



# ENGAGE TOGETHER<sup>®</sup> CHURCH TEACHING SERIES

HOW THE CHURCH CAN ENGAGE TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Mobilizing the Church to  
End Human Trafficking &  
Protect the Vulnerable

## STUDY GUIDE

[ENGAGETOGETHER.COM/CHURCH](https://engagetogether.com/church)

**Engage Together® Church Toolkit; Engage Together® Teaching Series;  
Engage Together® Study Guide & Supplemental Materials**

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All Scripture quotations are from the King James Version.

For inquiries, or to order additional copies of this series, please contact:  
[connect@engagetgether.com](mailto:connect@engagetgether.com).

# Introduction

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## **"For with God nothing shall be impossible" Luke 1:37**

The Lord's heart for justice and freedom calls and empowers the Body of Christ to break the chains of slavery and injustice in our world today and accomplish miracles on behalf of those in need. Thank you for your passion and commitment to end human trafficking and to protect the vulnerable. You are desperately needed and uniquely positioned to engage.

The purpose of the Engage Together® Teaching Series is to mobilize your church (both as a corporate body and as individual members) to strategically combat human trafficking and to protect the vulnerable in your community by utilizing the strengths, gifts, and skills present in your church.

The three main materials of this series include:

- The Engage Together ® Church Toolkit,
- The corresponding video for each session, and
- This study guide.

The Church is called to be Christ's hands and feet in our communities and all around the world. There is much to do. Every one of us has a part to play. This series will guide you in how to make the most impact.

*If you or your group desires to go deeper to create an action plan tailored to your church's strengths and your community's needs, you can sign up for an Engage Together® Church membership, where you will have access to new and continually updated links and resources, shareable content, discussion series, videos, and much more, [engagetogether.com/church](https://engagetogether.com/church).*

# Session 1

## Human Trafficking & the Church's Call

**In this session, you will learn about the issue of human trafficking and its impact on our community today. You will also learn why the Church is uniquely positioned to be the answer to this evil trade that is exploiting millions of souls in our world today.**

### »» GOALS

- Introduce the issue of human trafficking
- Detail what makes your community vulnerable to this issue
- Define why the Church should be engaged
- Explain what role the Church can play

### »» WATCH

Watch the video: "Human Trafficking & the Church's Call"

### »» KEY VERSES

*For I was hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me...And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."*

*Matthew 25:25-36, 40 (KJV)*

*See also: James 2:15-17*

You, your church, and congregation have the gifts, talents, and skills needed to make an **impact**.

Keep these in mind as you consider how to engage.

## » REFLECT

- What did you learn that was new or surprising?
- How does this make you think differently about human trafficking?
- Do you think you have seen human trafficking before?
- What is the role of the Church, across the world and at-large?

## » CONSIDER

### In your church:

Who needs to know this information?

What programs (e.g. youth groups, children's ministries, prayer nights, homeless outreaches, single parent support networks, foster care, and adoption initiatives) already exist that can be enhanced to address the issue?

Who should you talk to or engage with on this particular issue?

### In your community:

What organizations or efforts are already engaging?

Are there other churches addressing this issue?

What relationships need to be built?

## » ACTION STEPS

- Discuss the goals that you or your group have, and how you can work with others together to achieve them.

*\*Note that you do not need to begin implementing your ideas right away. During the final session, you will compile all ideas to draft a strategic Action Plan.*

## » PREVIEW OF NEXT SESSION & PREPARATION

Become familiar with the Church Toolkit and learn about what a **community assessment** is and why it is an essential first step.

# Session 2

## Community Assessment

**In this session you will learn the importance of taking deliberate first steps in order to create your strategic Action Plan. Knowing what efforts exist in your community will help you assess how you and your church can be most effective.**

### » GOALS

- Introduce the Freedom Strategy
- Explain the importance of understanding existing efforts
- Define why collaboration is important
- Illustrate how each person, personally & professionally, has a critical role to play

### » WATCH

Watch the video: "Community Assessment"

### » KEY VERSES

*"Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established." Proverbs 16:3 (KJV)*

*See also: 1 Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 4:11-12*

### » REFLECT

- What information was new or surprising?
- How does this make you think differently about getting engaged?
- What will it take to eradicate human trafficking in your community? What sectors need to engage?

