

join Souljahz on their quest to redeem more hearts for God's kingdom.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCE

Teach teenagers how to respond to poverty with *Making a Difference: Leading Students in Life-Changing Service* from Group Publishing.



SERVICE PROJECT

Scavengers with a Mission

This scavenger hunt will help your teenagers have fun, serve the community, and reflect on some important issues concerning poverty.

SUPPLIES:

photocopied lists of items to obtain, money, transportation, fast-food gift certificates, Bible

TIME: about 2 hours

Before your meeting, recruit several parents to be drivers, and make a list of items to be retrieved by each team. Each item on the list needs to be some sort of basic food or toiletry item, such as bread, rice, canned goods, toothpaste, diapers, and so on. Assign a separate point value to each item. Photocopy lists for each team and obtain several fast-food gift certificates to give away as prizes.

Once your group is assembled, have them form teams. Assign each group to a driver. Explain that the goal is to collect the most points and return to the meeting place within a given time frame.

Give each team a small amount of money—\$10 to \$15—less than they'd need to purchase every item on the list. Also explain the following rules: (1) The team can't spend more money (including tax) than what you give them (and they must bring back the receipt as proof); (2) No team can visit the home of any church or youth group member; (3) After their money runs

out, each group will have to be creative in obtaining the remaining items; (4) Obtaining any item by any illegal or unethical means is, of course, prohibited.

Tally the scores, then **ASK:**

- **What was it like to go into a store knowing that you had more items on the list than you could afford?**
- **If you were a low-income single parent who couldn't afford everything on the list, how would you prioritize?**
- **Where would someone go in real life if he or she couldn't afford necessities?**

Read aloud Matthew 25:31-46. **ASK:**

- **Who are the "least of these"?**
- **Why does Jesus pay special attention to the "least of these" in these verses?**
- **What should our motivation be for helping the "least of these"?**
- **How does helping others change us?**

Wrap up by announcing that all of the items collected in the hunt will either be donated to a local shelter or given to needy families in your church. Determine a day when teenagers can drop off the items. Also challenge the winning team members to carry their certificates with them and to give them away the next time someone solicits them for money or food.



SKIT

The Totally Tubular Tale of Biff, the Prodigal Son

Use this skit as part of a church service, a youth group meeting, or a retreat—anytime you want a fun way to illustrate God's love and forgiveness.

SUPPLIES:

costumes, podium, two chairs, bag of coins, jacket, Time magazine, paper cup, camera

TIME: about 10 minutes

