

# FREE to GO

The Bible – God's love liberating lives

This session is based around the Bible Sunday Freedom youth/small group film (available as a download at [biblesunday.org](http://biblesunday.org) or on the DVD within the Bible Sunday 2010 pack). We suggest you run the beginning of your time together as you normally would, with either worship, a game or another welcoming exercise, and then play the DVD.

After this, use or select from the following questions. Use them either as a full group or in smaller numbers.

## DVD questions

1. What would your definition of 'freedom' be? Have you only been thinking of it as a one-way 'freedom *from*' situation as Jamie Hill was in the DVD?
2. Over the last year we've had our general election where each party summed up what they wanted to do if they gained power – their manifesto. If you were to write a manifesto for your life – all that you would like to achieve – what would it be? Take some time to draft your manifesto. Perhaps start with where you would like to visit, work, family size, etc
3. Jesus' manifesto in Luke 4.16–21 is a clear statement of all that Jesus intended to do. Look back at Old Testament passage Jesus was reading from. The main section comes from the start of Isaiah 61 but there is one verse from Isaiah 58. Why do you think Jesus read excerpts from each passage? Why do you think he leaves out other sections? Particularly in Isaiah 61.2?
4. Look back to Leviticus 25. How does the concept of the Jewish year of Jubilee fit with what Jesus is talking about in Luke?
5. Take a moment to think about the freedom Christ offers us – all that we've been freed from. You may want to share in your group or just pray by yourself. The cross has paid for our salvation. We can connect again with God because of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. He has taken our sins away as far as the east is from the west. Wow!
6. It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. (Galatians 5.1, NIV). Have you ever thought about the *two* sides of freedom – freed *from* and freed *to be*. We are freed from sin to be free to be ... free! What do you think this means?
7. 'I came in order that you might have life – life in all its fulness' (John 10.10). This verse has been used to mean many things, but since freedom was at the heart of Jesus' manifesto, how do you think freedom brings life?
8. What does the word 'obedience' mean to you – instant gut reactions?
9. So much of how God's people have messed up – from Adam and Eve right up to you and me – has been in choosing not to obey what God has said. How do we make sure that we obey because we *are* loved and not to *ensure* we will be loved? Look at the story of Zacchaeus in Luke 19. Here Zacchaeus obeyed the law and repented of all he'd done wrong

after being shown tremendous love from Jesus.

10. **Reflect and respond** (This section could be adapted and presented as a short talk by a youth leader.)

In the film, Jamie says:

'All of us have stuff, either out in the open or hidden behind closed doors, areas that we haven't allowed Jesus to bring freedom to. Or where we have but we've not obediently chosen to walk out of the cell'.

What areas of your life are feeling far from alive? In what areas are you bound and broken and living disobediently? The fulness of life Jesus came to bring is true freedom. Freedom works and stays full and alive when we obey – the train stays on the tracks.

Ask God to help you now with these areas. You may want to talk to your youth leader, church leader or someone else you trust on how to start to turn from disobedience to obedience, from captivity to freedom, and from death to life in each of these areas. If you have no-one you think you can talk to, Bible Society would love to try and help. Email us at [rush@biblesociety.org.uk](mailto:rush@biblesociety.org.uk) and we'll try and get you connected.

The Bible reveals Jesus to us and Jesus teaches us how to reconnect with God. God's written Word tells us that Jesus came for freedom and it is for freedom that each of you have been set free – you have been saved to be free. Walk in that freedom today.

11. **Together:** Close the session with prayer and worship and in the assurance that freedom is available today.

'Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom' (2 Corinthians 3.17, NIV).

### Interactive response idea

You need: strips of paper for each individual, pairs of scissors and a few glue sticks or rolls of cellotape.

As you go into worship, give everyone a small strip of paper. Invite each person to write on this an area of life where they want to be free, or something they want to be free from. Ask them to bend the strip into a loop and, using the glue stick or cellotape, have everyone join their individual loops together into a long chain, like a Christmas decoration.

Invite the group to form a line and hold the chain up for everyone to see. Take a pair of scissors, saying that they represent God's Word, which is like a double-edged sword, cutting through all that enslaves us. Explain that the challenge to us today is to act on God's call to walk in obedience and the full freedom Jesus wants for us. Cut one of the loops (your own?) so that the chain drops. Invite each member to do the same to their loop if they want to step out of their cell into Jesus' freedom.

*For any other help and future resources, Bible Society's challenge to young people is to 'catch the Rush of Scripture' and then be transformed to live it and to give it. We would love to help you if we can. You can find out more about the challenge by going to [biblesociety.org.uk/rushliveitgiveit](http://biblesociety.org.uk/rushliveitgiveit) or you can keep up to date at [facebook.com/rushliveitgiveit](https://www.facebook.com/rushliveitgiveit)*

---

These materials are written by **Jamie Hill**, Bible Society Youth Development Officer

