



How to Use the AIM Sex Trafficking Prevention Course

Our primary audience in designing this course was small groups or community groups in churches who can go through the course one session at a time over seven weeks. Groups may modify the schedule of course, but the homework, supplemental readings, and community mapping exercises are designed for a seven-session course. However, we understand that churches and individuals may also wish to use this course outside of the small group setting. The following are some basic guidelines to help each type of audience use these materials most effectively.

For Small Groups, Community Groups, or Bible Studies

1. **Choose a leader or leaders.** Nominate one or more leaders who will be in charge of preparing each session's materials and leading the discussion each week. The Leader's Guide that provides step-by-step instructions on taking a group through a session, but the leader(s) should be aware that they will have extra work which must be completed during the week before the week's session. There are different levels of depth to which the leader may complete the community mapping homework, but we expect that it will take 2-8 hours during the week.

If there is no one or two people who want take on the leadership of the group, you can nominate a new leader every week. However, it is very important that all of the information from previous leaders is passed on to each new leader so there is continuity in the research you conduct regarding your community.

2. **Choose a date and time you will meet regularly.** People lead busy lives. If you don't have a set day and time, it can be easy to get sidetracked. Each session, including the video and group discussion should take about one hour each week.
3. **Use the Leader's Guide.** The Leader's Guide was created with small groups in mind. Follow the instructions for each session, discuss the homework, review the supplemental materials, learn about work ongoing in your own communities, and spend time each week prayerfully considering the action steps you are being called to take.

For Individuals

1. **Choose your schedule.** We highly recommend that you do not go through the course all in one sitting. The course covers a lot of information, and, more importantly, it offers major action steps for you to take. These action steps require time to prayerfully consider how God may be calling you to respond.

2. ***During each session or sessions watch the video and do the homework.*** If there is any session that raises questions or about which you are interested in learning more, go to the supplemental materials for that session.
3. ***Community Mapping.*** Prayerfully consider where God may be calling you to put your time—whether intercepting the supply, confronting the demand, or transforming facilitators. Do the community mapping exercises for the area to which you feel drawn and identify organizations or ministries where you might get involved. We don't recommend completing all of the community mapping exercises if you are working through this on your own because you won't use most of the other information unless you are plugged into a larger network of individuals.

For Churches – Short-Term Training Course

Churches have done this training in the past as a two-day training course for a larger audience. While the benefit of doing this in the small group setting is giving individuals the time to prayerfully consider how God may be calling them to act, in a larger group setting, it is possible to invite representatives from different ministries or organizations to which attendees can sign up immediately to volunteer their time or give their resources. The following are basic guidelines and ideas for how this might look.

1. ***Choose your schedule.*** We have seen churches go through this curriculum as a five-week course or as a two-day intensive course. For a five-week course, we would recommend one 2-hour session each week. You can also do a two-day intensive training course. We would recommend an evening and a full day, allowing time for intermittent breaks.

For a two-day intensive course, see the [Sample Church Training Schedule](#).

For a five-week course, the sessions may be broken up as follows:

- Week 1: Session 1 (Introduction) and Session 2 (A Case for Hope and the Prevention Template)
- Week 2: Session 3 (Intercepting Supply)
- Week 3: Session 4 (Confronting Demand Part I)
- Week 4: Session 5 (Confronting Demand Part II)
- Week 5: Session 6 (Transforming Facilitators) and Session 7 (From Awareness to Action)

2. ***Choose your leader or leadership team.*** There must be someone who will be a point person for the training. They will be responsible for setting the schedule, facilitating discussion whether in the large or small groups, and preparing all of the community mapping materials beforehand.
3. ***Complete the community mapping, bring representatives to the training and provide time for networking.*** The leader or team should go through all of the materials beforehand, in particular the community mapping exercises. In order for an all church training to be most effective, they should do the more extensive version of the community mapping – identifying viable ministries or organizations where attendees might volunteer or want to give. This should include doing the research on their accountability and integrity. These ministries or

organizations should then be invited to attend the relevant weeks or segments of the training course so that attendees can meet them at the events and sign up to volunteer or contribute immediately. Make sure to provide space and time for the representatives from these organizations to be able to share and for attendees to be able to meet them and learn more.

4. ***Provide for time for small group discussion.*** Choose small group discussion leaders and divide the larger group into sections for people to be able to discuss some of the questions provided in the homework. While they do not need to go through all of the homework materials, it is good to share some of the questions with them. The leader or leadership team should develop the materials for the small group discussion leaders ahead of time.
5. ***Make supplemental materials available for attendees.*** While most attendees will not read through of the supplemental materials, they should at least be made aware that there are other supplemental materials available online. You can do this by providing lists of materials or website URLs.
6. ***Be creative.*** Consider how to help people in your church get involved. Sign up as a church to support one of the ministries in your area. Create an ongoing prayer and action team that will pray about this issue and encourage each other as they get involved working to prevent sex trafficking in your community.