Games

Game 1: "Tribe Boundary Exploration"

Objective:
Understand the geographic boundaries and inheritance of the tribe of Ephraim as described in Joshua 16.

Number of Players:
4-8

Materials Needed:
- A large sheet of paper or poster board
- Markers or crayons
- Small toy figurines or paper cutouts representing the tribes of Israel
- A map of ancient Israel outlining tribal territories (simplified version for kids)

Setup:
Spread out the large sheet of paper or poster board on a flat surface. Place the map of ancient Israel nearby for reference. Assign roles to each player, dividing into pairs or groups if necessary.

Instructions:
1. Introduction (2 minutes): Explain that Joshua 16 describes the allotment of the land to the tribe of Ephraim. Show the map, highlighting Ephraim's territory.

2. Game Play (10 minutes):
- First, discuss the specific boundaries listed in Joshua 16. Using the map, identify key cities or features within Ephraim's boundary.
- Players will use markers or crayons to draw a simplified version of the boundary outlined in Joshua 16 on the large paper.
- Using toy figurines or cutouts, players will place markers on key areas like cities or landmarks mentioned in the passage.
- Encourage players to find creative ways to differentiate Ephraim’s territory from neighboring tribes.

3. Wrap-Up (3 minutes): Discuss the importance of understanding boundaries and inheritance within the biblical text, relating it to themes of promise and responsibility.

How It Reinforces the Lesson:
This game visually reinforces the lesson from Joshua 16 by actively engaging students in recreating and understanding territorial divisions, which underscores the historical and biblical significance of land inheritance.

Game 2: "Ephraim-Trivia Relay"

Objective:
Reinforce details from Joshua 16 through a fun relay race trivia game.

Number of Players:
4-10

Materials Needed:
- 10 index cards with trivia questions about Joshua 16
- A buzzer or bell
- Stopwatches or a timer

Setup:
Divide the group into two teams. Create a running area, assigning a starting line and a finish line. Questions should be shuffled and ready for play.

Instructions:
1. Introduction (2 minutes): Briefly explain Joshua 16 and its significance focusing on land distribution.

2. Game Play (10 minutes):
- Teams line up at the starting line. A player from each team runs to the finish line, rings the bell, and answers a trivia question.
- If they answer correctly, the next teammate proceeds. If incorrect, they are given a hint to try again.
- Continue until all players on one team have answered a question correctly.

3. Wrap-Up (3 minutes): Congratulate the winners and discuss any interesting facts that arose during the game.

How It Reinforces the Lesson:
The trivia questions drive home details from Joshua 16 in a fast-paced, dynamic way that encourages teamwork and quick thinking.

Game 3: "Build the Boundary Puzzle"

Objective:
Encourage teamwork and deepen understanding of Ephraim's territorial boundaries through a puzzle-building activity.

Number of Players:
3-6

Materials Needed:
- A cut-out map puzzle of Ephraim’s territory divided into several pieces (cardstock recommended)
- Colorful tape for pieces’ borders
- Reference map marked with missing boundary sections

Setup:
Scatter the puzzle pieces on a table or comfortable floor space accessible to all players.

Instructions:
1. Introduction (2 minutes): Highlight key points from Joshua 16 about the division of lands among the tribes. Show the map that students need to complete.

2. Game Play (10 minutes):
- Players work collaboratively to assemble the puzzle based on the reference map provided.
- As pieces are added, players should discuss or guess which part of Ephraim’s land each piece represents, reinforcing knowledge of the territory’s geography.
- Use colorful tape to clearly define Ephraim's boundary once the puzzle is complete.

3. Wrap-Up (3 minutes): Reflect on how puzzle pieces resemble finding one’s place within a community or group, similar to how Ephraim’s territory was established among other tribes.

How It Reinforces the Lesson:
This activity allows students to engage with the narrative text through spatial reasoning and cooperation, reinforcing the contextual understanding of biblical territory and its significance.