You, your church, and congregation have the connections, network, and relationships to **assess** your community. Keep these in mind as you consider how to engage.

## »» CONSIDER

What is the importance of a community assessment, and why is this a necessary first step before engaging?

What are the three types of ways you or your church can engage?

What is a church's role in conducting a community assessment?

## »» ACTION STEPS

- Discuss the goals that you or your group have, and how you can work with others together to achieve them.
- What sectors do you or your congregation members represent that can be activated? What connections do you or your church already have with community groups?
- What ministries, initiatives, and events does your church already have in place?
- Is there anyone in your community who has already done a community assessment? What resources, lists, or guides already exist?

*\*Note that you do not need to begin implementing your ideas right away. During the final session you will compile all ideas to draft a strategic Action Plan.*

## »» PREVIEW OF NEXT SESSION & PREPARATION

Review the PREVIEW video for "Prevention." Read the AFRJ® blog "What is Human Trafficking Prevention?" to learn what it is and why it's important, [bit.ly/ht-prevention](https://bit.ly/ht-prevention). Explore the action items listed in the Prevention section of the Church Toolkit.

# Session 3

## Prevention

**In this session you will learn that in order to PREVENT human trafficking, we must be aware that it exists, address the issues driving demand, and assess the vulnerabilities that place children, youth, and adults at-risk in your community.**

### »» GOALS

- Explain the importance of PREVENTION
- Define ways the Church can engage in PREVENTION through Awareness Demand, and Vulnerability
- Highlight resources your group or church can use

### »» WATCH

Watch the video: "Prevention"

### »» KEY VERSES

*"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." James 1:27 (KJV)*

*See also: Philippians 4:8*

### »» REFLECT

- What did you learn that was new or surprising?
- How does this make you think differently about prevention?
- Who in your church needs to know about prevention?

You, your church, and congregation have the gifts, talents, and skills needed to engage in **prevention**. Keep this in mind as you consider how to engage.



## »» CONSIDER

What gifts, talents, or skills are needed to engage in prevention? Do you, your church, or congregation members have these?

How can this information be helpful to your church outreaches, missions, congregation, and community engagement?

How is your church already engaging in prevention?

What are the needs of your community?

How might you or your church enhance existing efforts? \_\_\_\_\_

How might you or your church come alongside others? \_\_\_\_\_

How might you or your church fill a gap? \_\_\_\_\_

## »» ACTION STEPS

- Make a list of who to connect with to learn more about the needs of your community
- Find out if anyone is already working in the areas of prevention in your community
- Make a list of individuals in your church and community organizations/efforts to engage

*\*Note that you do not need to begin implementing your ideas right away. During the final session, you will compile all ideas to draft a strategic Action Plan.*

## »» PREVIEW OF NEXT SESSION & PREPARATION

Review the PREVIEW video for "Identification." Read the AFRJ® blog "What is Human Trafficking Identification?" to learn what it is and why it's important, [bit.ly/ht-identification](https://bit.ly/ht-identification). Explore the action items listed in the Identification section of the Church Toolkit.

# Session 4

## Identification

**In this session you will learn how to move from prevention to the IDENTIFICATION of victims and trafficking operations. You will learn about the importance of professional trainings and community outreach to vulnerable populations, and how the Church and its members have a critical role to fill in identifying those in need.**

### »» GOALS

- Explain the importance of IDENTIFICATION
- Define ways the Church can engage IDENTIFICATION through Training and Outreach
- Highlight resources your group or church can use

### »» WATCH

Watch the video: "Identification"

### »» KEY VERSES

*"Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked." Psalm 82:3-4 (KJV)*

*See also: Job 29:16; Isaiah 1:17; Ephesians 6:18*

### »» REFLECT

- What did you learn that was new or surprising?
- How does this make you think differently about identification?
- Who in your church needs to know about identification?

You, your church, and congregation have the gifts, talents, and skills needed to engage in **identification**. Keep this in mind as you consider how to engage.

## »» CONSIDER

How is your church already engaging in identification?

How can this information be helpful to your church outreaches, missions, congregation, and community engagement?

What are the needs of your community?

