

17.

Values Auction

OBJECTIVE: Individuals and couples explore the values most important to them.

TIME: 40 minutes

MATERIALS:

List of Values (cut up into pieces and preferably laminated)

Copy of List of Values sheet for each participant

Envelope with \$600 in play money for each participant: two \$100 bills, four \$50s, five \$20s, and ten \$10's

Auctioneer's gavel (optional)

NOTE TO TRAINER:

There are extra blanks at the bottom of the list of values for you or the class to add additional values of importance to them.

This is a great activity when done in combination with the Values Pyramid.

ACTIVITY:

Explain to the class that you will be auctioning off the values on the List of Values one at a time. You will auction off one of each value on the List of Values, so two people in the class can't buy the same value. Give the class a few minutes to look over the list and mark the values they want to buy.

Explain that participants can use their value sheet as the auction happens to mark down in each value square the results of the bidding at the end of each bid. Encourage them to note:

- If they purchased the value or not,
- Their highest bid for the value (\$0 if didn't bid), and
- The winning bid for the value.

The trainer will be the auctioneer as well as give out the cards and take the money. (If there is a second trainer, the auctioneer and bank tasks can be split up.) The trainer will auction off each value card one at a time.

The auctioneer starts by randomly choosing a Value Card, calling out the value on the card and asking for the bidding to begin. When no one is willing to go higher, give the Value Card to the highest bidder. Continue until you have no more Value Cards left, or until everyone is out of money.

Once the auction is over, give participants time to think about their results. If there are couples or families in the class, give them a few minutes to talk together to discuss, compare, and share the values they purchased with their partners or families.

GROUP DISCUSSION:

- Did you have enough money to buy the values most important to you?
- Did you run out of money before you got what you wanted?
- In real life, how much do the values you want cost? How can this reality help you prioritize your spending?
- Did any couples or families work together to pool their money and purchase common values?