



Why Is There Hunger?

IN THIS ACTIVITY, participants brainstorm possible explanations for hunger. Their reasons become hypotheses to check in the community and validate or revise based on their findings.

TIME REQUIRED: 30 MINUTES | INTENDED FOR GRADES 9-12



MATERIALS NEEDED

- » Butcher paper and markers
- » Pens or pencils, one for each participant
- » Sheets of blank paper, one for each participant
- » Visit worldvision.org/lp/acsi-teacher-resources for a video you can show to support this lesson. (optional)

Activity Steps

1

ASK THE PARTICIPANTS to break into pairs. Distribute to each pair a sheet of blank paper and a pen or pencil. Challenge each pair to come up with the longest list of possible answers to this question: Why is there hunger?

2

WHEN THE PAIRS HAVE FINISHED, ask them to categorize the reasons on their lists in the following manner:

- » Place an X next to the two reasons you think explain why most hungry people are hungry.
- » Place an O next to the reasons that best apply to people living in low-income countries.
- » Place a checkmark next to reasons that individuals could do something about.
- » Place a plus sign next to reasons that indicate it is the hungry person's fault for being hungry.

3

ASK THE PAIRS TO PARTNER with another pair. Give each team of four a sheet of butcher paper and a marker. Have the teams discuss and compare their reasons and the categories to which they assigned them. Which are the same? Different? After a few minutes, gather the participants into one group and have the participants share their reasons and why they assigned them to a particular category.

4

MENTION TO THE GROUP that their reasons are simply hypotheses that need to be tested. Brainstorm community resources they might use to verify their hypotheses. Ask the participants to go into the community to find evidence and data to check their hypotheses. Examples might include: conducting research at the local library or on the Internet; meeting with the director of a local food bank or pantry or a local governmental representative to discuss their hypothesis and check their data. Invite them to bring their findings to another meeting.

5

CONCLUDE BY INVITING THE PARTICIPANTS to join you in prayer. Pray for all those in need of food and clean water. Pray for those who go without food each day. Pray that we become a people who are willing to share our abundance of resources with those who go without.