

Community (about 25 minutes)

Intro

If you have five or fewer students, you can do this as a small group or individual activities; otherwise divide into teams as you see fit for your group.

OPTION: Record from NBC the intro to *The Apprentice* or download the song "Money, Money" and play it as you divide or as an intro.

"Tonight we are going to test you: first, your preparedness; second, your physical ability; third, your skill level; and fourth, your intelligence. Your goal is to be the group that accumulates the most worth by the end of the challenges"

Show Me Da Money

Each person in the group must gather all the money that they have are carrying with them and total it with the other members of the group. It must be cold hard cash—no checks or credit cards. The total amount goes toward their group's net worth.

OPTION: (If you have more time) have them give an amount for everything they have on them, including clothes, watches, i-pods, jewelry, etc.

The Buck Stops Here

Give each group a \$1 bill. Each person get two tries to accomplish the following.

1. You must jump forward over the bill.
2. If you fall down, you are disqualified.
3. Your heels must clear the vertical plane at the end of the bill.
4. You must grab your toes with two hands, one on each foot.

(The group that does it the most is awarded \$100, second place \$50, and third place \$25.)

Three Coins in a Fountain

Give each youth three pennies. Then fill three bowls with water; the object is the old carnival game—toss the pennies into the bowls. The first bowl is worth \$5, the second \$10, and the last \$25. However many pennies they have in each bowl is added into their total net worth.

Memory Madness

Use the following four categories or create your own.

1. Television Networks
2. Car Companies
3. Movie Studios
4. Stores in your local mall

(If you do not have a local mall, use stores in your town)

In their groups, youth get blank pieces of paper. Their goal is come up with as many different answers in each category as possible within thirty seconds. For each different answer, they are awarded \$10 towards their net worth.

Bible Discussion (about 25 minutes)

The Year of Jubilee

In the ancient Jewish culture, every fiftieth year was supposed to be the year of Jubilee. It was to be a time of forgiveness when all debts would be cancelled, all prisoners freed, all property returned, and all sick were given health to the best of their ability.

Leviticus 1:8–17 (HCSB)

8 "You are to count seven sabbatic years, seven times seven years, so that the time period of the seven sabbatic years amounts to 49. **9** Then you are to sound a trumpet loudly in the seventh month, on the tenth [day] of the month; you will sound it throughout your land on the Day of Atonement. **10** You are to consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim freedom in the land for all its inhabitants. It will be your Jubilee, when each of you are to return to his property and each of you to his clan. **11** The fiftieth year will be your Jubilee; you are not to sow, reap what grows by itself, or harvest its untended vines. **12** It is to be holy to you because it is the Jubilee; you may [only] eat its produce [directly] from the field.

13 "In this Year of Jubilee, each of you will return to his property. **14** If you make a sale to your neighbor or a purchase from him, do not cheat one another. **15** You are to make the purchase from your neighbor based on the number of years since the last Jubilee. He is to sell to you based on the number of [remaining] harvest years. **16** You are to increase its price in proportion to a greater amount of years, and decrease its price in proportion to a lesser amount of years, because what he is selling to you is a number of harvests. **17** You are not to cheat one another, but fear your God, for I am the Lord your God.

INTRO

1. What is the most valued possession you have?
2. What is one thing you really want but do not yet have?
3. If you were to be given \$50,000, what would you do first with it?
4. What was the last thing you purchased that you thought you had to have and now you don't even know where it is?

Bible Discussion

1. In the Hebrew days, every fiftieth year all debts would be cancelled. What would happen in the world if all debts to foreign countries were cancelled?
2. In the United States today, 43 percent of the world's resources are consumed by 6 percent of the world's population. Why do you think we have so much in America?
3. Why do you think it is important to set aside tithes, gifts, and offerings?
4. In what ways are people cheated today?
5. What is our calling to the world as the wealthiest country in the history of the world?

Application

1. What can you give up so that someone else might benefit?
2. What is something you can sacrifice for a period of time?
3. STW is encouraging teens in the Church of God to make a forty-day commitment. What might you be willing to do? Hand each teen a pledge card and give them some quiet moments in prayer to fill them out.

40 Days

For 40 days, it rained on the earth.
Moses was on the mountain for 40 days.
Elijah walked for 40 days to Horeb, the Mountain of God.
Jesus fasted for 40 days.

Jesus was with his disciples for 40 days after he resurrected.

40 days. What can you do or not do for 40 days? Can you give up soda? Can you give up CD's? Can you write an encouraging note? Can you fast? Can you set aside time to pray?

For 40 days, from February _____ until April 16, we at STW are encouraging teens in the Church of God to make a 40-day commitment before the Lord. We ask that you make a pledge to STW during this time to give up something you have in excess so that someone might hear the good news of Jesus Christ.

It's only 40 days. What are you waiting for?