

FIND

FREEDOM

CONNECT GROUP SERIES

EVERY NATION FAITH CITY





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LEADING YOUR GROUP.

Dear Connect Group Leader,

We celebrate you for faithfully leading a Connect Group. We trust that as we journey together people will Get to Know God better, Find Freedom from everything hindering in our spiritual walk, Discover the Purpose God has made us for to live empowered lives where we Make a Difference in our world.

In this Connect Group series we aim to help people walk in freedom every day. We will discover the basis of living in the freedom Jesus paid for on the cross and address specific areas where the enemy tries to entrap and hinder us. This series is beneficial to people regardless of whether or not they have completed Victory Weekend, but we will simultaneously use it as a buildup to our very first online Victory Weekend! Please encourage your group members to sign up for Victory Weekend if they have not done it before. Ask a ministry team member for the link to sign up if you don't have it. The series is accompanied by a series of short weekly devotional videos on each week's topic. You can share these videos with your group sometime during the week as extra food for thought.

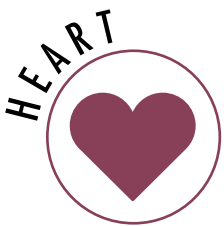
In this series, every week's connect group handout is very short to ensure that the word is front and centre. Use it as a basis to discuss the implications of the scripture and how those principles can be applied in our daily lives. You only need to share the connect group handouts with your group. The following section in this document includes a framework that you can use as reference.

The group handout includes a list of scriptures and a declaration based on scripture. Have a group member read a scripture and then ask the group to apply **HEAD - HEART - HANDS** to the scripture:



HEAD : What did you learn?

What information did you receive from this scripture? This is to gain understanding of the word. You can examine the context of the scripture verse and other similar passages of the scripture.



HEART : What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?

What is Holy Spirit revealing to you from this scripture? Information from the word needs to move from our heads to our hearts. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you personally and how does it make you feel?



HAND : What can you do with this info and revelation shared by the Holy Spirit?

We are not to be hearers of the word only, but doers: how can you personally respond to the word and apply it in your life? We commonly find 3 kinds of scripture: a promise to be claimed, a principle to apply, or a truth that we need to embrace.

The first session is foundational for the series. Make sure to refer back to it and apply the principles learnt in it in the subsequent sessions. We would like to encourage you to listen to the explanation sermon on the Two Trees found on the following link as background and preparation:

<https://bit.ly/FindFreedomTwoTrees>

Adapt the group meeting to your group setting and circumstances taking in consideration time limit, meeting format (in person or through communication technology) and spiritual maturity but make sure that the word is front and centre.

Remember that our pastoral team is available to support you. You are welcome to contact them for guidance.

FRAMEWORK WEEKLY CONNECT.

These are the usual elements of a connect group:

WELCOME

Spend some time to make people feel comfortable in the group. You can make use of informal discussion or questions that do not have wrong answers, like personal experience stories related to the topic. You can put more emphasis on this area if your group has new members and less if your group is already comfortable with each other.

WORD & DISCUSSION

The main aim of the group is making disciples who live in close relationship with God and apply the words of Jesus on a daily basis. Make sure to spend time studying the word and discussing how each member can respond to it in their lives.

PRAYER AND GROUP MINISTRY

Allow time for people to speak to God, and minister to one another through prayer and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. This is a powerful element of a group meeting so try not to rush through it.

WORSHIP

It is always great to include an element of worship in the meeting. This can be in the form of thanksgiving, testimonies, singing together or listening to a song. You can also easily combine worship with some of the other elements like welcome or prayer & ministry time.

SESSION 1

THE TWO

TREES.

In this series, are are trusting that God will help you live in freedom in 10 specific areas. Each week we will discuss one or two of these areas. This session is the foundation session for this series. We will discover how to live in freedom God's way, where it is not dependent on our own strength and merit.

READ GENESIS 2:9

And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The second story in the Bible describes two trees from the Garden of Eden: the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil and the Tree of Life. It is the second story because everything in our Christian lives is filtered through the idea of the two trees. God gave Adam and Eve **the choice between the two trees**. We have the choice to filter our lives through one tree or the other. The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil says, "You must do more to get to God." It keeps us stuck trying to get God's approval. The Tree of Life says, "Receive the fact that Jesus already loves you." Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil thinking causes us to obey out of duty rather than obeying out of delight as we do in Tree of Life thinking.

God's desire for us was never the life of pursuing dead religion. His heart for us is that we would know Him personally through the Tree of Life and ultimately know our true identity as children of the King, so we can experience the love and strength of biblical community.

DISCUSS:

- Did you realize that there were two trees in the Garden when we started our group?
- What is the struggle like for you in religion versus relationship?