How might you or your church enhance existing efforts? \_\_\_\_\_

How might you or your church come alongside others? \_\_\_\_\_

How might you or your church fill a gap? \_\_\_\_\_

## »» ACTION STEPS

- Make a list of who to connect with to learn more about the needs of your community
- Find out if anyone is already working in the areas of identification in your community
- Make a list of individuals in your church and community organizations/efforts to engage

*\*Note that you do not need to begin implementing your ideas right away. During the final session, you will compile all ideas to draft a strategic Action Plan.*

## »» PREVIEW OF NEXT SESSION & PREPARATION

Review the PREVIEW session video of "Rescue." Read the AFRJ® blog "What is Human Trafficking Rescue Include?" to learn what it is and why it's important, [bit.ly/ht-rescue](https://bit.ly/ht-rescue). Explore the action items listed in the Rescue section of the Church Toolkit.

# Session 5

## Rescue

**This session explores the four areas of how a church can assist with the RESCUE of a human trafficking victim by: supporting law enforcement in their intervention efforts, offering services, coming alongside temporary shelters, and providing victim advocates.**

### »» GOALS

- Explain the importance of RESCUE
- Define ways the Church can engage with RESCUE during Intervention by providing Temporary Shelter, Services, and Victim Advocates
- Highlight resources your group or church can use

### »» WATCH

Watch the video: "Rescue"

### »» KEY VERSES

*"Is not this the fast that I have chosen? To loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?" Isaiah 58:6 (KJV)*

*See also: Jeremiah 22:3,16; Psalm 94:14; Psalm 106:10; John 1:4-5; Ephesians 6:18; Colossians 1:13*

### »» REFLECT

- What did you learn that was new or surprising?
- How does this make you think differently about rescue?
- Who in your church needs to know about rescue?

You, your church, and congregation have the gifts, talents, and skills needed to engage in **rescue**. Keep this in mind as you consider how to engage.

## »» CONSIDER

How is your church already engaging in rescue?

How can this information be helpful to your church outreaches, missions, congregation, and community engagement?

What are the needs of your community?

How might you or your church enhance existing efforts? \_\_\_\_\_

How might you or your church come alongside others? \_\_\_\_\_

How might you or your church fill a gap? \_\_\_\_\_

## »» ACTION STEPS

- Make a list of who to connect with to learn about the needs of your community
- Find out if anyone is already working in the areas of rescue in your community
- Make a list of individuals in your church and community organizations/efforts to engage

*\*Note that you do not need to begin implementing your ideas right away. During the final session, you will compile all ideas to draft a strategic Action Plan.*

## »» PREVIEW OF NEXT SESSION & PREPARATION

Review the PREVIEW session video of "Restoration." Read the AFRJ® blog "What Does Restoration Include?" to learn what it is and why it's important, [bit.ly/ht-restoration](https://bit.ly/ht-restoration). Explore the action items listed in the Restoration section of the Church Toolkit.

# Session 6

## Restoration

**This session is about understanding that RESTORATION includes the physical, emotional, spiritual, and therapeutic aftercare of a victim once he or she has been rescued, and explores the many ways that the Church can support survivors during their reintegration journey.**

### » GOALS

- Explain the importance of RESTORATION
- Define ways the Church can engage in RESTORATION through Aftercare and Reintegration
- Highlight resources your group or church can use

### » WATCH

Watch the video: "Restoration"

### » KEY VERSES

*"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be freed indeed." John 8:36 (KJV)*

*Ezekiel 34:16; Psalm 27:10; Psalm 139:14; Proverbs 3:27; John 13:34; Galatians 6:2; Ephesians 2:10; James 2:15-17; 1 John 3:16*

### » REFLECT

- What did you learn that was new or surprising?
- How does this make you think differently about restoration?
- Who in your church needs to know about restoration?

You, your church, and congregation have the gifts, talents, and skills needed to engage in **restoration**. Keep this in mind as you consider how to engage.

## »» CONSIDER

How is your church already engaging in restoration?

How can this information be helpful to your church outreaches, missions, congregation, and community engagement?

What are the needs of your community?

