to Change the Culture of Our Cities

Summary:

- We begin addressing demand by understanding the full extent of the issue—its profitability, the industries it impacts, and how, ultimately, the root of the problem lies within the human heart.
- We can join other churches in taking a stand against human trafficking by fighting demand.
- As the Church, we can monitor the condition of our own hearts, break free from sexual sin, advocate for stricter laws, teach our children empathy and respect for all people regardless of gender, and choose to break cycles of abuse within our families.

Ways to act:

- Watch Exodus Cry's documentary, *Raised on Porn*, about the effects of pornography on children.
- Review the Defender's Declaration Card and Defender's Statement. Speak them over your life as a commitment to seeking God's righteousness.
- Have coffee with a leader in your church to discuss what you've learned from this experience.

Reflect:

- What statistics impacted you most during this experience? Why?
- Name one way you and your family can fight demand based on what you've learned.
- Which action from the "Ways to Action" section will you commit to this week?
- What's one way our group could work together to create change in our city?

Experience 4

Discuss

Topics covered:

- Recognizing Trafficking Among Young People
- Helping Young People Spot Signs of Grooming in Their Peers
- Teaching Kids to Honor God with Their Bodies
- Recognizing the Reality for Kids Without Families
- Becoming a Safe Place for Kids Without Families through Volunteer Work, Child Sponsorship, Foster Care, or Supporting Foster Families

Summary:

- We must teach kids to identify who to trust, treat peers with respect, and recognize signs of grooming.
- Teens are often unconcerned with their own safety but care deeply about their friends, so we can tailor our messages accordingly.
- In conversations with kids and teens, with is key. We cannot talk at them. Open dialogue creates a safe space for sharing.
- The child welfare system does good work, but can't solve the problem alone. God's people must step up.
- The Church should care for foster kids or support those fostering.
- Even as an individual volunteer, you can make a huge difference.

Ways to act:

- Check in with your church and community to learn about the needs of vulnerable children and how you can help.
- Have a family discussion about finding our identity in Christ.
- Watch John Clark's testimony and discuss it together as a family or group.

Reflect:

- What are some ways our group can encourage kids to honor God in how they treat others and live out their identity in Christ? (For example, could your class/group partner with a kids' or teen class/group in your church once a month for a fun activity?)
- As a group, consider having couples pair up to practice these conversations with their kids.
- Discuss additional ways you can get involved in public schools—keep in mind there may already be established ministries in your area.
- How can your group help a foster family in your area? While you won't be able to fulfill every need, see where you can pitch in.
- Consider choosing a child to sponsor as an individual or as a group.

Experience 5

Discuss

Topics covered:

- Raising awareness about the issue of human trafficking through various avenues and programs
- Understanding what labor trafficking is and what we can do to fight it
- Learning what makes something fairtrade and where to buy fairtrade items
- Knowing how to serve with anti-trafficking organizations

Summary:

- No matter the picture we have of fighting human trafficking, we can take action too.
- Labor trafficking is actually more common than sex trafficking and includes things like domestic labor, farm work, and even jobs in the tourism industry.
- There are many ways to get involved—you can raise awareness, serve with anti-trafficking organizations, or shop Fairtrade.
- If you don't know where to start, start small, start local, and see where your church or other organizations you support might already be involved.

Ways to act:

- Ethical fashion brands are often transparent about their production methods. When shopping for clothing or accessories, take the time to research where and how their products are made.

Reflect:

- How can our group work with organizations to shift culture, change laws, and reach out to victims and survivors? What local organizations do we have or what organizations is our church already partnered with? How can we come alongside those?
- What are the methods our group can use to raise awareness about human trafficking? How can we do this in our church, our community, and globally?
- Look at the ways to serve. Which of these options can be done as a group? Consider starting a recurring volunteer relationship or choosing a day to volunteer with one of the local organizations or church partners.
- The next time your group gathers or throws a party, like a wedding or baby shower, try to purchase only Fairtrade items as gifts. Don't worry! An inexpensive ethical option is to purchase second-hand at places like ThredUp, Goodwill, or other local consignment stores.

Experience 6

Discuss

Topics covered:

- Joining the Abolition Movement
- Recognizing the Example and Efforts of Those Who Have Come Before Us in This Movement
- Understanding That We Don't Fight Alone in the Battle Against Modern-Day Slavery

Summary:

- By participating in any of the “Take the Next Step” activities in *The Fight for Freedom*, you are already part of the abolition movement. Keep going!
- Slavery is a deep-rooted issue in both the world and our hearts. The Church has a responsibility to help the world recognize the value of all human life and freedom.
- Many have fought boldly against the terror of slavery, but none of them fought alone. We must learn to work together if we are to end modern-day slavery.
- You don't need to be a leading voice in any field to make a difference—God can use anyone for His purposes.

Fight for Freedom

Ways to act:

- Join the *Fight for Freedom* Movement.

Reflect:

- What surprises you most about human trafficking? What inspires you most to take action?
- Name one key takeaway from these Experiences and any action steps you've taken as a result.
- Discuss the abolitionists mentioned in this Experience. Were there any you hadn't heard of before? Which one stood out to you the most? How can our group learn from their efforts and apply those lessons to our own work in fighting modern-day slavery?

Be Encouraged, Friends

“And let us consider one another in order to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.”
—Hebrews 10:24-25

Thank you for taking the initiative to invite others into this *Fight for Freedom* experience. Thank you for opening up your heart, giving your time, and widening the door for those around you to enter a space of discipleship, conversation, and activism. This cause needs every voice in the Kingdom, and you are helping us spread this message further than we'd imagined. We praise God for you!

Now that your group has ended, how do we move forward?

Take a breath. The world of human trafficking is dark and it often brings to us a feeling of heaviness, but fighting human trafficking is hard and holy work. Consider having a fun outing planned like a day at the lake, a meal out together or a backyard cookout, a group hike, or something else that fits your group.

Fight for Freedom

Take note. Consider giving each person a notecard during the last week. Tell them to write out three things on that notecard:

- One thing that really broke their heart
- One small change *The Fight for Freedom* encouraged them to make
- One way they plan to be part of the fight against human trafficking moving forward

Encourage group members to keep this card with them as a reminder of what they learned—and the people who are in bondage long after our class has ended.

Continue serving. If you do find a local organization to serve with, consider making it a regular group activity once a month. Or, start with our State-By-State Guide (can be found on website somewhere). If you know a child who needs help, reach out to them.

Keep praying. Even if the world of human trafficking disappears from your view after this season, it has not disappeared from the world at large. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide each person to figure out what their next step should be. Encourage group members to keep praying for victims, survivors, traffickers, buyers, law enforcement, and those who work in aftercare. You could also consider keeping tabs on what's going on in the world in regard to human trafficking and sending out a weekly or monthly prayer points list.

The Spirit will walk alongside us as we all take steps into the battle against human trafficking. And as your group takes next steps, encourage them to press on and offer your support. You never know how the Lord will use your community to impact His kingdom.

“And let us consider one another in order to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.”

HEBREWS 10:24-25