

# Earning

## Characters

- Leader or trainer
- Teenager
- Mother

## Props

- None

## Time

About one minute

Leader or trainer: How many times have you heard—or had—this conversation?

Teenager: Mom, I need more money.

Mother: What happened to the allowance I gave you yesterday?

Teenager: It's gone.

Mother: Wow. That went fast. You have six more days until your next allowance.

Teenager: I can't wait that long. I need money now.

Mother: Welcome to the club. Everyone needs money now, and no one seems to have it.

Teenager: But you have a job! You could give me more money.

Mother: (Sighs.) You may laugh, but I actually kind of wish I was a teenager again and got an allowance.

Teenager: What are you talking about?

Mother: Yes, I have a job. But I also have a lot of bills. Rent for our apartment. Groceries. Bus pass. Electric bill. Medicine. You name it!

## Script

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Teenager: Yeah, yeah, yeah. But I need some money to go to the movies tonight.

Mother: You know, Son, I can't remember the last time I saw a movie in a theater.

Teenager: That's your choice, Mom.

Mother: You're right. I do make positive choices with our money, and so should you.

Leader or trainer: Whether you get an allowance, earn money at a job, or come into money some other way, we all "get" money somehow. It's the "thing" we trade for something else. Instead of focusing on always trying to have more of it, what if you really paid attention to what you were doing to get it? How do you get your money? And how much comes in each month? Think about how things would change if you slowed down your spending so that money stayed with you a bit longer—instead of moving it out the door as fast as you get it. You can take charge of your money situation when you stop to pay closer attention to it.