

Sanctuary First

October 2011

Theme Summary

Freed 4...

Setting the Scene

The Bible is undoubtedly the one book that has changed the world. Regardless where you might stand on the faith line no one can deny that the Bible has had a profound effect on the history of the world.

The amazing thing is that even in a technological scientific world the Bible still achieves the accolade of being the best selling book in the world.

The service is divided into 4 parts. There are also 4 stations set up where people can explore further the themes of the service.

Item	Notes
PRESENTER 1:	This month we are going to look at the way Jesus talked about Freedom in his teaching. Freedom is one of the central building blocks upon which Jesus built his knowledge and revelation of God. He particularly used parables to teach people about the nature of God.
PRESENTER 2:	The whole story of salvation centres around the God who delivers his people from bondage and sets them free. This freedom for us today is relevant as we find ourselves engaging with a society that is longing and searching for freedom.
FREED 4 CHOICE	
PRESENTER 1:	We are all faced with decisions to make. Too often our decisions reflect the struggle between good and evil that takes place in the human heart.
PRESENTER 2:	Someone once said the human heart is the greatest weapon of mass destruction. How we think, determines how we live, how we live is determined by what we believe. What we believe is determined by what has been revealed to us.

Item	Notes
PRESENTER 1:	For the Christian the Bible is a book full of revelation and truth. Choice and freedom are at the heart of the Gospel Revelation.
VIDEO:	<p>Schindler's List video clip</p> <p>The film presents the indelible true story of the enigmatic Oskar Schindler, a member of the Nazi party, womaniser and war profiteer who chose to save the lives of more than 1,100 jews during the holocaust. It's the triumph of one man who made a difference, and the drama of those who survived one of the darkest chapters in human history because of what he did.</p>
MEDITATION:	<p>I come forward</p> <p>This is about making a choice and moving forward to live life.</p>
<p>FREED 4 WORSHIP</p>	
PRESENTER 1:	It is freedom alone that enables us to understand God. God in his nature is free, free to do as He wills. Humankind longs to imitate that freedom however in doing so we make wrong choices.
PRESENTER 2:	We are consumed by materialism. We worship things and become slaves to objects and in doing so we turn others into objects. God doesn't require us to worship him because he is in need of our adulation. God is self contained He doesn't need anything from us. However he knows we need to give in order to be.
PRESENTER 1:	Therefore God has created within us the desire and need to worship. We will either worship things, object that have no value, unless we give them value or we will worship God and in so doing discover our own value and freedom.
PRESENTER 2:	Worship enables us to see the whole of life is an offering to God. Our work and our leisure time, our laughter and our joy and sorrow, are all acts of worship to the Almighty.
SONGS:	<p>Here I am to worship</p> <p>Purify my heart</p>

Item	Notes
FREED 4 SERVICE	
PRESENTER 1:	The Bible is a book that is all about people who spent their lives in service to and for others. Jesus being the greatest example of all time. He once said if anyone would be great among you he or she must become the servant of all. Have you ever thought about volunteering.
DISCUSSION GROUPS	Split into groups and ask the discuss the following: Ask people to tell a story of how they have served others. Where are the needs in the community and how could people serve there.
FREED 4 LIVING	
PRESENTER 1:	Consider the words of Jesus when he said “ If you are prepared to lose your life you will find it” In other words living is not about being self centered, its about being prepared to live sacrificially, in order that others can live.
VIDEO:	Shawshank redemption clip Andy Dufresne, arrived at Shawshank Prison in in 1947, convicted of two brutal murders, he received a double life sentence. He discovered that when they send you to Shawshank state prison for life... that’s exactly what they take. With an extraordinary twist in the tale, Andy finds that survival comes down to a simple choice, get busy living or get busy dying.
MOVE TO STATIONS (let people explore for 15 to 20 mins)	

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STATION 1:	<p>Freed 4 choice</p> <p>Set up an area where people have to choose and object. ie. a row of boxes, under each box is a bible verse about choice.</p> <p>An Apple and an explanation about the story of adam and eve and choosing the apple.</p> <p>Take a moment to reflect on the apple and the other interactive objects. What are the choices you face today? Write on a post it note and place on a board. How do you make the right choice?</p>
STATION 2:	<p>Freed 4 worship</p> <p>Take a moment to reflect on the many different ways you can worship God from painting in prayer to practicing the art of prayer by becoming the answer to one another's prayers. Give people the opportunity try different forms or prayer and worship - paint a picture, light a candle, write a song, etc</p>
STATION 3:	<p>Freed 4 service</p> <p>In this area create a job centre, with jobs that can be done in your church, community or the world where people can serve.</p> <p>Have a look around the job centre you'd be amazed at the opportunities that there are for anyone wishing to be a volunteer.</p>
STATION 4:	<p>Freed 4 living</p> <p>Have an station highlighting the situations and areas where people are imprisoned physically or psychologically due to addiction, circumstances or prisoners of conscience. Tell stories of people who have overcome hardship and quotes from people who have intervened in situations where there was no hope, like mother Theresa with the children in calcutta.</p>
PRESENTER 1:	<p>(Everyone gathers back together)</p> <p>We are called to choose between good and evil</p>
PRESENTER 2:	<p>We are called to put the creator first in our lives</p>
PRESENTER 1:	<p>We are called to live our lives in service to others</p>

Item	Notes
PRESENTER 2:	We are called to die to self and live in Christ
PRESENTER 1:	We are called to be a people who celebrate our salvation, our deliverance from darkness to light.
BLESSING	
SONGS:	Blessed be your name Everlasting God