

FREEDOM

Freedom Leader Training Guide

FREEDOM LEADER TRAINING

Prerequisites to Lead

- Complete Discipleship Group (Freedom or Rooted)
- Attend a Freedom Retreat or Rooted Celebration
- Attend Freedom Leader Training and serve as a Co-leader

Communication From Leaders & Freedom Team

Communication is vital to our success as a team.

We will communicate through several methods to ensure you are receiving Freedom Team information.

Email

Email is the primary method of communication for the team.

Our emails communicate everything that you need to know, so please check your inbox often and carefully read emails.

If you are not receiving emails:

- Make sure you are registered as a leader
- Check your junk folder

Freedom Leader & Co-Leader Pairing

- Best form of pairing is relational pairing - Talk to people you know first
- If you need assistance being placed with a leader or co-leader, please contact the Freedom Coordinator.

Leading an Effective Freedom Group

Excellence

- Excellence is a way of life
- Once you are a Freedom Leader, you are always a Freedom Leader. People will remember you as their Freedom Leader for many semesters to come.
- Small Group Leader Commitment Form (QR code located at the end of this guide)
- Freedom Leader Safeguards
- Social Media Discipline

The Role of the Leader

- Take the Lead
- Develop Co-leaders
- Take Attendance (Link to take attendance is emailed prior to meeting)

The Role of the Co-Leader

- Support the Leader
- Pray for Leader and Participants
- Participation
- Facilitate 4-5 weekly discussions
- Pray with Participants
 - Receive prayer
 - Observe leader praying
 - Participate and pray

Your First Meeting

- Introduction to Freedom
- The 3-Minute Testimony
- Flow of the Group
- Communication Structure
- Tell of Retreat Date and that it's 50% of the Freedom experience
- Staying on Time
- Co-Ed Groups – it is recommended that you split up at discussion time

Sample Schedule for Each Meeting

- 7:00pm** - Welcome/light refreshments
- 7:15pm** - Worship
- 7:20pm** - Leader open with prayer to close worship
- 7:22pm** - Leader open with discussion
- 8:15pm** - Participants complete prayer request card
Leaders pray with each person **individually**
Male w/ Male; Female w/ Female
- 8:30pm** - Dismiss group

Points to Remember

- This is THEIR Freedom group
- Radical Opinions – leave them out
- Stay on that week's topic
- The Role of the Facilitator
 - 70/30 Rule (Participants/Leader)
 - Redirecting discussions
 - Encourage everyone to share

Individual Prayer Time

- Start prayer the first week!
- ALWAYS end with prayer – end discussion if necessary
- Establish Salvation

Prayer Format

1. Brief Interview
2. Listen for the lie
3. Replace the lie with the truth from God's word

Prayer is the Foundation of Freedom Groups

Retreat Info

- Serving at the Freedom Retreat is open to Freedom Group Leaders and Co-leaders
- Your role on the Retreat Serve team is vital, so please mark your calendar and encourage 100% participation from your group members
- The retreat will be a one-day retreat
- Cost of Freedom Retreat is \$20.00 each

Freedom Group and Retreat Information for Participants

Here is information to be communicated to your Freedom Group Participants:

- Vision of Freedom - The goal of Freedom is to get free from the burdens of the past and the present and to move forward in your purpose.
- Cost of Participant Book \$15.00 each; sharing books is strongly discouraged.
- Books can be purchased at any location on Sunday or at the front desk of the Merritt Island Main Offices prior to the first night of class.
- Following the 8-week study is a powerful one-day retreat designed to allow participants to personally encounter the Lord and receive freedom in many areas of spiritual life.

Freedom Leader Safeguards

As Christian leaders, we need to be above reproach.

Paul wrote, *“Don’t be so naive and self-confident. You’re not exempt. You could fall flat on your face as easily as anyone else. Forget about self-confidence; it’s useless. Cultivate God-confidence.”* (1 Corinthians 10:12 Message)

The following safeguards are suggestions for your protection. The devil would love nothing more than to destroy your credibility as a leader.

Freedom Leader Safeguards

- (If you are married) Don’t go to lunch alone with the opposite sex.
- (If you are married) Don’t have the opposite sex pick you up or drive you places when it is just the two of you.
- Be careful of showing affection with the opposite sex that could be misinterpreted.
- Avoid visiting the opposite sex alone at home.
- Avoid counseling the opposite sex alone, and do not counsel the opposite sex more than once without that person’s spouse.
- Don’t discuss detailed sexual problems with the opposite sex in counseling. Refer them.
- Don’t discuss your marriage problems with a member of your group who is of the opposite sex.
- Be careful in answering emails, instant messages, chatrooms, cards, or letters from the opposite sex.
- Have a protective ally, for example, your spouse or administrative assistant.
- Pray for the integrity of other Freedom Leaders.

“But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people.” (Eph. 5:3)

Small Group Leader Commitment Form

Please use this link or QR Code to sign the Small Group Leader Commitment Form:

<https://eastcoast.churchcenter.com/people/forms/1017196>

