



True Freedom - a new global resource

The World Council of Churches and The Clewer Initiative combine forces to launch a substantial new resource for Lent 2024.

True Freedom, a six-week course for Lent, draws on themes from the book of Galatians, and encourages individuals and churches to respond to modern slavery in their communities. The resource is part of an ongoing collaboration, which began in March 2020, between the World Council of Churches and The Clewer Initiative. The collaboration has a particular focus on ending child slavery.

The two organisations saw the potential for creating a resource, similar to *Woman in the Shadows*, *Children in the Shadows* and *Journeys* (past Lent devotionals by The Clewer Initiative), but with an international focus.

Victoria Ashdown, a Mission Enabler for Communities at the Diocese of Guildford, explains: "There is a tendency to believe that modern slavery doesn't happen in a leafy county like Surrey but tragically it does! It is so important to raise awareness, particularly in our churches where people might encounter victims of modern slavery in social action projects. For example, if you run a Food Bank, it is vital that you know how to spot the signs of slavery and what to do about it. Any church working in its community needs to know about exploitation."

For more information, please go to the website: truefreedom24.com

The season of Lent begins on 14 February 2024. Maybe someone at St Thomas's would like to get a group together for this or you may wish to follow it as individuals.