

# HOPE SUNDAY OVERVIEW

**Hosting a Hope Sunday is a great opportunity for your whole church, as you become part of unlocking freedom and helping to change lives and end slavery.**

Here at Hope for Justice we firmly believe that Jesus' answer to everything lies within the Local Church, and that we can proactively be His hands and feet in our towns and cities.

**People in our communities are the key to freedom for the survivors that Hope for Justice help: men, women and children around the world.**

Hosting a Hope Sunday lets you as a church leader confirm with your congregation your desire to do as it speaks in Psalm 72: "For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight."

## HOPE FOR JUSTICE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH THE TOOLS TO SHARE THIS VISION:

### PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

This will include a poster and ad reel to promote your Hope Sunday

### IMPACTFUL RESCUE STORIES

We will share stories about lives recently rescued from traffickers and now healing in freedom

### MEDIA CONTENT

This will include a video of a rescue story, slides and images you can use

### ADVICE AND TIPS

Our experienced team will ensure your Hope Sunday goes as smoothly and as successfully as it possibly can!

*"For me it did start by going across the world but now it's turned into realizing that it's just about going across the street. There is need all around us."*

*-- Natalie Grant, Co-Founder, Hope for Justice --*



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# REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

**Your congregation will leave Hope Sunday equipped and empowered not only with awareness of human trafficking and its impact on society but with a clearer idea about being part of the solution.**

We know the weight attached to Sunday services for you and want to make sure your experience of a Hope Sunday is nothing but smooth sailing. We will truly work alongside you, partnering with you and your church! We will liaise with you as church leader prior to a Hope Sunday, ensuring complete peace of mind for the day.

When you register your interest, we will provide you with a suggested running order and the details of the logistics of the day for planning with your teams. We will also provide you with access to an online resource from where you can download all of the material you need for the day.

We work with hundreds of churches around the world and we are firm believers in the immense power of the local church to do amazing good. We will equip you with all the tools you need and we are here to serve you.

**If you do not feel able to do your own talk, we are sometimes able to provide a trained speaker from Hope for Justice to come to your church. You can discuss this with us when you register your interest.**

**REGISTER YOUR INTEREST IN HOSTING A HOPE SUNDAY TODAY!  
VISIT: [WWW.HOPEFORJUSTICE.ORG/HOPE-SUNDAY-REGISTRATION](http://WWW.HOPEFORJUSTICE.ORG/HOPE-SUNDAY-REGISTRATION)**

*"If we're going to see the end of slavery, we're going to need the local church.  
We're going to need you."*

*-- Ben Cooley, CEO, Hope for Justice --*



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# OUR MISSION IS PART OF GOD'S MISSION

**We believe that our mission to end modern-day slavery is part of the mission of God revealed through scripture.**

One of the running narratives in the Bible is that God desires to bring liberation and restoration to those held in captivity.

Starting with the liberation of the Israelites in Exodus, and running all the way to the restoration of Heaven and Earth of Revelation, the Bible constantly reveals a God who cares about rescuing, restoring, and reforming the world.

In the Gospels, Jesus declares this mission at the start of His ministry in Luke 4:16-20. There, Jesus goes to the synagogue in the town of Nazareth and reads from Isaiah 61. He says: "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."

After reading this, Jesus sits down and declares, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." This is a powerful moment. It is powerful because it reveals the purpose of the ministry of Jesus.

He came to proclaim good news to the poor, bring freedom to the oppressed and captive, and recovery to those who need it. But not only does it reveal the purpose of Jesus' ministry, it also affirms God's overarching mission for the world. God deeply cares about liberating and restoring those who are held in captivity.

Today, Hope for Justice strives to bring liberation and restoration to those held in the bondage of modern slavery.

**We seek to end it by rescuing victims, restoring lives, and reforming society. We do this because we believe God has called all of those who follow him to this mission.**

*"For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no-one to help. he will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight." - Psalm 72*



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# GROWING THE GUARDIAN MOVEMENT

*“For freedom Christ has set us free.”  
Galatians 5*

**A GUARDIAN rescues victims of trafficking, restores their dreams and reforms society.**

They are our amazing community of regular givers who fund freedom by giving at least \$18 a month to Hope for Justice. We rely on the support of our GUARDIANS to continue changing lives and ending slavery.

We wouldn't be able to do this without them and they are a vital part of our movement.

During Hope Sunday, we want to raise awareness about trafficking, but we also want to inspire your congregation to take a stand and see the impact that they can have by supporting our work. We value the opportunity to be able to come and speak to your congregation about Hope for Justice

and to be able to give them the chance to fund freedom if they feel inspired to do so.

