



**Week 12 | Slaves No More | July 19, 2015**

**Opening Up:**

1. What is something no one should ever trust you to do?
2. What is something you would never (or seldom) trust anyone else to do?
3. What makes trust hard?
4. What do you look for in a trusting relationship?
5. Why do you trust or not trust God?
6. What is something you seldom or never trust God with, but should?

**Reference: Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:7-16**

**Discuss:**

1. It has been said that worship is the only way out of slavery to your idols. Exodus begins in slavery, but it ends in worship. Worship is depending on and obeying the one your serve. What makes depending on God hard? What things do you depend on other than God?
2. In the passage in Numbers we discovered that there were two poisonous snakes. One was biting the Israelites physically, and one had already bitten them spiritually. The snake in the garden caused even Adam and Eve to grow dissatisfied with the Garden of Eden. What are some symptoms of the spiritual poison that brings on profound discontentment in life?
3. In Numbers 5:7 the people repent to Moses, and Moses praises them for it. Why are forgiveness and reconciliation so difficult to come by? How does community help us to experience forgiveness and reconciliation?
4. What can your group do to foster a greater sense of community?
5. What can your group do to foster more vulnerability and confession of sin?
6. Is there a sin area of your life you want to confess and be prayed for right now?
7. Is there an area where you are struggling in your faith and trust in God that you could use prayer or counsel for right now?
8. Jesus restores us relationally through being lifted up on the cross. In the same way that Israel was saved by looking at the snake being lifted up, we are saved by looking at Jesus being lifted up on the cross. What or who do you look at when life gets hard? What about when life is fun? How is looking at Jesus simple, yet profound?
9. Pray.