

FREEDOM DAY.

ONE GATHERING. REAL AWARENESS. REAL ACTION.

PRESENTED BY



The Exodus Road®



TODAY, ONE QUESTION

WHAT DOES
FREEDOM MEAN —
AND WHO DOESN'T
HAVE IT?



WATCH FIRST

I HAVE A NAME

Behind every number is a real
person with a name.

► [YOUTU.BE/I1Q0B7SK9DW](https://youtu.be/I1Q0B7SK9DW)



THE REALITY · WORLDWIDE

50M

CHILDREN, WOMEN & MEN STUCK IN HUMAN
TRAFFICKING TODAY

\$236B

IN ILLEGAL PROFIT TRAFFICKERS MAKE OFF FORCED
LABOR EVERY YEAR

1 IN 150

PEOPLE ON EARTH

~12M

OF THEM ARE CHILDREN

AND RIGHT HERE

1.1M

IN MODERN SLAVERY IN THE U.S.

50

STATES – ALL OF THEM

Trafficking is when someone is **forced, tricked, or coerced** into labor or exploitation they can't walk away from. It's not only "somewhere far away."

WHAT IT CAN LOOK LIKE IN THE U.S.

IT'S CLOSER THAN YOU'D THINK.

FORCED FARM LABOR

Workers trapped on farms by debt, threats, or held documents — forced to work long hours for little or no pay.

DOMESTIC SERVITUDE

Someone forced to cook, clean, or provide childcare inside a home — isolated, unpaid, and unable to leave.

SEX TRAFFICKING

Often through an older "romance" — attention and "love" that turn into guilt, threats, and control. One of the most common ways it starts for U.S. teens.

THE MESSAGE · THE GROAN

THE WORLD IS NOT AS IT SHOULD BE.

Maybe you feel this already! The Bible calls it the groaning of all creation: *"We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time."* (Romans 8:22)

LUKE 4:17-19 · WHAT JESUS READ

*"He found the place where it is written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to **proclaim good news to the poor**. He has sent me to **proclaim freedom for the prisoners** and recovery of sight for the blind, to **set the oppressed free**, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.'"*

"TODAY."

He rolls up the scroll and says, *"Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."* Freedom for the captive is **a virtue of God's goal for the world.** (Luke 4:21)

LUKE 4:22-30

FREEDOM IS FOR **EVERYONE** WHO'S TRAPPED.

Jesus said it was for outsiders too — and the hometown crowd tried to throw him off a cliff. Overseas *and* here; people like us *and* people we'd never pick.

FREEDOM IS POSSIBLE THROUGH ORDINARY PEOPLE.

Not superheroes. Ordinary people who notice the overlooked, who learn the signs, who refuse to treat anyone as worth less. **People like you.**





A REAL STORY

KAT'S STORY

Trafficked in Thailand, cared for and freed through The Exodus Road's Freedom Home.

► [YOUTU.BE/GNSBEBTNTNU](https://youtu.be/GNSBEBTNTNU)

SO WHAT DO YOU DO?

YOU CAN HELP STOP IT.

As a teen, when you learn about trafficking and how to report anything suspicious, you can help stop it — and help make a more just world.

THE ACTIVITY

MYTH OR FACT?

I'll put a statement on screen. In your group, vote — **FACT** or **MYTH** — and say why. Then we flip the slide and find out. Most of what people "know" about trafficking is wrong.

01

**"TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING ARE BASICALLY
THE SAME THING."**

VOTE: MYTH OR FACT?

MYTH

MYTH

Smuggling is moving someone across a border, usually by choice. Trafficking is **controlling and exploiting** a person. Someone can experience trafficking in their own home, with no movement required.

02

**"IF SOMEONE COULD LEAVE AND DIDN'T, THEY
MUST NOT HAVE REALLY BEEN TRAPPED."**

VOTE: MYTH OR FACT?