How might you or your church enhance existing efforts? \_\_\_\_\_

How might you or your church come alongside others? \_\_\_\_\_

How might you or your church fill a gap? \_\_\_\_\_

## »» ACTION STEPS

- Make a list of who to connect with to learn more about the needs of your community
- Find out if anyone is already working in the areas of restoration in your community
- Make a list of individuals in your church and community organizations/efforts to engage

*\*Note that you do not need to begin implementing your ideas right away. During the final session you will compile all ideas to draft a strategic Action Plan.*

## »» PREVIEW OF NEXT SESSION & PREPARATION

Review the PREVIEW video for Reforms. Read the AFRJ® blog "What are Human Trafficking Reforms?" to learn what it is and why it's important, [bit.ly/ht-reforms](https://bit.ly/ht-reforms). Explore the action items listed in the Reforms section of the Church Toolkit.

# Session 7

## Reforms

**This session is about understanding the importance of and opportunities for proactive engagement by the Church to REFORM laws, policies, and systems that impact human trafficking and vulnerable populations.**

### » GOALS

- Explain the importance of REFORMS
- Define ways the Church can engage in REFORMS by identifying and advocating for needed Legal, Policy, and System changes
- Highlight resources your group or church can use

### » WATCH

Watch the video: "Reforms"

### » KEY VERSES

*"Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face."  
Psalm 89:14 (KJV)*

*See also: Deuteronomy 10:18; Psalm 9:9; 10:17-18; 72:12-14; 82:3; 103:6; 140:12; 46:7;  
Proverbs 31:8-9; Isaiah 56:1a; Amos 5:24*

### » REFLECT

- What did you learn that was new or surprising?
- How does this make you think differently about reforms?
- Who in your church needs to know about reforms?

You, your church, and congregation have the gifts, talents, and skills needed to engage in **reforms**. Keep this in mind as you consider how to engage.



## »» CONSIDER

How is your church already engaging in reforms?

How can this information be helpful to your church outreaches, missions, congregation, and community engagement?

What are the needs of your community?

How might you or your church enhance existing efforts? \_\_\_\_\_

How might you or your church come alongside others? \_\_\_\_\_

How might you or your church fill a gap? \_\_\_\_\_

## »» ACTION STEPS

- Make a list of who to connect with to learn about the needs of your community
- Find out if anyone is already working in the areas of reforms in your community
- Make a list of individuals in your church and community organizations/efforts to engage

*\*Note that you do not need to begin implementing your ideas right away. During the final session, you will compile all ideas to draft a strategic Action Plan.*

## »» PREVIEW OF NEXT SESSION & PREPARATION

Review the PREVIEW session video for "Your Action Plan." Get all your notes together and get ready to create your action plan!

# Session 8

## Your Action Plan

**This final session will help you solidify your strategic Action Plan for your church to combat human trafficking and protect the vulnerable in your community.**

### » GOALS

- Review your notes and ideas from previous sessions
- Refine your ideas to draft your strategic Action Plan
- Discover additional resources available to you and your church through Engage Together® Online Access
- Activate your plan and make an impact

### » WATCH

Watch the video: "Your Action Plan"

### » KEY VERSES

*"Being confident in this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6 (KJV)*

*See also: Psalm 90:17; Proverbs 1:5; 4:11; 16:3; 24:14; James 4:10; Hebrews 13:20-21*

You, your church, and congregation have the gifts, talents, and skills needed to **engage**. Keep this in mind as you consider how to engage.

## »» CONSIDER

Who all in your church are you going to speak with next?

Who in your community will you connect with? Make a list.

What is needed in your community, and how might you or your church help meet those needs?

## »» CREATE YOUR PLAN

- List who you can partner with in your community to fill a gap
- Identify how your church can enhance what they are already doing or come alongside others serving in the field
- Determine what you could begin doing today to get started

- Prioritize your goals:

Immediate: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Short Term: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Long Term: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## »» FINAL THOUGHT

While we must combat human trafficking head on, we must also address those issues that lead to its existence in the first place - and this will take a great deal of time. Do not grow weary in this fight and do not be discouraged. Commit to engaging in this effort long after others turn in their attention elsewhere. And engage together with others to succeed.

This Study Guide is part of the Engage Together® Church Teaching Series, which includes a facilitator guide, online course, and much more. If your next step is for your church to go deeper in creating their Action Plan, visit [engagetgether.com/church](https://engagetgether.com/church).