

**Topic: Money Management
(Church World Services, Overseas Processing Entity, Accra, Ghana)**

Activity: Budgeting Exercise for Youth

Objectives	At the end of this exercise students will know their needs and wants and how expensive life is in America. Additionally, they will learn about the obstacles the family faces and how they may contribute.
Lesson Time	20 minutes
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flipchart or white/blackboard and markers
Practice	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Pick a student in class. Try and pick someone who has been quieter than most.2. Ask them who is on their case (i.e. in their family).3. Write down those people and their ages on a flipchart or whiteboard. You don't have to write down names. Example: Mother, 35. Sister, 12. Brother, 7.4. Have the students decide how much money the family will make. It is your job to give them realistic amounts. Try and have them do the math using a minimum wage job. How much each family will make will depend on how many workers there are in the chosen family.5. Write the estimated amount the family will make per month at the top of a sheet of paper.6. Have the class list all the expenses the family will have, and, line by line, subtract these expenses from the family's earnings. Do this step by step, and be VERY dramatic as you do it7. Don't forget to add the IOM loan and explain. Most likely they won't have thought of that.8. Soon you will run out of money—and then you will act incredibly shocked, incredibly surprised, and incredibly upset. Ask the students: "What are they going to do???"9. Go back through the list and take out all expenditures for "wants," rather than "needs."10. Then brainstorm ways to MAKE MONEY, and most importantly, to SAVE MONEY.11. Then look at the "needs vs. wants" posters and discuss.

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