

## **Road to Freedom, April 22-May 7**

**Series Focus:** To help people understand the difference between trying to earn God's love, and trusting we can live from his love when we believe and trust in him.

**Tagline:** At the crossroad of trusting or trying, which way do you go?

**Feel:** Gritty honesty headed towards hope, authentic

**Why:** Our view of God and what he wants from us shapes our life. When we can help people see that pleasing God starts with faith and trust in him, and that living from what he has already accomplished is living free, then we can experience more and more people living the abundant life Jesus made possible for us.

**Response Stations:** Yes

**Invite Pitch:** As Christians we hear a lot of talk about trusting God. And at first, it seems pretty simple. We trust God and life will get better. We got that front parking spot just like we asked! It's easier to be nice to people at the store or at work, and we think, "I got this! Me and Jesus changing the world - this is great!". We feel more free. But then something happens and we find ourselves doing something we said we wouldn't. We get angry again. We yell at our kids. We tell a white lie. We mess up. We begin to sense we better keep this under wraps, because if we really trusted God then we wouldn't be doing this. No matter how hard we try, we can't seem to get it right. Is this how following Jesus is supposed to be? Is the freedom we hear about just around the next corner? Let's find out as we take the journey together on the road to freedom.

**Key Verse:** Philippians 2:13, Hebrews 11:4

### **Weekly Topics and Content Goal:**

**Week 1: 2 Paths: Trying versus Trusting, April 22/23, Ben**

**Verse:**

**Week 2: 2 Faces: Hiding versus Honest April 29/30, Ben**

**Verse:**

**Week 3: 2 Identities: Saint versus Sinner, May 6/7, Ben, Baptism Weekend**

**Verse:**

### **Goals:**

What next steps will we ask people to take?

- Text in campaign to receive direct link to our weekly podcast
- Join a Freedom group

How are we measuring success?

- Total number who subscribe - 1170
- 45 Total participants

### **Ministry Calendar and Holidays:**

April 22/23 - Winter Semester Ends; Group Leader Training

April 28 - DreamTeam Celebration

April 29/30 - No GrowthTrack

Month of May - Team Meetings by Dept

May 6/7 - Baptism

### **Series Resources:**

#### **Next Steps**

The Cure by Bill Thrall

### **Family Ministries**

The Cure for Parents. <https://www.amazon.com/Cure-Parents-Bill-Thrall/dp/0986364843>

Graveyard:

a pristine, never opened book or

### **We don't stop walking, but what road are we on? What would it look like for you to live more out of trusting God instead of pleasing God in your everyday life?**

We find ourselves at a crossroads.

Always more grace in God than sin in me

When you're young, life ahead of you is like a beautiful landscape full of potential, unexplored but exciting and full of anticipation. The story is whatever you want it to be and the roads to it lead to destiny, a purpose and a dream ready for the taking. But as we get older some of that begins to fade. We don't notice at first. Over time we get weighed down, exhausted, disillusioned, even those of us who follow Jesus - by the stuff we wish we could change, the hurt we can't seem to shake, the struggles and mundane of everyday life. Something isn't right no matter how hard we try. Is this how it's supposed to be? Is the freedom we long for just around the next corner? Let's find out as we take the journey together on the road to freedom.

What happened? It was all going so well Afraid we won't be loved, hide the truth about ourselves from others and God. These are the things that keep us away from God - can you actually trust that you are a saint with sin?, courageous honesty, something really hard here

We feel disillusioned in life and turn to Jesus but for many of us we drift back, what difference is this really making? There's a lot of talk about faith and trusting God and it's one thing to say it, it's another to live that out that leads to real freedom. It's confusing, it's hard, when you look around, it seems like no one else is

Living a trust filled posture sounds so simple but it really is more difficult.