



CORNER FRINGE MINISTRIES

FREEDOM IN MESSIAH

Leader Guide | Week 8 | The Voice Identification Tool

Renouncing the Voice that Condemns

01 SESSION OVERVIEW

A leaders snapshot for meeting night

Theme	Accusation & Condemnation
Core Focus	Inability to distinguish the voice of the accuser from the voice of God — carrying guilt that was never meant to be carried
Exodus	Exodus 15:22–25 — Three days from the pinnacle of deliverance and Israel is bitter and accusatory. God does not lecture them. He shows Moses a tree, and the bitter water becomes sweet.
Memory Anchor	"Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Messiah Yeshua." — Romans 8:1

SESSION TIMING		
Welcome & Open	5 min	<i>Cameras on, welcome people, frame the evening</i>
Teaching Video	9–11 min	<i>Play the recorded lesson — give relevant context</i>
Breakout Groups	60 min	<i>Student Guide drives the session (Breakout Tool secondary)</i>
Main Room Recap	15–20 min	<i>Groups share, leader guides discussion</i>
Close & Prayer	5 min	<i>Use the Memory Anchor, send with purpose</i>

WHAT THIS MEETING IS REALLY ABOUT

This week addresses one of the most persistent sources of spiritual stagnation: The inability to tell the difference between the Ruach HaKodesh's conviction and the enemy's condemnation. Many people in your group have been living under condemnation they mistakenly attributed to God.

The breakthrough this week is often quiet but significant — a person realizing that the crushing weight they have been carrying for years is not God's verdict on them. When that realization lands, give it room.

02 LEADER SELF-CHECK*Think about this ahead of time*

You cannot lead people into territory you have been unwilling to enter yourself. Take five minutes alone with these questions in preparation for meeting night.

Sometime before the first meeting, honestly contemplate these questions:

1. Can I personally distinguish the voice of conviction from the voice of condemnation in my own interior life? What does each one feel like?
2. Is there something I am still carrying that I have already repented of — guilt the accuser has kept alive that God has already resolved?
3. Am I quick to receive condemnation when I fail, or do I genuinely live from Romans 8:1 as a present-tense reality?
4. Do I tend to communicate God's standard to my group in a way that produces conviction and restoration — or in a way that produces condemnation and distance?
5. Have I prayed for discernment tonight — to recognize when the accuser's voice is present in the room?

WHY THIS MATTERS

A leader who has not done their own work will unconsciously steer the group away from the places they themselves have avoided. You do not have to be perfect or fully healed to lead this group. But you do have to be honest — with yourself and also with God. If you feel unsettled about any of the questions above, please spend some more time with additional preparation and prayer.

03 BEFORE AND DURING THE SESSION*Reference the Week 1 Leader Guide for more detail*

A well-prepared leader creates a well-prepared room. Please review the Week 1 Leader Guide for a reminder of how to prepare.

Prayer Focus This Week

- Pray for the person in your group who has been living under condemnation for something God has already forgiven. Ask the Spirit to make Romans 8:1 land as personally and completely true for them tonight.
- Pray for the group's capacity to distinguish the two voices. Ask God to give them a clear and personal experience of what conviction feels like versus what condemnation feels like.
- Pray for yourself — that you would be a leader who communicates truth in a way that draws people toward God rather than producing shame that drives them away.

Pastoral Notes (What this session tends to surface):

- By Week 8 the group has been working together long enough that deeper disclosure is more common. What surfaces this week may be more significant than what surfaced in the early weeks — people are more trusted and more vulnerable.

- The Marah passage is a gift for this week — God's response to bitterness and accusation is not rebuke but remedy. A tree thrown into the water. The pattern of God responding to complaint with provision rather than condemnation is theologically important and pastorally reassuring. Use it in the debrief if it did not surface in the groups.
- Watch for the person who has been confusing God's character with the character of a harsh authority figure in their past. Their condemnation is real but it is not coming from God — it is coming from a learned template that has been projected onto Him. This is not a one-session resolution, but naming it clearly is a significant step.

LEADER DEVELOPMENT | RECEIVING VULNERABILITY WELL

This week practice the specific skill of speaking a truth directly over a person rather than offering it as a general principle. There is a difference between 'Romans 8:1 says there is no condemnation' and 'There is no condemnation for you — right now, about this specific thing.' The second form lands differently. It requires you to apply the truth personally and specifically rather than leaving the person to do it themselves. Practice this in the debrief: Take what someone shared and speak the relevant truth directly back to them, by name, in the first person.

