

NewSpring Church Groups Study Guide

Exodus — Week 2 — Freedom

HOOK

Tell the group about the first time you got behind the wheel of a car all by yourself, cranked that baby up, and cruised around town like you owned the place. What did that feel like?

INTRO

Christianity offers the best freedom of all -- the freedom to live without guilt, shame, and fear. Jesus gives us the freedom to enjoy a great life, the freedom to do God's will and fulfill every mind-blowing purpose that He has for us. Paul says in Gal. 5:1, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." With His blood, Jesus set us free. We no longer have to live in bondage to sin. Are we living like people who have been set free?

QUESTIONS

Read John 8:31-36. Jesus says that if He sets us free we will be really free. How does the truth set us free? Can you give an example of a time in your life where the truth set you free?

In what ways does sin make us its slave and prevent us from living a full, free life?

Read verse 33 again. Why did the Jews say that they had never been in slavery? How does admitting our past struggles and current spiritual condition free us? Who in your life do you trust with that information?

Read 2 Cor. 5:17 When we place our faith in Jesus we become a brand new person, forgiven and free of our past. As great as this deal is, why do some people have such a hard time believing that Jesus can forgive them completely?

PRAYER

Jesus, thank you for enduring the cross to free us from sin. Thank you for forgiving me. Because you have saved us, we don't have to live in slavery to sin, shame and guilt any more. We pray for those here that are struggling to live in the freedom you have provided. Show us how to spur one another on toward love and good deeds. We pray for those who have not yet accepted your free gift of salvation. Give us opportunities to share with others this week how you've changed our lives.