

SHOPPING SPREE

For a creative look at money and how people spend it, try this simple simulation. Buy or print several million dollars in play money. Then, divide it into random amounts (\$3,000 to \$450,000) placed in plain envelopes. Give one envelope to each person or small group.

Now for the shopping spree. Set up a table or bulletin board with a wide assortment of full-page advertisements for things such as cars, mansions, computers, vacations, food, savings accounts, and Christian relief efforts. Each person or group receives an order blank to "buy" any items they wish, as long as they can pay for their order individually or by pooling their money. Give them 10 minutes to fill in their order blanks.

Gather all of the order blanks or compile a blackboard list of everything ordered. Discuss the values expressed, feelings about unequal distribution of the cash, and the Christian's responsibility to care for the needy.