A WORD FOR YOU

Eight weeks in and the group is doing real work. Some of what has been shared in the last few sessions would not have been safe to share in Week 1. That trust was built — session by session, follow-up by follow-up, prayer by prayer. This week you helped people see the difference between the voice of their Father and the voice of their accuser. That is not a small pastoral act. Some people will carry that distinction for the rest of their lives. You are doing good work. Keep going.

04 DURING THE BREAKOUT

How to observe, analyze, and respond as a shepherd

Moving through the rooms is active listening with a purpose. Here is what to look for this week:

- Groups working through steps in sequence. People writing before speaking. Personal and specific conversation rather than abstract and theological.
- No single voice dominating. Genuine listening — not just waiting to speak. Moments of silence that signal real engagement.

WATCH FOR LISTEN FOR RESPOND WITH	
Person under long-term condemnation	Watch for language that suggests someone has been carrying guilt for years — something they have repented of many times but cannot seem to release. That is the accuser's work, not God's. In the debrief, point clearly to Romans 8:1 as present-tense, unconditional, and specifically for them.
Confusion between conviction and condemnation	Some people will be genuinely unable to tell the difference. That is the week's work. If the group is struggling with the distinction, use the directional test: conviction moves you toward God, toward a specific change, toward restoration. Condemnation moves you away from God, toward a spiral, toward a verdict about who you are.
Resistance to releasing guilt	Some people have carried guilt so long it has become part of their identity. Letting it go can feel wrong — even arrogant. Watch for this. Do not push. Ask: What would it mean for your relationship with God if you actually let this go? Often the resistance reveals something deeper that needs attention.

Relief in the room

When Romans 8:1 lands genuinely, relief often follows. This is the right response. Do not immediately redirect to responsibility or qualification — let the relief be full before you move on. Grace that is immediately qualified is not fully received.

Person confusing confession with self-punishment

Some people confuse genuine repentance with ongoing self-condemnation. Watch for the person who confesses the same thing repeatedly in the group — not because they are unrepentant but because they have not yet received forgiveness. Gently distinguish: confession is the act. Receiving forgiveness is the completion of it.

Use this framework for the situations most likely to arise this week:

When someone is carrying guilt about something that genuinely harmed others:

- Acknowledge the reality — the harm was real, the guilt is understandable.
- Distinguish between the guilt before God — which Yeshua's blood has covered — and any remaining relational responsibility, which may require separate action.
- Do not attempt to resolve both in the same conversation.
- Bring it to Mike if it involves ongoing harm or unresolved relationship damage.

When someone cannot stop condemning themselves:

- Name what you are observing gently: I notice you keep returning to this. The accuser does not want you to receive what God has already declared.
- Point to Romans 8:1 specifically and personally: This verse is for you, right now, about this specific thing.
- Follow up privately. Persistent self-condemnation can be a sign of something that needs more than one session.

ON THE DOMINANT VOICE — A CONSISTENT REMINDER

The person who dominates is rarely doing it maliciously. But their volume creates quiet for everyone else — and in that quiet, the people who most need to speak stay silent. Address it privately after the session, never in front of the group. The Student Guide structure — writing before speaking at every step — is the tool. If the dominant voice is skipping the writing, that is the specific pattern to address.

05 GUIDING THE RETURN, CLOSING THE SESSION, AND BETWEEN SESSIONS

Reference the Week 1 Leader Guide for more detail

Please refer to the Week 1 Leader Guide for the proper tips and procedures on what to think about and do relative to the return, closing the session, and what to do in-between sessions. Don't forget that the Week 1 Leader Guide also explains when difficult moments require escalation and how to refer to Pastor Mike. Please reference it when needed.

- Follow up with anyone who seemed to be carrying significant long-term condemnation — the kind that did not fully resolve in the session.
- Note whether the group as a whole seems to be moving from condemnation toward grace. That shift is measurable and worth reporting to Mike.
- Pray specifically this week for the person in your group most under the accuser's voice.
- Do the Week 9 personal reflection before the session.

ENCOURAGING WITHOUT ENABLING

Healthy encouragement honors honesty and points toward the next step. Enabling stops at the wound and goes no further — over time it teaches people that their story is their identity, which is exactly the lie this curriculum is breaking. When in doubt: affirm the honesty, point to the Memory Anchor, let the Word do the work.

Thank you again for your service to Corner Fringe Ministries and the Kingdom of God!