READ JOHN 1:12-13

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

DISCUSS:

- What is the requirement to be a child of God?
- What things are required of a child of God in order to be in relationship with God the Father?

From the following scriptures, what kind of responses should we have to God and what can you do to apply these verses in your life?

1 JOHN 4:19

We love, because He first loved us.

JOHN 14:15

If you love me, you will obey what I command.

PROVERBS 4:23

Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.

COLOSSIANS 3:23

Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.

SESSION 2.1

LORDSHIP



What did you learn?



What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?



What can you do with this info and revelation shared by the Holy Spirit?

SCRIPTURE

1 John 3:16
 Galatians 2:20
 Ephesians 2:8-9
 Colossians 2:13-15
 Deuteronomy 4:24
 2 Timothy 2:21
 Luke 22:42
 James 4:10
 1 Peter 5:5-7
 2 Corinthians 12:9
 1 Peter 5:6
 Philippians 2:5-7
 Matthew 20:28

DECLARATION

I declare and proclaim
 this is MY DAY to lay down my life.

It's no longer I that live,
 but Christ lives in me.

I have done nothing –
 absolutely nothing –
 to earn my salvation.

Jesus, you paid the price
 for me to live and be free.

God, burn away my pride
 and consume my sin.

You are my Master.

Not my will,

but yours be done!

God resists the proud,
 so I resist pride.

I embrace humility
 and put it on like a garment.

I choose to GO LOW.

God's power
 is made perfect in my weakness.

I boast in my weakness,
 and God's power rests on me!

I humble myself
 under God's mighty hand.
 He will exalt me whenever
 and however He chooses.

I empty myself now.

I am a slave to God
 and a servant to people.
 Father, in the name of Jesus,
 take my life!

Amen!

SESSION 2.2

MAMMON



What did
you learn?



What is the
Holy Spirit
saying to you?



What can you do
with this info and
revelation shared
by the Holy Spirit?

SCRIPTURE

John 14:30
Matthew 6:24
Luke 4:5-8
Luke 12:22-33
1 Chronicles 29:11
Philippians 4:9
Deuteronomy 8:17-18
1 Timothy 6:17
Deuteronomy 28:1-14
Luke 12:15
Philippians 2:3
James 3:16
1 Timothy 6:10
Hebrews 13:5
Philippians 4:11-13
Psalm 102:25-27
Genesis 22:14
1 Corinthians 15:28

DECLARATION

I am of God, and the devil has nothing in me.

I will not serve two masters.

I will not serve both God and Mammon.

I will worship the Lord and serve Him only.

If my Heavenly Father feeds the birds,

He'll take care of me.

If He clothes the lilies, He'll provide for me.

If I seek His kingdom and His righteousness,
all these things will be added to me.

Everything in the heavens
and the earth is the Lord's.

He is the Lord of all
and supplies ALL my needs.

I produce wealth
because God gives me the ability.

He richly provides everything
for my enjoyment.

By God's command and my obedience:

I am blessed in the city.

I am blessed in the country.

My children are blessed.

My business is blessed.

I am blessed when I come in.

I am blessed when I go out.

I am the head and not the tail.

I am above and not beneath.

Everything I put my hand to is blessed.

I renounce all greed,
selfishness and selfish ambition,
all boasting and envy.

Lord, purify my motives and my heart.

I commit today to keep myself free
from the love of money.

I am content with what I have
and in all circumstances.

My stuff will perish, but My God remains.

He is my all in all!

Amen!

SESSION 3

REJECTION



What did
you learn?



What is the
Holy Spirit
saying to you?



What can you do
with this info and
revelation shared
by the Holy Spirit?

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 1:3
Romans 8:31
Isaiah 41:9
John 3:16
John 15:16
Isaiah 49:25
Deuteronomy 28:7
Ephesians 1:4
Ephesians 1:7
Ephesians 1:17
Ephesians 1:11
Ephesians 2:6
Ephesians 2:10
Psalm 139:14
2 Corinthians 5:17
Ephesians 3:17
Romans 8:37
Revelation 12:11
1 Peter 2:21
John 8:38

DECLARATION

I am blessed
with all spiritual blessings
in heavenly places.

If God is for me,
who can be against me?
I am chosen by God.
He has not rejected me!
God loves me so much,
that He gave His only Son for me.
He chose me and appointed me
to bear good fruit.

God contends with those
who contend with me.

Spirits of rejection
come at me in one direction,
but flee in seven!

I am holy and blameless.

I am redeemed
through the blood of Jesus.

I have the spirit of wisdom
and revelation.

I am an heir of heaven.

I am seated in heavenly places.

I am God's workmanship.

I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

I am a new creation.

