

VALUES IN THE CHURCH

The following exercise will help young people—or adults—to set priorities concerning certain values that they have, and also to see the inconsistencies that often exist within the church community, regarding priorities and values. Give one copy of page 12 to each person. Have each person cut the 12 squares apart. Then follow the steps:

1. Rank the concerns in order of importance.

Put the most urgent or necessary item on top and the least urgent on the bottom. Now make a list on another sheet from one to 12, showing the order that you decided on. Put the letter of the most important item next to the number one and so on through number 12.

2. Now rank them again, only this time according to the amount of attention they receive in your local church. Put the one receiving the most attention on top, the one receiving the least attention on the bottom. List their letter sequence along side the first list.

3. Now, compare the two lists. How are they different from each other and why are they different? Should they be the same? What changes need to be made and on which list? Discuss these and other questions you may have with the entire group.

VALUES IN THE CHURCH

A.

Raising
money
and
spending it

D.

Spiritual Growth
of church
members
enabling them
to become
mature disciples
of Christ

G.

Maintaining
or building
church
attendance

J.

Helping
to relieve
poverty and/or
racial prejudice
in the
local community

B.

Developing
the music
program
of the church

E.

Winning
local
people
to Christ

H.

Helping
to relieve
starvation and
suffering in the
famine-stricken
areas of
the world

K.

Keeping
the existing
weekly programs
of the
church going

C.

Getting
workers
to fill all the
jobs in
the church

F.

Building
and maintaining
larger and
more attractive
church building

I.

Foreign
Missionary
Work

L.

Developing
a sense of
fellowship,
love, and
mutual concern