

TITLE: BLOCKBUSTER - 'Bridge of Spies'

 **OPENING QUESTION:** If you could return to one moment from your childhood, what would it be and why?

Matthew 18:3- "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Bridge Of Spies is a story about an attorney (James Donovan) who knew his client (Rudolf Abel) was guilty, but believed in his heart THAT EVERY PERSON MATTERS.

 **QUESTION:** In the movie, Donovan defends Abel even though he knows he's guilty. How is that a picture of God's heart toward us?

Romans 3:23- For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

 **QUESTION:** What does it mean to you that Jesus is our "advocate" or "defender" before God?

 **QUESTION:** How does knowing Jesus is constantly interceding for you change how you face your daily life?

Romans 6:23- For the wages of sin is death...

Romans 8:34- Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

Hebrews 7:24-25- He (Jesus) is there from now to eternity to save everyone who comes to God through him, always on the job to speak up for them.

 **QUESTION:** The world saw Rudolf Abel as an enemy, but Donovan saw a man worth defending. How is that a reflection of God's love for us?

 **QUESTION:** Think about someone far from God—how might John 3:16 change the way we approach them?

 **QUESTION:** In what ways have you personally experienced the "relentless pursuit" of God in your life?

Remember: God gave His Son – perfect and holy – to step in and take THE PUNISHMENT for the crimes WE COMMITTED.



John 3:16— For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

There are SPIRITUAL PRISONERS in our community, and we serve and help others discover their much-needed freedom!

1 John 3:16— This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

“Freed People, FREE PEOPLE!”



QUESTION: What do you think it means when we say, “Freed people, free people”? Donovan risked his reputation and safety to bring freedom to others. What risks are you willing to take so someone else can know Jesus? How have you been active in helping spiritual prisoners discover freedom?



QUESTION: In Bridge of Spies, Donovan repeatedly affirms Abel’s worth. How does that reflect our calling as believers?



QUESTION: Why do you think God chooses to work through imperfect people like us to bring others into freedom?

Our God is on a relentless pursuit for people to find freedom because EVERY PERSON MATTERS TO GOD. He is doing this every day, around the world, by exchanging our sin FOR FORGIVENESS.

CLOSING QUESTIONS:



QUESTION: Who in your life right now needs to hear that they matter to God?



QUESTION: How can you begin reaching out to them this week?

Spend time praying for the people in your life who are still “prisoners”—spiritually lost, hurting, or overlooked. Ask God to give you boldness and compassion like Donovan, and to help you live out the truth that every person matters.

