Crafts

Craft: Gideon's Torch and Clay Jar

Materials List:

1. Toilet paper rolls or small paper cups (for clay jars)
2. Battery-operated tealight candles (for torches)
3. Construction paper (brown, red, orange)
4. Scissors
5. Glue or tape
6. Markers or crayons
7. Stickers or sequins (optional for decoration)
8. Rubber bands
9. String or yarn

Instructions:

1. Decorate the "Clay Jar":
- Give each student a toilet paper roll or a small paper cup to represent the clay jar.
- Allow students to decorate them using markers, crayons, stickers, or sequins. Encourage them to make their jars colorful and creative, similar to pottery patterns.

2. Create the "Torch":
- Using red and orange construction paper, cut out flame shapes. You'll need two to three flames per student.
- Glue or tape the paper flames around the flame portion of the battery-operated tealight candle to create the appearance of a burning torch.

3. Assemble the Craft:
- Place the tealight candle inside the decorated toilet paper roll or cup. The candle should sit at the top, with the flames visible.
- Secure the tealight inside with a small rubber band, ensuring it's stable.

4. Add a Handle:
- Cut a length of string or yarn, and attach it to either side of the toilet paper roll or cup to create a handle. This mimics how Gideon's army might have carried their torches within the jars.

5. Practice the "Reveal":
- Demonstrate how to hide the flame by covering the top with their hand, simulating the moment from the story when the jars were broken and the torches revealed.
- Ensure each student can practice the motion by pulling away their hand to reveal the flame "lighting up."

Reinforcement of Lesson:

This craft helps reinforce the story of Gideon from Judges 8, focusing on the part where Gideon's army used torches concealed in clay jars to surprise their enemy. By creating their own torch and jar, students will better understand the element of surprise and strategy used by Gideon. The activity also symbolizes how God can use seemingly simple things for a great purpose, teaching

students about obedience, faith, and resourcefulness. Creating and revealing their torch will help students remember how God's power brought victory to Gideon and his men in an unexpected way.