I am a citizen of heaven.

I am rooted and grounded in love.

I am more than a conqueror.

I am an overcomer.

I am healed.

I am free!

Lord, EVERYTHING You say about
me is true!

Amen!

SESSION 4

PURITY



What did you learn?



What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?



What can you do with this info and revelation shared by the Holy Spirit?

SCRIPTURE

Galatians 2:20
 Ephesians 2:2-6
 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
 Matthew 26:41
 1 Corinthians 10:13
 2 Timothy 2:22
 James 4:7
 1 Corinthians 2:16
 Psalm 101:3
 2 Corinthians 10:5
 Philippians 4:8
 1 Peter 5:8
 2 Samuel 22:33
 1 John 4:4
 Ephesians 6:13
 2 Corinthians 5:17
 Romans 8:1
 Galatians 5:1
 Hebrews 9:14
 Psalm 24:3-4
 Matthew 5:8
 Psalm 73:25
 Exodus 33:18

DECLARATION

I have been crucified with Christ.
 I no longer gratify
 the cravings of my old sinful nature.
 My body is the temple of the Holy Spirit
 My body may be weak,
 but my spirit is willing.
 I am never tempted
 beyond what I can bear,
 God ALWAYS provides the way out.
 I flee youthful lusts.
 I resist the devil,
 and he MUST flee from me.
 I have the mind of Christ.
 I will set before my eyes no vile thing.
 I take captive every thought.
 My thoughts are true,
 noble, right, and pure.
 I am sober and alert,
 ready for any attack.
 My God arms me with strength
 and makes my way perfect.
 He who is in me
 is greater than he who is in the world.
 When evil comes,
 I will stand my ground.
 I am a new creation,
 no more condemnation.
 Christ has set me free!
 And by His blood
 my hands are clean,
 my conscience is clear,
 my heart is pure.
 And the pure in heart,
 will see His face.
 Lord, I want to see your face!
 I have only one desire –
 Your presence in my life.
 Show me Your glory!
 Amen!

SESSION 5

SHAME



What did
you learn?



What is the
Holy Spirit
saying to you?



What can you do
with this info and
revelation shared
by the Holy Spirit?

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 1:4-7
Ephesians 5:25-26
1 John 1:9
Hebrews 10:22
Psalm 32:1-6
Psalm 40:1-2
Hebrews 8:12
Isaiah 43:25
Psalm 103:12
Psalm 103:11
John 8:10-11
Revelation 12:10
John 8:44
Genesis 3:7
Isaiah 61:10
Colossians 1:13-14
Psalm 34:5
Isaiah 61:7
Psalm 71:1
John 8:36

DECLARATION

God chose me
before the creation of the world
to be holy and blameless in His sight.
Jesus Christ, the Righteous One,
has redeemed me.
The blood of Jesus washes away my sin.
The blood of Jesus purifies my heart.
The blood of Jesus
cleanses my conscience.
The blood of Jesus gives me a fresh start.
God lifted me out of a slimy pit,
out of the mud and mire,
and placed me on a ROCK!
I am forgiven -
He remembers my sin no more.
I am forgiven -
He blots out my transgression.
As far as the east is from the west -
are my sins from me.
As high as the heavens
are above the earth -
so GREAT is His love for me.
I no longer condemn myself,
neither does God condemn me.
I silence the accuser now!
Satan is the father of lies.
By the power of the blood -
I tear down the veil of shame.
Lord, take these worthless fig leaves -
and clothe me in Your righteousness.
I run from darkness to light.
My face is radiant and unashamed.
Instead of shame, I will receive
DOUBLE HONOR!
I will NEVER
be put to shame again!
Whom the Son sets free -
is free indeed! Amen!

SESSION 6

HEALING

FOR THE

BROKENHEARTED



What did you learn?



What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?



What can you do with this info and revelation shared by the Holy Spirit?

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 139:1
 Psalm 139:5
 Psalm 91:1
 Psalm 147:3
 Exodus 15:26
 Genesis 50:20
 Psalms 34:18
 Psalms 145:18
 Psalms 18:6
 Psalms 116:2
 Luke 10:19
 Matthew 5:44
 1 Peter 2:21-24
 Philippians 3:13-14
 Hebrews 12:15
 Galatians 3:13
 Jeremiah 29:11
 Joel 2:25
 Psalm 55:22
 2 Corinthians 5:17