The way we would normally do this would be by placing a GUARDIAN form, along with a pen, on each chair ahead of the talk, and to show a short film demonstrating the impact each individual can make. The congregation is then invited to sign up to be a GUARDIAN.

We will discuss this approach with you ahead of the event to ensure you are happy with this process and if necessary, we can discuss alternative ways for the GUARDIAN concept to be presented.

We do not have any targets or expectations from the church or the congregation, we are just incredibly grateful to be able to share our vision and have the opportunity to inspire people to take action.

*“We love to make time in our gigs to talk about important causes like the one Hope for Justice fights for; we believe highlighting these kinds of issues is a huge part of worship.”*

*-- Patrick Thompson, Rend Collective --*



# MEGAN'S STORY

**Many of the human trafficking cases that we're working on here within the United States weigh heavily on vulnerable women who are exploited into sex trafficking.**

They often get sucked into this world through false promises made by the traffickers, and are then kept compliant through threats, violence, drugs and deception.

One recent investigation concerned a young girl called Megan\*. She met a man online and travelled to another state to meet him.

During their 'relationship', he got her addicted to heroin and then began trafficking her for sexual exploitation to various cities throughout the United States.

Megan's mother said she felt frantic and helpless, she was in despair at what a trafficker was doing to her daughter.

**Then she found out about Hope for Justice, and contacted us.**

She said: "The first call I got was from the investigator at Hope for Justice in Nashville. He was real positive about what I had sent him, and you know we had a case. I was very confident that they would keep digging and they would get justice."

Hope for Justice investigators – a team of seasoned detectives with long careers in law enforcement – got to work. They followed a number of leads and managed to track down Megan and rescue her

from this horrifying situation of exploitation and abuse. The investigation has now been turned over to federal law enforcement for prosecution. An individual who has come out of a trafficking situation is both psychologically and emotionally distraught. To be able to bridge that gap and give them the services that they need, whether that's health care or rehabilitative care, is key to the success of turning the life around for the trafficked victim.

Megan's mother said:

**"When I received a call that she was safe, words can't explain it enough. I was so overwhelmed and so grateful that she didn't die, and justice was going to be served."**

Talking to us later from the hospital where Megan was being treated for injuries inflicted on her by her trafficker, her mother wanted to pass along a personal message of thanks to everyone who supports Hope for Justice: "I couldn't be more thankful for the people that keep this program going and donate to this program. And I will be donating. It's going to take everybody."

She also send an email back to our lead investigator on that case, calling him "an angel" and telling how thankful she was that Hope for Justice was there to rescue Megan.

*\*Name changed to protect the identity of the trafficking survivor.*



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# HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE UNITED STATES

**Human trafficking is the illegal movement of people, typically for forced labor or commercial sexual exploitation. It means forcing someone to work against their will.**

The key to all trafficking is not the work the victims are doing. Rather, it is the conditions under which they have to work: through some type of force, fraud or coercion. They might be forced to sell sexual acts, or to work as a waiter or a nanny or a landscaper, in a nail salon or a factory. Reliable, authoritative numbers do not exist, but every study suggests its presence here is endemic, and you may be surprised to learn that most victims identified in the US are US citizens, not foreigners. It is an evil crime, profiting from human misery and taking people's freedom in humiliating and often barbaric ways.

## TESTIMONIALS ABOUT THE WORK OF HOPE FOR JUSTICE

### **FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE, JOHN KERRY:**

Speaking at the launch of the 2016 Trafficking in Persons Report: "[Hope for Justice] helped get him his life back and see that his tormentors were prosecuted."

Kerry was referring to a highly publicized case in which Hope for Justice helped a man held in domestic slavery for 24 years.

### **SENATOR BOB CORKER (R-TENN.):**

"More than two years ago, with input from leading stakeholders and industry experts, we created a bold vision to not only fight the horrific practice of modern slavery but to end it, and in December, the End Modern Slavery Initiative Act was signed into law. Hope for Justice played a critical role in those efforts, and I appreciate the work this important organization continues to do to rescue and restore victims of modern slavery."

### **THERESA MAY, PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM:**

"I am grateful for the important work Hope for Justice is doing to tackle modern-day slavery."

### **TITH LIM, UNITED NATIONS ACTION FOR COOPERATION AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (UN-ACT):**

"Hope for Justice has played a key role in the area of victim support...In addition, Hope for Justice takes part in improving policies related to victim protection. I hope Hope for Justice will continue working with UN-ACT and other actors to assist the victims and improve their wellbeing."



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