Crafts

Craft: "The Ark of the Covenant Box"

Materials Needed:
- Small cardboard boxes (one per student)
- Gold craft paint or gold markers
- Paintbrushes (if using paint)
- Glue sticks
- Glitter (optional)
- Small paper or foam sheets in white (for tablets)
- Markers
- Scissors
- Decorative stickers or jewels

Instructions:
1. Prep the Boxes: Provide each student with a small cardboard box. Explain that this will represent the Ark of the Covenant.

2. Paint/Color: Have the students paint their boxes with gold paint or color them with gold markers. Allow time for the paint to dry if needed.

3. Create the Tablets: While waiting for the boxes to dry, give each student two small rectangles cut from paper or foam. These represent the stone tablets of the Ten Commandments that were inside the Ark.

4. Decorate Tablets: Ask the students to write the numbers 1 to 10 on their “tablets” using markers, one number on each tablet. Optionally, they can add brief descriptions of the commandments if age-appropriate.

5. Assemble the Ark: Once the boxes are dry, students should glue their tablets inside the box. They can also decorate the outside of their box with stickers, glitter, or jewels to mimic the ornate nature of the Ark in biblical descriptions.

6. Discussion and Reinforcement: As the students work, discuss the story of 1 Samuel 4, focusing on the significance of the Ark and the outcome of the battle when it was taken by the Philistines. Emphasize the importance of respect and reverence for the sacred.

7. Closure: Once the crafts are completed, have students share their 'Ark' with the class and articulate what they learned about why the Ark was important and the consequences of taking it lightly.

Lesson Reinforcement:
This activity helps students visualize and understand the importance of the Ark of the Covenant in 1 Samuel 4. It reinforces the notion of sacred objects and the lessons of respecting God's power and presence. By creating their own version of the Ark, students can engage with the story on a personal level, making it more memorable and impactful.