



Enough is our Concordia University Texas theme for the 2023-2024 academic year.

CONNECT

with self and others:

- 1. What do you know about human trafficking?
2. What might you say or do for someone you meet who has been "human trafficked?"

1 Why, LORD, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble? 2 In his arrogance the wicked man hunts down the weak, who are caught in the schemes he devises. 3 He boasts about the cravings of his heart; he blesses the greedy and reviles the LORD. 4 In his pride the wicked man does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God. 5 His ways are always prosperous; your laws are rejected by him; he sneers at all his enemies. 6 He says to himself, "Nothing will ever shake me." He swears, "No one will ever do me harm." 7 His mouth is full of lies and threats; trouble and evil are under his tongue. 8 He lies in wait near the villages; from ambush he murders the innocent. His eyes watch in secret for his victims; 9 like a lion in cover he lies in wait. He lies in wait

NOTES: [blank lines for notes]

ENGAGE

the Word.

Our theme this month around campus, in chapel, and in our Grow Groups is the line, "There's more than enough joy in human life." We are exploring tough life topics through biblical lenses during the January national celebration of Human Life Month in America. Some of these topics can be super tough to tackle, can bring up deep wounding, and leave us hopeless. That is not our goal.

The goal for this month is to go deep into the idea that God has designed us in the image of God, given each human inherent dignity and value, and made a way for our eternal salvation and the redemption of all things Jesus Christ. And in the midst of that, our world is filled with evil, and all of our hearts are corrupt. We desperately need Jesus.

One of the topics we want to converse about is human trafficking. Did you know that according to UNICEF (2017), human trafficking is the second most profitable illegal industry in the United States, second only to the drug trade? In addition, sex trafficking is the most common type of trafficking in the U.S. In 2021, 72% of trafficking situations were sexual exploitation (Polaris, 2021). It is reported that there are then more "slaves" today in the world than at any other time in human history. Lord, help us all.

One of the proper responses to human trafficking is lament. The psalmist laments to God for help in situations that seem overwhelmingly evil and beyond our control.

READ
Psalm 10

