



A Salvatorian Response to Human Trafficking

Possible Opening Song: Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. (2 x)
(or your choice) Melt me, mold me, heal me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Collect prayer: Loving God, you have heard the cries of your suffering people. Open our eyes to see the immensity of your love for us and the wonder of what you have done for us. Give us the courage to be your hands and heart for those who are enslaved. Give us the wisdom to speak out for justice and righteousness. May your will be done in us today and always. Amen.

Sharing:

Have people get into a small group (4 to 6 persons) and give them time to reflect on this question: Name a time when you felt trapped. (Or someone else you know in that situation).

Share the experience – and the feelings you remember (Or someone else you know of in that situation).

Facts of human trafficking : (You can substitute other facts.)

-The U.N. estimates that trafficking represents a \$32 billion annual global trade that forces 12.3 adults and children into slave labor or prostitution.

-Child trafficking is one of the most disturbing human rights abuses of our time, involving cases of boys and girls trafficked for labor or sex.

-More than 400,000 migrant children workers in the U.S. go from state to state picking the produce we eat.

-Air France broadcasts a video addressing Child Sex Tourism reaching a potential of 87,908 million passengers a year.

-After getting letters from nearly 14,000 Change.org members, Wyndham is now working to implement the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children at their properties.

-There are 1,000 Fair Trade Towns globally, 21 in the U.S. including Boston, San Francisco, Madison, Milwaukee and Chicago – raising awareness and support for fair trade.

Taking a step:

Distribute copies of the ***Salvatorian Response to Human Trafficking*** and have it proclaimed. (Copies are available on the Salvatorians' Anti Slavery website)

Take some time to reflect on the statement with these two questions:

-How can this make a difference for me?

-How can it make a difference for the victims of human trafficking?

Have a ritual where members sign the document as a symbol of their commitment to implement.

Closing prayer: God of compassion and love, continue to enlighten our minds, hearts and spirits to the freeing of those whose lives are imperiled through any means of slavery. Give us voices that refuse to be deafened, disheartened, or discouraged when those who could help remain deaf and blind. Bless all in this war against slavery with unfailing courage until all are set free. We ask this through your Son, Jesus the Christ. Amen! Amen!

Closing Song: (or another hymn you choose)

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. (2 x)

Melt me, mold me, free me, use me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.