Crafts

Craft Activity: Peace Bell

Objective: To reinforce the theme of reconciliation and peace after conflict as depicted in Judges 21.

Materials Needed:
- Small terra cotta pots (one for each student)
- Acrylic paint or markers
- Paintbrushes
- String or ribbon
- Small bells
- Beads (optional)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Newspaper or plastic to cover work surfaces

Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. Preparation:
- Cover the tables with newspaper or plastic to protect them from paint.
- Set out all materials so that they are easily accessible to the students.

2. Decorate the Pots:
- Each student receives a small terra cotta pot.
- Using acrylic paint or markers, have the students decorate the outside of their pot with designs that emphasize peace, such as doves, olive branches, hearts, or peaceful words.
- Allow the paint or marker to dry completely.

3. Attach the Bell:
- Cut a length of string or ribbon approximately 12-15 inches long.
- Thread the string through the opening of the small bell and secure it with a knot at the top, making sure the bell is firmly attached.

4. Assembling the Bell Pot:
- Thread the other end of the string through the hole in the bottom of the terra cotta pot, pulling it through the top opening of the pot.
- Secure the string by tying a knot on the inside of the pot or by attaching a bead and tying a knot if using. Ensure the bell hangs just below the pot's edge.

5. Finishing Touches:
- If desired, students can add beads to the string for additional decoration.
- Tie a knot at the end of the string/ribbon to create a loop for hanging the bell.

6. Clean Up:
- Have students clean their area and wash brushes if necessary.

Reinforce the Lesson:

This craft activity serves as a metaphor for peace and reconciliation, echoing the resolution from conflict in Judges 21. Just as the bell rings to signal harmony, the act of crafting a “Peace Bell” emphasizes the importance of moving past disagreements towards unity and dialogue. The students are encouraged to hang their bells in their classrooms or homes as a reminder of the peaceful resolution from biblical stories and how they can apply it in their own lives.