

ook Ahead

TOPIC : *The Future*

SCRIPTURE : *Matthew 24:36-47*

SUPPLIES : *newspapers, highlighter markers*

UNDER TIP
Have teenagers form two teams. Give each team a small stack of newspapers and highlighter markers. Then tell participants that each team has ten minutes to find stories which reflect some belief about the future, such as a story about a doomsday cult, an article about someone who made a prediction for the rise or fall of the stock market, or a column about any future events or beliefs.

After ten minutes, see which team has found the most articles. Invite each team to read a couple of the stories it found.

DISCUSSION

- Which of these newspaper stories was the most preposterous? Why?
- Why do you think people have a fascination with the future?
- Read Matthew 24:36-47. What did Jesus say about the future in this Bible passage?
- Why do you think Jesus warned his disciples about predicting the future?
- How might the church today have fallen into the trap of predicting the future?
- What, according to Jesus, is more important than predicting the future?
- What principles might we use to help us when the future seems bleak or hopeless?