

# Basic Leadership Training Seminar



**[Put Your Church Name Here]**

# Schedule

- 9:00 a.m.**                    **Session 1 – Ministry Philosophy (Jim Berg)**
- A Theology of Addictions
  - *FTL™* Curriculum Thrust and Components
- 10:00 a.m.**                    **Session 2 – Personnel and Promotion (Larry Pierson)**
- Preparing Your Church for an Addiction Ministry
  - Recruiting and Training Workers
  - Getting the Word Out in Your Community
- 11:00 a.m.**                    **Session 3 – The Friday Night Program (Jim Berg)**
- A Walk-Through of a Friday Night Schedule
- 12 Noon**                      **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m.**                      **Session 4 – Effective Care-Group Sessions (Larry Pierson)**
- Promoting Progress through Checkpoints
  - Three Questions
  - Follow-up Throughout the Week
  - Out of Class Discipleship
- 2:00 p.m.**                      **Session 5 – Chartering Procedures and Q/A (Jim and Larry)**
- Chartering Process
  - FreedomTracker Software
  - [www.FreedomThatLasts.com](http://www.FreedomThatLasts.com) Website
  - Question and Answer Time

# Session 1 – Ministry Philosophy

## A. The Theology of Addictions—Getting the Big Picture

- A biblical worldview starts with knowing God’s ideal (creation), knowing what went wrong (fall), and knowing what God is doing to restore the rightful rule and glory to Himself (redemption).
1. **Creation:** Human beings by design were created to be dependent upon their Creator for knowledge of the Creator’s character and His will for them, and for the power to imitate His character and obey His will as the only way to flourish. See Acts 17:28a and Colossians 1:16-17.
  2. **Fall:** Man fell when he believed the lie that he would be better off acting independently of God in violation of his inherent design to be a dependent creature. The result was his spiritual and physical disintegration and his penchant to rule himself and to depend upon something within the creation itself (a God-replacement) to make life work.
    - a. That penchant is the essence of the “indwelling sin” that resides in the soul of every individual, though its absolute power has been broken for those who are “in Christ.” See Romans 7:15-21.
    - b. All temptations are common to man and appeal in one way or another to this inherent penchant to live independently of God and rule ourselves. See 1 Corinthians 10:13-14; 1 John 2:15-17.
    - c. Temptations, though common to man, are customized according to the “own lusts” of the individual. See James 1:12-15.
    - d. Though a temptation may be common to man, individuals will experience different degrees of disobedience and disintegration depending upon how they have chosen to express their independence from God and rule themselves.
      - While all choices to live in disobedience to God are morally wrong, not all choices have the same affect upon the body and mind. For example, gossip,

disrespect, and grouchiness are morally evil, but because they do not affect the limbic system as dramatically as drugs or pornography, they may become habitual, but not addictive.

- e. *Behind every fall is belief in a lie* (i.e., some statement that expresses that the individual can live independently of God, His ways, and His rule).
  - f. *Addictions are not psychiatric disorders or diseases; they are dependency disorders of those who have forsaken God's rule* (Jeremiah 2:13).
3. **Redemption:** Because of His love, *God's mission is to redeem and restore fallen people to the likeness of His Son to the praise of His glory*. That restoration process is defined in the doctrine of sanctification which tells us how a believer changes and grows. See Ephesians 2:1-7; 4:1-32, and 2 Corinthians 3:18.
- a. *Jesus Christ is the only source of freedom that lasts* (John 10:10b).
    - Freedom that lasts is not found in a program, a facility, or a relationship unless that program, facility, or relationship points the sinner to Jesus Christ for salvation (John 14:6; Acts 4:12) and points the sinning saint to Jesus Christ for His sanctifying work as the believer takes on His character and lives under His rule. See 2 Peter 1:1-15; Ephesians 4:13; Colossians 3:12-17.
  - b. *God's recovery program is sanctification*.
    - 1) Change begins with *confessing* the inherent mutiny and independence from God and His truth, and *forsaking* lies by renewing the mind and obeying God's Word in the power of God's Spirit.
    - 2) See the "Themes of Sanctification" in the appendices section of the *Freedom That Lasts™ Leader's Guide*.
  - c. *God's support group is the local church*. See Ephesians 4:15-16 and Hebrews 10:24-25.
  - d. *When the normal things don't seem to work, don't abandon the normal things; intensify the normal things*.

