GOD'S KINGDOM

Program Target: To emphasize how the values of God's kingdom are different from the world's values.

What to do:
Divide your group into two teams and give each team one of the handouts below. Allow 20 minutes for the teams to work on their presentations. Provide art materials (poster board, markers, etc) for any visual aids they might want to use. Try to provide separate spaces for the groups, if possible.

Your group has been chosen to prepare a presentation on "How to Succeed in This World." Use visual aids, motivational speaking, advertisements, music–whatever you like–to sell your audience on the skills they need to be a success by this world's standards. Don't forget to include these areas:

- **How to treat others**
- **How to dress**
- **How to spend your money**
- **Career options**
- **Spending your leisure time**

Make your presentation catchy, exciting, and convincing!

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While the groups work, you may visit with them and give ideas. After the time is up, bring both groups back together and have them give their presentations to each other. Allow about 10 minutes for a wrap-up discussion on how God's kingdom differs from the kingdom of this world, and how our values as Christians should always reflect the values of God's kingdom, not of the world's.

Preparation Time: Little or none, though if some of your group are slow starters you may want to come up with a few ideas to give them to get them going on their presentations.

Bible Text: John 17:15-18

Song Service:

"Not of This World"

Vesper or Closing Thought:
In His last prayer for His disciples, Jesus prayed that they would be in this world, but not of it.

That doesn't mean that Jesus' followers are to be odd or weird just for the sake of being different. It means that we live by a different set of values–the standards of God's kingdom. Those are the standards Jesus Himself lived by–sacrificial love, total humility, a concern for people instead of money and things, and complete devotion to God. If we live by God's standards we may not be a big "success" in the world's terms–but we will have the joy of knowing we are living like Jesus, and will someday live with Him forever.