

JSU CLUB ACTIVITY



VALUES AUCTION

Time needed	30- 40 minutes
Age range	Any teen
Background of teen	Any background can participate in this club, no previous knowledge needed
Set up	Arrange the room in regular classroom style or just chairs facing the front

Goals:

JSUers will consider their priorities and how our values play an important role in prioritizing areas we are willing to put time, effort and money into.

Relevance:

Teen years are times of transition when different sets of values are experimented with and can keep changing. These values can be significant in the goals we choose to keep, discard or reevaluate.

Active Learning:

You will be holding an auction for teens to bid for their wishes. Each participant receives an auction list, money and a pen. Items on the list will be auctioned and bids go up in \$100 increments. Run the auction as a regular auction, give teens time to review the list and consider where they will spend their money. They can write their plans in the proposed bid column to start thinking. There will be some teens with money at the end, anyone with \$500 or more can spend their entire amount on secret envelopes. Tell them this at the beginning.

The activity is played to show where our values and goals lie. What you spend money on shows what you think is important. Those with money leftover may have no strong goals as of yet (or none that were on the list). The secret envelopes are used to show that if you don't set goals, life will just hand you something.

As you mature and find your values your goals should be adjusted accordingly.

After the auction and secret envelopes work through the discussion questions with the teens and wrap up the session.

Supplies needed:

1. Auction lists (1 per teen)
2. Gavel
3. Money for teens (needs to be printed and cut)
4. Pens
5. Surprise envelopes (a few of each printed and sealed in envelopes labeled box 1/2/3)

Step by step planning:

Time	Facilitator Activity	Teen activity
5 mins	Introduce the auction- tell teens we will be talking about values and priorities Hand out auction lists, money and pens	Plan and budget where they would like to spend their money
15 mins	Run the auction	Bid for their choices
5 mins	Sell surprise boxes	Buy boxes
10 mins	Facilitate questions	Group discussion
5 mins	Wrap up message	

Facilitation Questions:

1. Which items sold for most/least?
2. What category would you put items that sold for most/least?
3. Why did some items sell for more than others?
4. Why didn't everyone want the same items?
5. Where there any items you really wanted to bid on but were afraid of what other people in the group would think or say about you?
6. What does the overall bidding tell us about the people in our group?
7. Did anyone purposefully save money for the secret envelope?
8. How did the people who bought secret envelopes feel about their purchases?
9. How can we apply this activity to real life?

Wrap up message and Torah thought:

Mishleh Chapter 27	משלי פרק כז
The refining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold, and a man is tried by his praise.	כא (מצרף לְכֶסֶף וְכוּר לְזָהָב וְאִישׁ לְפִי מִהֲלָלוֹ:
Shaarei Teshuva – Rabbeinu Yonah	ספר שערי תשובה לרבינו יונה שער ג
And it says "He purifies the silver and the gold, and each man according to his praise." Meaning, the good things about a person are based on that which he praises, if he praises good deeds, wise people and righteous people, then you know that he is a good person and is righteous at his core, for he only finds it in his heart to praise the good, and there is always good in his words, and he degrades sin and derides those who commit sins, but not despising evil and opting for good. And if it is possible that he has some concealed sins, but he fundamentally loves righteousness, and it is the root of his free will, then he is among those who honor Hashem. And one who praises degrading deeds or wicked people, he is a completely wicked person and he defiles the name of God.	ונאמר (משלי כז, כא): מצרף לכסף וכור לזהב ואיש לפי מהללו", פירושו: מעלות האדם לפי מה שיהלל, אם הוא משבח המעשים הטובים והחכמים והצדיקים תדע ובחנת כי איש טוב הוא ושרש הצדק נמצא בו, כי לא ימצא את לבו רק לשבח את הטוב והטובים תמיד בכל דבריו, ולגנות את העבירות ולהבזות בעליהן, מבלי מאוס ברע ובחור בטוב. ואם יתכן כי יש בידו עונות נסתרים, אבל מאוהבי הצדק הוא, ולו שרש בבחירה, והוא מעדת מכבדי ה'. והמשבח מעשים מגונים או מהלל רשעים הוא הרשע הגמור והמחלל את עבודת השם יתברך.

- ❖ Rabbeinu Yonah looks at the words **איש לפי מהללו** and understands them not as "a man is judged by those who praise him" but rather a man is judged by what he praises.
- ❖ The values you have influence your priorities but according to Rabbenu Yonah the priorities you have and what you most talk about indicate what you value.
- ❖ Consider what your priorities are now, what you think they should be and consider how to bridge that gap.

AUCTION LIST

#	Item	Proposed Bid	Actual Bid	Purchaser
1	To be a famous rock star			
2	To never be sick			
3	To be extremely smart			
4	To be able to eat anything and never gain weight			
5	To be beautiful			
6	To be President of the USA			
7	To have a perfect body			
8	To have \$1m to give to charity			
9	To be an excellent school teacher			
10	To graduate from a top college			
11	To never have pimples			
12	To be a doctor			
13	To help underprivileged kids			
14	To raise happy children			
15	To be a successful politician			
16	To live a long life			
17	To be liked by everyone			
18	To have amazing friends			
19	To be happy			
20	To have an excellent relationship with my parents			
21	To be a millionaire			
22	To commit one crime with no consequence			
23	To marry my soulmate			
24	To have free unlimited plane tickets			
25	To be influential			

SECRET ENVELOPES

Envelope 1

You bought a lottery ticket and you won 2 million dollars

Envelope 2

You can only find a job at minimum wage with no opportunity for advancement

Envelope 3

You work hard at a job that has a good salary but you hate what you do