DECLARATION

God knows me and loves me.
 His Spirit is near to me.
 He hems me in and protects me,
 and heals my broken heart.
 Today I receive my healing.
 What the devil meant for evil,
 God will turn for good.
 I have authority to overcome
 all the power of satan.
 People may have hurt me,
 but I am not a victim.
 I release all who have hurt me in any way.
 I command a blessing on all my enemies.
 I entrust them now to the righteous Judge.
 I choose to forget the past
 and leave it behind.
 I pull up all bitter roots
 and throw them in the fire!
 Christ has redeemed me
 from the curse of abuse.
 I renounce all anger,
 resentment and hatred.
 I break any generational curse
 of abuse off my life.
 Lord, cleanse my hands of all abuse.
 Make my hands reach out in blessing
 to lift others up.
 Lord, cleanse my mouth of all hurtful words.
 Let these lips speak words of healing,
 encouragement and blessing.
 Lord, cleanse my eyes
 of all looks of hatefulness and intimidation.
 Let my eyes show forth love,
 kindness, and tenderness.
 God has a plan for me, a hope and a
 future to prosper me and bless me.
 He will restore to me all of the years the
 devil has stolen.
 I cast my burden on Him.
 The old is gone, the new has come!
 Amen!

SESSION 7

FEAR



What did
you learn?



What is the
Holy Spirit
saying to you?



What can you do
with this info and
revelation shared
by the Holy Spirit?

SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 1:7
1 John 4:18
John 14:27
Acts 4:29-30
Hebrews 13:6
Hebrews 2:14-15
Luke 8:50
Romans 12:21
1 John 4:4
Psalm 23:4
Isaiah 54:17
Haggai 2:4-5
Psalm 91:5
Psalm 118:6
Psalm 1:3
Psalm 91:10-11
Ephesians 6:16
Galatians 3:13
Romans 8:37
Revelation 12:11
James 4:7
Psalm 119:89

DECLARATION

God has not given me a spirit of fear,
but one of power, love and a sound mind.

God's love drives out all my fears
I am a member of the body of Christ and satan has
no power over me,

for I have overcome evil with good.

I am of God and have overcome satan,
for greater is He who's in me
than he who's in the world.

I will fear no evil for God is with me.
His word and His Spirit, they comfort me.

I am far from oppression,
and fear does not come near me.
No weapon formed against me will prosper.
I will not be afraid of the terrors of the night
nor fear the dangers of the day.

The LORD is on my side. I will not fear.

What can man do to me?
My righteousness is of the Lord,
and whatever I do will prosper:
for I am like a tree planted by the rivers of water.
I am delivered from the evil of this present world.

For this is God's will for me.

No evil will befall me!
Neither will any plague come near me.
For the Lord has given His angels
charge over me.

They keep me in all my ways.
I take the shield of faith and quench every fiery dart
that the wicked one brings against me.

Christ has redeemed me
from the curse of the law.

In the name of Jesus, I am an overcomer!
And I overcome by the blood of the Lamb
and the word of my testimony.

I am submitted to God
and the devil flees from me.
The Word of God is forever settled in heaven there-
fore I will establish His word on earth.

Fear, you must go now!
I am made perfect in love.
I am a person of faith! Amen!

SESSION 8

HEAVINESS &

DEPRESSION



What did
you learn?



What is the
Holy Spirit
saying to you?



What can you do
with this info and
revelation shared
by the Holy Spirit?

SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 37:3-10

Psalms 118:17

Psalms 91:2

2 Samuel 22:2

Lamentations 3:21-24

Nehemiah 8:10

Psalms 91:1

Psalms 147:3

Psalms 23:3

Psalms 126:5

Genesis 50:20

Matthew 11:28-30

1 Peter 1:8-9

Isaiah 66:12-13

1 Corinthians 2:16

James 1:2-3

Ephesians 3:17-18

Isaiah 61:3

John 11:40-44

DECLARATION

I prophecy to myself –
dry bones, hear the word of the Lord:

I will live and not die!

I will declare His mighty works!

God is my refuge.

He is my deliverer.

His mercies are new every day.

His joy is my strength.

His wings are my shelter.

He heals my broken heart.

He restores my soul.

What I have sown in tears,

I'll reap in joy.

What the devil meant for evil,

God turns for good.

Jesus, I run to You.

I trade this heavy yoke

for joy unspeakable.

I trade every burden

for peace like a river.

I have the mind of Christ.

I am complete, and lacking nothing.

I am rooted and established

in God's love.

how wide,

how long,

how high,

How deep is His love for me!

I wear a crown of beauty,

instead of ashes;

the oil of gladness,

instead of mourning;

the garment of praise,

instead of despair.

I'm alive!

I take off the grave clothes

and come forth!

Amen!



EVERY NATION
FAITH CITY

Every Nation Faith City is a member of Every Nation, a worldwide family of churches and ministries that exists to honour God by establishing Christ-centered, Spirit-empowered, socially responsible churches and campus ministries in every nation.

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