MYTH

MYTH

The chains are usually in the mind, not on the wrists. A trafficker uses **fear, debt, shame, threats against family, and even "love"** to control someone — so even when a door is unlocked, leaving can feel impossible or dangerous. And most victims don't even realize they're being trafficked.

03

**"YOU CAN'T BE TRAFFICKED BY SOMEONE YOU
LOVE OR CHOSE TO BE WITH."**

VOTE: MYTH OR FACT?

MYTH

MYTH

A romantic partner is one of the **most common** traffickers. Loving someone — or choosing them — doesn't make their control of you okay.

04

"WORLDWIDE, FORCED LABOR IS A BIGGER SHARE OF TRAFFICKING THAN MOST PEOPLE EXPECT."

VOTE: MYTH OR FACT?

FACT

FACT

Of the **~27.6 million** people in forced labor worldwide, about **17.3 million** are exploited for work — farms, factories, fishing, domestic homes — far more than any other form.

05

**"MOST PEOPLE TRAFFICKED IN THE U.S. WERE
BROUGHT HERE FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY."**

VOTE: MYTH OR FACT?

MYTH

MYTH

A huge share of people trafficked in the U.S. are **U.S. citizens and residents** — exploited right here at home, not brought in from somewhere else.

06

**"A BIG, TRUSTED BRAND MEANS THE PRODUCT
WASN'T MADE WITH FORCED LABOR."**

VOTE: MYTH OR FACT?

MYTH

MYTH

Forced labor hides in big, household-name supply chains too — in **cotton, electronics, and chocolate**. Companies like **Nike, Apple, Nestlé, and Hershey** have all faced reports or lawsuits over forced labor somewhere in their supply chains. A trusted logo doesn't mean a clean supply chain.

SO WHAT?

TRAFFICKING SURVIVES ON THE MYTHS.

Knowing what's real is what lets you **notice it** — and protect the people around you.

WHERE YOU COME IN

PICK ONE. START THIS WEEK.

LEARN

Follow **@TheExodusRoad** on YouTube, Instagram & TikTok. No socials? (Honestly, great.) Read about trafficking and real survivor stories at **theexodusroad.com**.

BECOME AN ADVOCATE

Share what you're learning and amplify the fight against trafficking. Learn the signs of trafficking — and help protect your own friends from the dangers.

GO FURTHER • TOGETHER

IMAGINE WHAT WE COULD DO TOGETHER!

\$40

funds a night of investigation

→ \$200 = 5 nights

\$150

provides medical care for a survivor

→ \$750 = 5 survivors

\$1,325

can fully fund one operation

→ that frees people

Your whole youth group can support The Exodus Road's work by fundraising together — turning one gathering into real impact for freedom.

START ONE TOGETHER

FUNDRAISE FOR FREEDOM.

Set a goal as a group, then share one link everybody uses. It fuels real anti-trafficking work — investigations and survivor care.

THEEXODUSROAD.COM/FREEDOM-DAY-FUNDRAISER

A PRAYER FOR FREEDOM

*God, you say every person is made in your image — even the ones the world treats like they're worth nothing. Help us believe that, and live like it's true. Open our eyes to the people we usually look past. Give us the courage to **speak up** for those who have no voice, and to care about freedom for people we'll never meet. Use us in the small, ordinary ways that are ours to do. Make the world a little more free — starting with us.*

AMEN.

IF THIS IS YOU — OR A FRIEND

You are not in trouble, and you are not alone. Talk to a trusted adult. Or reach trained, confidential help — free, any time:

National Human Trafficking Hotline — call **1-888-373-7888** · text **"BeFree"** to **233733**

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline — call or text **988**

Report online — CyberTipline.org · **Immediate danger** — call **911**

FREEDOM DAY.

FOLLOW + SHARE @THEEXODUSROAD · FUNDRAISE: [THEEXODUSROAD.COM/FREEDOM-DAY-FUNDRAISER](https://theexodusroad.com/freedom-day-fundraiser)



The Exodus Road®