

# Girls Only

\*\*\*★ Finance

## Additional Project Ideas

**Budget it.** Have the girls research a career they're interested in. Help them find average salaries for the your area, and help the girls create a budget based on the average salary for their career of choice. Make sure the girls include tithe, rental/mortgage payments, utilities, car payment/insurance, grocery money, cell phone costs, school loan payments, etc. What sounds like a lot of money in the beginning may not seem like as much when you factor in bills and costs of living.

**Take a tour.** Set up a visit to a local bank or credit union. Talk with the girls about dressing appropriately for meeting with a financial representative and have the girls dress appropriately for the visit. Ask a bank representative to explain interest rates, how loans work, the process of applying for a loan, the different kinds of accounts offered, and different services offered by the bank.

**Research it.** Have the girls research the bank they (or their parents) bank at. Encourage the girls to find out what the interest rate is for their savings account, if the bank offers compound interest, how much the checking account costs, what the fees are for overdrafts, ATM withdrawals, and balance transfers, and what kinds of services the bank offers.

**Invite a guest.** Invite a woman from your church who works in business or finance to talk to your girls about her job. Ask her to share about the kind of work she does, what kind of education she has, what her job entails, and how she uses her skills to glorify God. Allow plenty of time for questions.

**Check it out.** Encourage the girls to check out the different career opportunities in business and finance. Encourage the girls to talk to their guidance counselor, teachers, individuals in your church who work in business or finance, or business professors at prospective colleges. Have the girls share their findings and compile a list.

**Practice investing.** Have the girls choose stock in a business they are interested in or use regularly (a favorite retail store, their cell phone company, or restaurant chain). Follow the stock through the duration of the Finance unit. Have the girls estimate how much money they would have made or lost if they had purchased one share, fifty shares, or one thousand shares in the company.

**Talk about it.** Have your girls talk to their parents about how they budget. Encourage the girls to ask how much their parents save, spend, and invest. Let parents know they don't have to share specific figures, but could talk about what percentage of their money goes to each aspect of their budget.

## Resource Ideas

- *Discovering God's Way of Handling Money* Crown Financial Ministries, 2004.
- *Money Management for Students* by Dr. Larry Burkett, Moody, 1998.
- *Wisdom On: Time and Money* by Mark Matlock, Youth Specialties, 2008
- *I Want to Talk with My Teen About Money Management* by Lisa Craton, Standard, 2006.

## Additional Discussion Questions

### Discovery #1

- Why does God care about what you do with your money? Why should you care?
- Why isn't your money yours? Why is it already God's?
- What can you do now to glorify God with your talents?

### Discovery #2

- What is tithing? Why should you tithe? If you tithe, do you have to give anything else?
- Why isn't tithing just an Old Testament principle? What does the New Testament have to say about tithing? What are some other reasons to tithe?
- If you don't have a job right now, what can you give? How can you learn good giving habits before you have a job?

### Discovery #3

- What should you do with the rest of your money?
- Why is it important to be generous? How are you supposed to provide for yourself if you're always being generous with your money?
- Why is it important to save money? If Jesus is coming back anyway, why do I need to plan for the future?

### Discovery #4

- What is credit? What does it mean to use credit wisely?
- What are some things you'd like to have right now? Do you need them? If you save up for them or have enough money, why shouldn't you be able to buy whatever you want?
- What are interest rates? How can they be helpful? How can they be harmful?

### Discovery #5

- What if you really mess up in your finances?
- What can you do now to avoid messing up in the future?
- What are some good habits to help you avoid messing up your finances?

### Discovery #6

- What should be your attitude toward money?
- What does the Bible say about money? What can you do now to have a healthy attitude about money?
- What have you learned during this unit about money? What can you do now to put what you've learned into practice?