

How to host a racial justice film night

Planning

1. Download a copy of ***After the Flood: the Church, Slavery and Reconciliation***
2. You can access the film trailer using this link <https://vimeo.com/686398655>
3. Find a venue and set a date
4. Invite your team and wider congregation

Equipment needed

Large TV or projector

Laptop/Computer with internet access

Post it notes

White board or display board

Pens

Before the film night download a copy of the film

All facilitation notes are in blue

Time	Action
0:30	Set up the venue Set up your chairs in a theatre style facing the screen Connect the computer to the screen either wirelessly or using a HDMI cable Check that both the picture and the sound work When setting up the film select closed captions so that subtitles are included on the screen Set up cabaret style seating in the same room for your discussion questions
	DOORS OPEN (10 mins before start time)
0:05	Introduction to the Film Night <i>Welcome:</i> <i>Let participants know about any housekeeping e.g. location of bathrooms, fire exits etc</i> <i>Share the running order for the evening</i> <i>Introduction: The film we are watching today has been created by The Movement for Justice and Reconciliation. This 67-minute feature documentary shows how the 18th century Church became embroiled in chattel slavery. We will discover how the Church justified its involvement in the trade and its lasting impact. The film then explores what this means for Christian reconciliation today.</i> <i>Once we have watched the film, we will take a short 5 min break and then get into small groups to discuss our reactions to the film.</i> <i>The entire evening will take 2 hrs and we will finish by X this evening.</i>
1:10	Watch After the Flood: the Church, Slavery and Reconciliation
0:05	Comfort Break
0:05	Introduce the conversation guidelines - (a powerpoint has been provided that you can use on the screen)

	<p>*IMPORTANT PLEASE READ*</p> <p>It is important that these guidelines are used with their introduction as we are using a framework that does not belong to us and was not created by us. Acknowledging and respecting the work of indigenous people is part of the work of racial justice.</p> <p><i>Introduction: These guidelines have been shared by the indigenous peoples of North America who use these guidelines as a part of a process called talking circles. The circles are used to discuss difficult and contested topics, ensuring that everyone is heard and everyone is respected. The circle is sacred as it is unending, and reminds us of our connection to one another and our connection to the natural world.</i></p> <p><i>Speak to each guideline in turn</i></p> <p>Conversation Guidelines</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Respect the person talking so they can convey their full message without interruption. 2. Listen respectfully and non-judgementally. Reflect upon, consider, and honour the meaning of what others say so you can build on the conversation. 3. You can pass if you need to. Nonverbal communication and silence sometimes say more than words. 4. Mute your mobile phone and computer devices so as not to interrupt others. 5. Speak for yourself and from your own experiences and perspectives. Use “I language” and not generic “people think. . .” or sweeping generalizations, like “students want. . .” language. 6. Be courageous, honest, and open with your own stories. Speak your truth from your heart and be open to hearing others’ truths. 7. Listen from the heart, allowing what others say to move you. Bear witness but do not provide advice or argue with others. 8. Honour what others say with confidentiality and integrity, sharing only with context and in relevance to your own life and learning, not as gossip.
0:20	<p>Group Questions:</p> <p>Split into groups of 4-5 to go through the reflection questions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Let’s start somewhere personal - what stands out or resonates most for you from what we’ve seen and heard so far today? What’s agitating you from a faith perspective? 2. How can churches reckon with their complicity in the injustice of racial inequality and what are the spiritual and practical steps that can move us forward? 3. Where are you seeing the church act for racial justice – what gives you hope?
0:05	<p>Final reflection</p> <p><i>Preparation: On a white board create a vertical line to split the board in half. On one side write the word ‘Impact’. On the other side write the word ‘Explore’. Place the board near the exit. When people have written their reflection notes they will stick these to the board in the corresponding sections as they leave. Keep the post it notes (or take a photo) to use in the following Slavery Truth Project sessions.</i></p>

	<p>Gather everyone back together Give each person 2 post it notes and ask them to answer the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write down one thing that impacted you from this film 2. Write down one thing that you'd like to explore further
0:05	<p>Closing prayer and goodnight</p> <p>Prayer God of love, You created all human beings in your image and likeness. Bearing your image, you call on us to reflect your goodness, justice, and love to all the world. Remind us of our call to follow your Son and to speak out for justice, mercy, and compassion. As we come before you in prayer, teach us to respect your image in all human beings, and help us to defend your image in all human beings, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.</p> <p>Ask people to stick their post it notes to the boards on their way out</p>
0:05	Slippage Time
0:20	<p>Clean up Collect post it notes for STP project group to review</p>