

Crafts

Hands-On Craft for 'Deuteronomy 23' - "Building a Welcoming Community"

Materials List:

- Construction paper (various colors)
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Crayons or colored pencils
- Markers
- String or yarn
- Hole punch
- Stickers or decorative shapes (optional)

Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. Introduction:

Begin with a brief discussion about welcoming others and the importance of kindness, tying it into the overall messages found in Deuteronomy 23 about community and conduct.

2. Create a Heart Garland:

Explain that students will be creating a heart garland to represent a welcoming and loving community.

3. Cut Out Hearts:

- Provide each student with several sheets of construction paper.
- Instruct them to fold each sheet in half and draw half a heart shape along the fold.
- Cut out the hearts. When they open the paper, there will be a symmetrical heart.

4. Decorate the Hearts:

- Let the students use crayons, colored pencils, and markers to decorate their hearts.
- Encourage them to write words of kindness or draw pictures that symbolize welcoming others.

5. Attach Hearts to String:

- Use a hole punch to make two holes at the top of each heart.
- Thread a piece of yarn or string through each hole, so the hearts are lined up as a garland.
- Leave some room between the hearts for more decoration if desired.

6. Add Decorative Elements:

- Students can further embellish their heart garlands with stickers or decorative shapes to add more personal touches.

7. Share and Display:

- Once all the garlands are finished, ask each student to share one kind word or message from their garland.
- Display the garlands around the classroom or in a common area as a reminder of the welcoming community they created.

Reinforce the Lesson:

This activity reinforces the lesson from Deuteronomy 23 by emphasizing the importance of building a community based on kindness and acceptance. As students create their garlands with hearts symbolizing love and goodwill, they practice core values such as inclusion and respect, which resonate with living harmoniously within a community. The craft allows them to express these values creatively and visibly as a reminder of the importance of creating welcoming and supportive environments.