



CORNER FRINGE MINISTRIES

FREEDOM IN MESSIAH

Student Guide | Week 1

You Were Named Before Egypt Touched You

THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

Chapter 1 is about this: Many of us are living as prisoners of a past that Yeshua already paid to set us free from. We have been given a new name, a new identity, a new covenant, and yet we are still answering to Pharaoh.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY ANCHOR

"If anyone is in Messiah, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away — behold, all things have become new."

2 Corinthians 5:17

A THOUGHT TO CARRY THROUGH THE WEEK

Before Israel left Egypt, ADONAI insisted on naming them — Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah. Not workers. Not slaves. Their names. The entire book of Exodus in Hebrew is called Shemot — Names — because the whole story is about a God who never stopped knowing His people by name, even when Pharaoh was doing everything possible to reduce them to a slave labor force.

You were named by ADONAI before Egypt ever touched you. This week is about remembering and encouraging the members of your group to remember your identity in Messiah Yeshua.

BREAKOUT SESSION

Week 1 | You Don't Have to Live in the Shadows

Total time: 60 minutes | No facilitator needed — follow the steps

HOW THIS WORKS

There is no leader in this group — everyone follows the steps together. Each step has a time guide. Stay with the step you are on. If someone in the group needs more time on a particular step, the group can choose to continue with it. The structure serves the people, not the other way around.

The goal is not to get through all of the steps. The goal is that each person in the group leaves having done real work and no member of the group leaves feeling left behind.

Open your session with prayer. Let the Spirit guide one of you to begin.

STEP 1 LAND THE TEACHING 8–10 minutes

Someone in the group reads this aloud before anyone responds:

The teaching this week confronted us with a gap — the gap between who God says we are and how we are actually living. Israel had a God-given identity and was living like they had forgotten it entirely. Pharaoh's strategy was not to destroy them outright. It was to exhaust them and redefine them — to keep them so busy carrying bricks that they had no energy left to remember who they were.

Take 2 minutes of silence. Let each person answer this question privately before anyone speaks:

Where in your life right now are you carrying bricks that are keeping you too exhausted to remember who God says you are?

My honest answer to Step 1:

Now go around the group. Let each person share his or her answer as honestly as possible. No cross-talk while someone is sharing. When everyone has spoken, move to Step 2.

STEP 2 GO DEEPER TOGETHER 20–25 minutes

This is the heart of the session. This tool helps you identify the names you have been identifying with and exchange them for the name God has given you, instead. The question is harder than Step 1. It requires more honesty. Take 2 minutes of silence before anyone speaks — let each person sit with their thoughts privately first.

Step 1: In the left column, write the names you have been answering to. These are not your actual name — they are the labels, the lies, the identities that have been shaping how you live. Take your time. Be specific. One name per row.

Step 2: In the right column, write what God actually says about you in place of each false name. Use scripture if possible. If you do not know a specific verse, write what you believe to be true based on what you have learned.

Step 3: Read your right column out loud. That is the voice you are learning to answer to.

What false name have you taken and who gave it to you?	What does God say about you, instead?

When you are ready, go around the group and let each person respond. The group listens fully before anyone else speaks. If someone in the group is particularly moved by this question — if the Holy Spirit is clearly doing something — let the group stay with that person. Do not rush past a real moment to stay on schedule. That is what the time margin is for. Discuss what names you have been identifying with that God never gave you. Say it out loud and renounce it as a lie. And then declare the truth about what God actually says about you. When everyone has spoken, move to Step 3.

STEP 3 THE ROOT WORK 20–25 minutes

Take 2–5 minutes to complete the Root Question Framework privately and honestly. Where did the false names come from and how do we replace them with the Truth?

You can do this exercise for each of the false names you’ve been working with and each identity God has given you in its place. Use the copy provided in the “Breakout Tool” for additional space.

This is individual work first. Write it down. The act of writing forces honesty in a way that thinking alone does not.

THE ROOT QUESTION FRAMEWORK
Go deeper on what steps one and two surfaced.

The behavior is:	<i>What do I keep doing — or running to — that I know is not producing life?</i>
The feeling is:	<i>What does it feel like right before I go there? Shame? Fear? Emptiness? Loneliness?</i>
The lie beneath is:	<i>What must I believe about myself — or about God — for this to feel necessary?</i>
The truth is:	<i>What does God actually say about me in this place? (Use scripture if you can.)</i>

After everyone has had time to write, go around the group. Each person shares what they wrote — as much or as little as they are ready to share. The group listens. No fixing, no advising, no jumping to solutions. Just witness what each person brings.

After everyone has shared, ask this together:

GROUP REFLECTION

What do the lies beneath our behaviors have in common? Is there a pattern in what this group believes about God — or about ourselves — that is keeping us from the freedom Yeshua has already purchased?

PREPARE TO SHARE

When you return to the main room, your group may be asked to share. Together, decide on one thing — one insight, one moment, one declaration — that represents what happened in your group today. Write it here so you don't lose it.

Complete this sentence as a group: "This week, our group discovered that _____."

Here's what our group is taking away:

STEP 4 CLOSING PRAYER 2-5 minutes

Allow the Spirit to lead one person to close in prayer. Then go around the group — each person may pray one sentence if they are willing. No one is required to pray. No one is skipped over without grace.

Suggested focus: Pray the Memory Anchor back to God as a declaration over your own life. Then ask Him to meet the specific thing you named today.

One person closes the prayer when the group is ready.