- This is why a resident facility can be so effective. The necessary accountability, teaching, modeling, counseling, personal Bible study, scripture memory, and prayer can all be intensified.

To help someone effectively, we must keep in mind God's initial intention for man (as displayed in the Creator's design), what went wrong in the fall, and what God's intention is for the restoration of all things.

Only to the extent that we help someone get back on God's path to the restoration of all things will we be truly and biblically helpful.

## **B. Curriculum Thrusts and Components**

### 1. Program Thrust

- a. *FTL™* Change Principle: "We do what we do because we are what we are. To change what we do, we must cooperate with God to change what we are."
- b. Changing "what we are" means cooperating with God to cultivate in a redeemed soul the character and likeness of Jesus Christ as we bring all of life under God's rule.
- c. The most complete portrait of Christlikeness is found in 2 Peter 1:1-15, especially verses 5-7. This list of Christlike virtues forms the core of the *Freedom That Lasts™* curriculum.

### 2. Program Curriculum – See Chapter Five, "Curriculum," in the *Freedom That Lasts™ Leader's Guide*.

- a. Curriculum Components and Supplemental Training Materials
- b. BJU Press Church/Bookstore Accounts

## **Session 2 – Personnel and Promotion**

### **A. Preparing Your Church for an Addiction Ministry**

1. Good leadership is a must for the development of an effective addiction ministry. Church members must grow in their confidence in God and in their pastor and must realize that their spiritual authority will make no decisions that will be harmful to them or detrimental to the church as a whole.
2. Messages should be preached regularly which emphasize the following themes: the priority of being servants of God, the responsibility of believers to go into all the world with the gospel, and the need to develop a love for God that will equip them to love others as God loves them.
3. The pastor needs to develop a “student” mentality in his people. Every believer must develop the disciplines necessary to broaden his relationship with the King of Kings as long as he lives on the earth. He must feel the responsibility to “grow in grace and in the knowledge of . . . Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 3:18).
4. Believers must have an understanding of what it means to “teach to the heart.” They must learn to be patient with new members. Attire, speech, and lifestyles will change as *FTL™* students mature spiritually. Too much too soon will cause them to choke (Hebrews 5:13-14).

## **B. Recruiting and Training Workers**

1. Look for workers who have a strong *desire* to know and love God. A certain level of humility will be evident when people thirst after righteousness; they know they have a need for God.
2. Workers must learn to be confident in the Holy Spirit's work in their lives and in the lives of others. This confidence in the Comforter will dispel their fears.
3. The program director must be available to answer questions and encourage leaders as they grow.
4. Discipleship efforts must be driven by a desire to see others develop a relationship with God.
5. A good leader will always be developing others who can replace him.

### C. Getting the Word Out in Your Community

1. Word of mouth is the best advertisement. Urge the students to invite everyone they come into contact with. Because we believe that we should *all* be growing students, we believe that *all* people need what *FTL™* has to offer.
2. No program director has to be the sole publicity agent. The church body and the *FTL™* students make up an army of people to evangelize the community.
3. Contests are fun and are a competitive way to get the word out. Utilize the printed promotional items available to chapters as much as possible (more on this later).
4. Group activities (caroling at Christmas, etc.) are excellent ways to reach the community. These can build teamwork and build into the students a sense of ownership for the *FTL™* program.
5. Accompanying students to court provides an excellent opportunity for the community to learn about *FTL™*.



## **Session 3 – The Friday Night Program**

### **A. Highlights**

- For details, see Chapter Eight, “Weekly Meetings” in the *Freedom That Lasts™ Leader’s Guide*.
1. Meeting and Registering Newcomers
  2. *Freedom That Lasts™ Virtue Video* showing – keeps the program thrust in front of the students and brings continuity to the program despite the fact that everyone is moving at a different pace through the program.
  3. Share Time – group prayer, singing, and testimonies – keeps the reality that God is alive and at work before the students
  4. Care Time – small group accountability sessions
  5. Newcomer Class – during the time when other students are in Care-Groups.
  6. Offering – provides the students with an opportunity to get the word out to others about *Freedom That Lasts™* — offerings can easily cover all promotional expenses.
  7. Teaching Time – more later
  8. Award Time – allows the class to celebrate victories and encourage progress
  9. Fellowship Time – creates family atmosphere and allows for one-on-one contact

## **B. Teaching Time**

1. *Freedom That Lasts™ Student Textbook* in progress – 26 lessons touching on key components of the sanctification process.
2. Begins with group recitation of the *FTL™* Motto, Change Principle, and Key Passage (2 Peter 1:5-7,10).
3. PowerPoint® slides and videos of the lesson will be available without charge through the FreedomTracker portal. See sample on the next page.
4. Be enthusiastic and hope-filled, and call for decisions to accept Christ as Savior and to submit to His rule.

