

Get Packing

Description:

a Pictionary-like game followed by discussion

Aim: to explore questions of lifestyle for overseas Christian workers

Audience:

teenagers and adults, (children when there is a mixed group), any size group, minimum six

Time: 25 minutes

Equipment:

scrap paper, pencils

Scripture to

Study: 2 Cor. 8:9

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Bright Ideas!

Leader's Instructions:

1. Divide the audience into groups of four to six people.
2. Give each group a pencil and some paper.
3. Read out the Audience's Instructions.
4. Ask one member of each group to come to you. Whisper the first item on your list for him or her to draw and start timing.
5. Finish with the Discussion and Application Section.

Here's *your* list of items for the audience to guess. These all appear on packing lists for many workers going overseas, but until the end of the game, the audience will *not* know what the items have in common.

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Passport | Mosquito Net |
| Laptop computer | Sun hat |
| Sleeping bag | Cassette recorder |
| Camera | Immunization Record |
| Flashlight | Sunscreen lotion |

Audience's Instructions:

The object of the game is to identify as many of the items on the leader's list as possible in ten minutes. The game will be played in groups. Only one person per group will know what the item is and must draw it for the others to guess. No letters or numbers may be used in the drawing and the artist may not speak. You may choose one artist for all ten items, or take turns drawing. As soon as you've guessed correctly, come ask me for the next item. We finish the game when time is up or when one group has guessed the whole list.

Discussion and Application:

Q. Can anyone guess what the items have in common?

A. Many Christian workers take these essentials when they move overseas.

Notes:

Q. What problems could taking many belongings overseas cause?

A. Yes, it costs a lot to buy and ship these things, but it also can create a ‘material divide’ between outsiders and local people who may have far fewer possessions.

Q. What do you consider the “bare necessities” of life?

A. No matter how much a person chooses to give up, local people may only see what you *haven’t* given up!

Q. When Jesus came to earth, what did He bring?

A. 2 Corinthians 8:9 says that though Jesus Christ was rich, yet for our sake He became poor.

Q. How far can we follow Jesus’ example in this?

A. As a guideline in some areas, many agencies suggest that their workers live at the same standard as a national high school teacher in the country where they work.

Q. Which is more important for Christian workers overseas, to use modern technology in order to be efficient in their work, or to identify with and live like the local people?

A. It takes prayer, wisdom from God, and keen observation of each different situation. It can never be only one or the other, but a balance of the two. Most importantly, people know if you truly love them!

Q. Why do you think so few Christians working overseas have chosen to live in complete poverty?

A. They try to balance the need to stay healthy and strong enough to do the work God has for them, and the need to identify with the local people as Jesus did. A heart of compassion is the real key. (Complete poverty often brings illness, low energy, inefficient means of work. Many of the world’s poor ask, “Why would a missionary *want* to live this way?” After all, everyone tells them that education brings a higher standard of living. Why should they listen to a foreigner whose education and Christian ethics yields no better life than the poorest beggar?)

Q. What part does God want *you* to play in getting the gospel to the whole world?

A. Let’s pray. Each of us can ask God right now! (Options: pray, give, do or go. Consult the *Projects to Do* page, available at www.wycliffe.org/kids/curriculum.aspx)