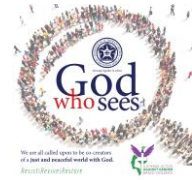




EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN SOUTHERN AFRICA



Genesis 37: 5-27

“You are the God who Sees” (Gen 16: 13) Human Trafficking

Sermon Template

Introduction

- Remind the congregation about the main Hagar Campaign – “You are the God who sees”(Gen 16: 13)
- Introduce the theme for the month – **Human Trafficking in Gen 37: 5-27**

Background to the text

The story of Joseph in Genesis 37-50 is a well-known story in the life of the church. In this CBS we focus on the **first chapter of this story (Genesis 37)**. The story of Joseph is told over many chapters, and moves from a focus on the family to a focus on the Egyptian nation, and then back to a focus on the family. The first chapter of this story, Gen 37, lays the foundation for the story that follows. We are fortunate to have permission to use the woodcut by the late Azaria Mbatha as a resource for this CBS. Mbatha focuses on the family story, but connects this story to the wider world of human trafficking. Note that in this story Jacob, Joseph’s father, is also called Israel. It is also important to note that Joseph comes from a polygamous family, with one father and four mothers. The brothers therefore have different mothers. This is an important aspect of the story.

SEE

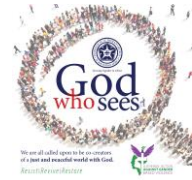
- Remind the congregation about the theme for 500 years of reformation by LWF – 12 Assembly in Windhoek in 2017: **“People are not for Sale”**
- Provide information about the **impact of human trafficking in your context** to introduce your sermon

JUDGE

- “The God who sees everyone, especially those living in the captivity of human trafficking” (Gen 37: 27)
- What does God see in Human trafficking? Why are people not meant to be sold? Use the imago dei (Gen 1: 26-27) to argue that people are created in the image of God and therefore resembled a God who sees injustices and suffering (Exod 3: 7-10)
- You can use Azariah Mbatha’s panels to narrate the story of Joseph’s trafficking to Egypt by his brothers
- **Human trafficking involves illegal trade of Capeople**, in the gospel of Matthew, Jesus was sold by Judas Iscariot for 30 pieces of silver coins (Matthew 26: 14-16) which can be appropriated as a form of Human trafficking. Human trafficking is a modern-day slavery that needs to be condemned and challenged by the church



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- **Human being is created equal (Colossians 3: 9-11)** before God and therefore deserve to be treated with respect.

ACT

- Call on the congregation to fight against human trafficking and to protect vulnerable women and children from this heinous crime.

Conclusion

- Conclude with a summary of key issues in the sermon and give a charge to the congregation

LUTHERAN ACTION
AGAINST GENDER
BASED VIOLENCE

Resist|Revive|Restore