## You Are Trapped by Lies

### 1. Behind every fall is belief in a lie.

- a. A trap works only when the animal thinks it is something else.
- b. Proverbs 6:17 – “Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird.”
- c. Proverbs 27:12 – “The [wise] man foreseeeth the [danger], and hideth himself, but the simple pass on, and [suffer].”
- d. The devil “is a liar, and the father of it” (John 8:34).
- e. Why do we get trapped? The lie was camouflaged to look like truth.

### 2. The battle is won or lost in your mind.

- a. “Before you *do* it, you *think* it.” When you started the habit, you had to think about it.
- b. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 – “for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.”
- c. Romans 1:25 – When people fall, it is because they “[exchanged] the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator.”

### 3. You are transformed by the renewing of your mind (Romans 12:1-2).

- a. John 8:32 – “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free.”
- b. You must reject the lies and obey the truth to have *freedom that lasts*.
- c. The only source of truth is Jesus Christ. John 14:6 – “I am the way, the truth, and the life.

## **Session 4 – Effective Care-Group Sessions**

### **A. Promoting Progress Through Checkpoints**

1. We must keep our overall goal in mind at all times.
2. We must lead by example.
3. The journaling, scripture memory, service projects, and so forth provide a good mixture of activities for encouraging spiritual maturity. Those not participating in the curriculum will remain fragile and weak. We must remind ourselves and our students that by spending time with God we are admitting to Him that we desperately need to love Him and fellowship with Him. We all must realize that our God is alive and at work in each of us.
4. The care-group leader must be careful to keep to a minimum the comments and involvement of students who are not participating in the curriculum.

## **B. Three Questions**

1. *Does anyone have a question of his journaling (Bible study) this week?* If there are no questions, you can ask a faithful student to open his journal and share something God has taught him through his time in the Word this week.
  
2. *Does anyone have a questions about Pastor's message, the FTL™ lesson this week, or the FTL™ video?* This will help you see who is taking notes in his journal over messages. It also gives a good opportunity to recap the messages of the week.
  
3. *Does anyone need to discuss a problem he experienced this week?*
  
4. If there is little or no participation by the group in the student manual or the journal, spend the time admonishing them about the importance of daily spending time with God in His Word.

### **C. Follow-up Through the Week**

1. All visitors should receive a “Thank You “post card.
2. Missing students should receive a “We Missed You” post card.
3. Find your students in church and greet them by name.
4. Care-group leaders should call his students weekly to check on them and encourage their progress.
5. Have internal class contests and reward winners with a lunch or other prize.

### **D. Out of Class Discipleship**

1. Find out what the needs of the group members are and seek to meet those needs (Galatians 6:2).
2. Set priorities for your responsibilities. People once addicted to substances will turn to using people. Encourage them to pray and dig into God’s Word for answers.
3. Set expectations! What seems pushy and overbearing to us will appear as attention and love to them.
4. Young believers need much accountability, attention, and reassurance that they are loved! They need a “best” friend!

## **Session 5 – Chartering Procedures and Q/A**

### **A. The Chartering Process and Initial Start-up**

1. Step One – Application
2. Step Two – Headquarters Approval
3. Step Three – Pay Annual License Fee
4. Step Four – Purchase curriculum components from BJU Press and purchase *Leader's Guide* and awards from the *FTL™* chapter e-store.
5. Step Five – Start Training

### **B. FreedomTracker Software**

1. Student Registration and Care-Group Database
2. Attendance and Progress Tracker
3. Key Care Indicator and Award Tracker
4. Chapter Portal to operational, promotional, and training files, and to the chapter e-store for training materials and student awards

### **C. [www.FreedomThatLasts.com](http://www.FreedomThatLasts.com)**

1. Overview of the ministry
2. Public e-Store

### **D. Questions and Answers**