

Crafts

Craft Activity: "Courage Shield"

Objective

To help elementary students understand the message of strength and courage from Deuteronomy 31:6, which reminds them that God is always with them and they should not be afraid.

Materials List

- Cardstock or heavy construction paper
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Scissors
- Aluminum foil
- Glue sticks
- Tape
- Stickers or embellishments (optional)
- Hole punch
- String or yarn

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Prepare the Shield Base

- Give each student a piece of cardstock or heavy construction paper.
- Ask them to draw the shape of a shield on the paper, approximately the size of a standard sheet (8.5x11 inches), and then cut it out with scissors.

2. Decorate the Shield

- Provide markers, crayons, or colored pencils for the students to decorate the front of their shield.
- Encourage them to write "Be strong and courageous" at the top and "Deuteronomy 31:6" at the bottom.
- They can illustrate images or symbols that represent strength and courage to them.

3. Add a Reflective Surface

- Cut a piece of aluminum foil slightly smaller than the shield shape.
- Glue or tape the foil to the center of the shield to symbolize God's presence and protection.

4. Personalize with Embellishments

- Optional: Offer stickers or other embellishments for students to further personalize their shields.

5. Create Handles

- Use a hole punch to make two holes on each side of the back of the shield.
- Cut two pieces of string or yarn and thread one through each pair of holes to create handles. Secure with knots.

6. Reinforce the Message

- Once completed, have a group discussion about the significance of the shield and how it relates to the lesson.
- Encourage students to think of situations where they can be strong and courageous with God's help.

Reinforcement of Lesson

This craft reinforces the lesson of Deuteronomy 31 by providing a visual and tangible reminder of the scripture. Creating and decorating the shield gives students the opportunity to reflect on what courage and strength mean to them personally. By adding embellishments and personal touches, they can internalize the message of faith, reminding them they are not alone and can rely on God's presence and protection in times of fear or uncertainty.