

YOUTH ACTIVITY *(6th-12th grade)*

AGE RANGE: 6th-12th grade

INTENTION: To explore interdependence through a cooperative activity, showing the importance of each person and role

MATERIALS: Drawing of a tree or plant (or other object) photocopied onto different colored pieces of paper – one color for each group, tape (or several houseplants placed around the room)

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 NIV

INSTRUCTIONS

Divide up into groups of three. In each group there are three roles:

- The **“seer”** can see where the plants are but can't speak. They can only gesture.
- The **“talker”** can't see where the plant is. They sit with their back to the other side of the room and watch the “seer” and try to interpret their gestures, giving instructions to the “seeker.”
- The **“seeker”** is blindfolded.

Place the plants on the far side of a large room, and assign one plant to each team. The “seer” (facing forward) will gesture instructions to the “talker.” The “talker” (facing backward so that they can only see the “seer” and not the plant or the “seeker”) will give instructions to the “seeker.” The “seeker” will try to find the plant on the other side of the room and bring it back to where they started.

You can play this game multiple times, changing roles and inviting more youth to play.

DISCUSSION

What was it like to have to depend on each other to reach your goal? Was it fun to try to work together? Was it frustrating?

In our scripture today, people are mad because Apollos is teaching. They think that Paul is the only one who should be teaching, that he should be the only leader. Paul tells them that he planted the seeds of faith and wisdom in the community and that Apollos watered them.

The community needs more than one leader. It needs many people who have different jobs. Paul points out that even though God gives each of us different assignments, we all have the same goal. And it is God who gives the growth, God who helps us all flourish.

The theme of our Week of Compassion offering is “Investing in Futures.” We donate money so that others can plant or water seeds of growth– such as getting an education, starting a business, improving communities by providing clean water, health care, or a safe place to live. When we all do our part then the whole world can flourish.

Why is it important to invest in everyone's future?

PRAYER

God, we thank you for giving us your love and hope. We pray now for all who are in need. Help us to do our part, planting and watering seeds of hope together with others in our communities and around the world. Bless those seeds with growth so that the whole world may flourish. In the name of Jesus. Amen.