Crafts

Craft: "Promise Stones"

Materials List:
- Smooth stones (about palm-sized)
- Acrylic paint (various colors)
- Paintbrushes
- Permanent markers
- Small paper plates or paint palettes
- Clear acrylic sealant spray (optional)
- Newspaper or craft paper to cover tables
- Wet wipes or paper towels for cleanup

Step-by-Step Instructions:
1. Setup: Cover the tables with newspaper or craft paper to protect the surface. Lay out all the materials within reach for the students.

2. Select a Stone: Each student chooses a smooth stone as their canvas.

3. Base Coat: Using the acrylic paint and brushes, students paint the entire surface of their stone one solid color of their choice. Allow the stones to dry completely.

4. Design and Message: Once dry, students use paint or permanent markers to write a short Bible verse or a word/phrase from Joshua 23 that speaks to the promises of God, such as "Faith," "Strength," or "Courage." Encourage them to add simple designs or symbols that relate to their message, like hearts or doves.

5. Seal (Optional): If time allows and for durability, an adult can apply a clear acrylic sealant spray over the decorated stones to preserve the artwork.

6. Clean Up: Ensure students clean their brushes and workspace. Dispose of or store leftover materials properly.

Reinforcement of Lesson:
Joshua 23 speaks about Joshua's farewell address and the reminder of God's promises and faithfulness. The "Promise Stones" serve as a tangible reminder of these promises. Through this activity, students actively engage with the text by choosing meaningful words or verses, which helps internalize the message. Each stone acts as a physical keepsake symbolizing their commitment to remember and uphold God's promises, echoing how Joshua encouraged the Israelites to remain faithful to God's covenant.