

THE CHURCH – Training Overview

THE CHURCH training focuses on equipping individuals and couples to lead Freedom Communities. A Freedom Community is actually “The Church” – a body of believers growing, sharing, & serving together! Many small groups focus on a curriculum or an agenda facilitated by a leader. Alternatively, Freedom Communities focus on where God is working right now in *your* life. How are you growing, sharing, and serving? Where are you seeing God at work and joining Him in His initiatives? Freedom Communities are times of sharing where God is working in your life within a safe environment of community – being the body of Christ – The Church! Each week the trainer will teach the lesson and then experientially practice by facilitating a Freedom Community.

SESSION 1: GROW

Session 1 provides the building blocks for growing in Christ. Learning to talk with and listen to God is an integral part of our spiritual development within the body of Christ – The CHURCH. This training is not designed to “feed you,” but instead, to teach you “how to eat.” Accordingly, session 1 provides a framework for you to understand God’s Word in the written form and as well as the His promptings. Additionally, time is spent focusing on how talking with God influences our spiritual growth. Finally, the training is organized to efficiently offer you a way to teach others in your Freedom Community to listen and talk with God.

SESSION 2: SERVE

Session 2 teaches you how to watch for God and join Him in His work! Often, we pray for God to help us in our ministry and service to others. However, this prayer is backwards from God’s way of working. God does not want to join you in your ministry – God wants you to join Him in His ministry! God provides you with opportunities every week to join Him in caring for His children (See Matthew 25:34-43). However, it is easy to miss seeing where He is working because our eyes are often closed, or we are focused on our own agenda. Session 2 provides the training necessary for you to know you are making an eternal difference each week by joining God in what He is doing and gives you the tools to help your Freedom Community do the same.

SESSION 3: SHARE

Session 3 focuses on sharing God’s message with others. Unfortunately, the organized church has often reduced talking with others about God to handing out pamphlets, knocking on strangers doors, and lecturing. However, Jesus had a *very* different approach. Session 3 first shows you how to join God where He is already at work in individual’s lives, and then shows you how to build trust and ask questions that open the doors to spiritual conversations in ways that provide safe environments for sharing. This training provides step-by-step instructions on how to share God’s message and then teaches you how to show your Freedom Community to do the same.

SESSION 4: LEAD

Session 4 focuses on teaching you how to lead your Freedom Community. As opposed to the world’s perspective of leadership that often results in telling people what to do, Jesus explains that leadership is about serving, not dictating. Accordingly, this training teaches you how to facilitate your Freedom Community by asking questions, not stating facts – opening up conversations, not needing to provide answers. By asking your Community where God is working in their lives and how they are growing, serving, and sharing, you will lead them to follow God, not you, and provide a safe environment for their spiritual growth to occur.