

Change Agents Curriculum

Pastor/Church Leader's Guide

Change Agents Curriculum

Who is FFAST?

The Faith Alliance Against Slavery and Trafficking (FFAST) is a coalition of eight different non-governmental organizations. We exist because we believe every human being is created in the image of God with inherent dignity, value and purpose. We believe that followers of Jesus have a mandate to care for the poor, the suffering, and those who are abandoned, vulnerable, and exploited. Addressing the issue of human trafficking is central to the heart of God.

We believe there is hope. We believe there is no better agency of change, hope and restoration of God's people than the church. However, we need the entire body of Christ working together to eradicate human trafficking. That's where you come in.

Human Trafficking in the United States

No one really knows how many slaves there are in the world, though estimates vary from 21 to 29 million¹. Whatever the number, modern-day slavery is tragic. But what parents and all Christians might not realize is that slavery is happening in our own backyards.

Young people are being lured into sex and labor trafficking right here in the United States. The average age for recruitment into prostitution and pornography in the United States is 12-14 years old², and every year in our country at least 100,000 children are at risk for commercial sexual exploitation³. The church is already in the fight against human trafficking by strengthening the support of parents and families, and encouraging children's connection with Christ, but we want to challenge you to do more.

Change Agents Curriculum

In order for us to change the painfully true statistics, we need to be teaching our students in healthy ways about human trafficking, and empowering them to recognize and help prevent this egregious crime. This curriculum was created by pastors and children's ministry leaders, and is specifically designed with an understanding of children's cognitive abilities and their faith development. Each of the lessons has been carefully edited and prayed over. Our goal is for children to avoid trauma, not expose them to it.

Our 7-week curriculum, aimed at 8-13 year-olds, is perfect for your church or faith-based community. The lessons are available on our website for just \$25. Educate children and their families on this modern-day slavery pandemic and equip them to end human trafficking.

In the curriculum, you will find Bible-based teaching, taking you through God's heart for justice, the basics of human trafficking, showing you how simple purchases saves lives, online safety, how to make safe friends, caring for those who are vulnerable, and what children can do to help stop human trafficking.

Each lesson includes intro activities, a Bible story, application activities and a family take-home resource. Check out the "How to Use this Curriculum" document for specific instructions on format, Bible stories, and other resources.

¹ Forced labour, human trafficking and slavery. (n.d.). Forced labour, human trafficking and slavery. Retrieved June 12, 2014, from <http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-labour/lang-en/index.htm>; Trafficking In Persons Report . (2013, June 1). Retrieved June 12, 2014, from <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/210737.pdf>; Get The Report - Walk Free Foundation - Global Slavery Index 2013. (2013, January 1). Walk Free Foundation Global Slavery Index 2013. Retrieved June 12, 2014, from <http://www.globalslaveryindex.org/report/?download>

² Chicago Dream Center. (n.d.). Human Trafficking. Retrieved June 13, 2014, from <http://www.chicagodreamcenter.org/ministries/human-trafficking/>

³ Child Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation in the United States. (2014, February 1). Thorn. Retrieved June 13, 2014, from <http://www.wearthorn.org/child-trafficking-exploitation-in-the-united-states/>

FAAST is committed to equipping your church with knowledge and would love to walk you through the implementation of this curriculum. If you need assistance during this process or have human trafficking-related questions, please do not hesitate to call 1-800-33-FAAST (32278) or email faast@faastinternational.org.

If a child reports abuse, know your laws! Each state is different and has different mandatory reporters. Know your state's rules and your local CPS (Child Protective Services) number. When someone reports, YOU need to know what to do. Make a plan. Call 1-800-4-A-Child or 1-800-422-4453. For more information, check out the following websites:

<http://www.childhelp.org/page/-/pdfs/CPS-Phone-Numbers.pdf>

<https://www.cpg.org/linkservid/3F743B4C-06F1-5DFF-86FFB64C8B79DE07/showMeta/0/>

<http://texasbaptists.org/blog/child-safety-policy-manual>