Get the Gold

Materials

Yellow ball, beanbag, or other object for the "gold"
Optional: masking tape or cones

Instructions

Note: This game is a variation of Steal the Bacon. In this case, the "bacon" is Achan's bar of "gold."

Divide students into teams and have them line up facing each other with a wide space in between. You may use masking tape for the lines or have them line up against two walls or between cones.

Number the students in each line. Numbers must be equal (e.g., 1-10 on each team), so have an assistant play or give one student two numbers if necessary. Have students repeat their numbers, or call out a few numbers and have them raise their hands as a test.

In the middle between the lines, place the "gold" (ball, beanbag, other object) the students will be racing to grab and return to their line. Explain that this "gold" represents the gold bar Achan hid in his tent. Students will be the Israelites Joshua chose to go get the gold.

When you call out a number, the student with that number from each team will run to the middle, attempt to get the gold, and run back to their line to earn a point. The student who doesn't get the gold first will try to tag the student with the gold. The round ends with a student earning a point for returning the gold to their line without being tagged or with no point if that student was tagged (or you can award a point to the team that tagged the gold-getter).

Return the gold to the middle and call another number. A typical round usually involves the two students running out and hovering over the gold, waiting for a slight advantage to grab it and run back before the other player can react.

Keep track of points for each team. Play for a set amount of time or until each number has been called at least once.

Suggested Discussion

Achan sinned by taking a cloak, silver, and gold from Jericho during the battle. His disobedience caused the Israelites to lose a battle against the city of Ai. God helped Joshua find the guilty person, and Achan finally confessed. Men ran to his tent to find the items he had taken. Achan and his family were destroyed as punishment so that God could again bless the Israelites and give them victory. No sin is hidden from God! He is omniscient—he knows everything.