Crafts

Craft Title: Peace and Unity Banner

Materials List:
- Large sheet of butcher paper or white poster board
- Markers or crayons
- Construction paper in various colors
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- String or yarn
- Hole punch
- Icons or pictures related to peace (doves, olive branches, etc.)
- Simple printout of "2 Samuel 3:1, 'The war between the house of Saul and the house of David lasted a long time. David grew stronger and stronger, while the house of Saul grew weaker and weaker.'"

Instructions:

1. Introduction:
- Explain to the students that in 2 Samuel 3, there is a focus on conflict and the eventual need for peace and unity. Today, they will create a "Peace and Unity Banner" to remind us of the importance of working together and finding harmony.

2. Create the Banner Base:
- Roll out a large sheet of butcher paper or use a poster board and lay it flat.
- At the top of the paper, write, “Peace and Unity” and underneath, glue the printed Bible verse.

3. Decorate with Symbols of Peace:
- Provide students with pre-cut shapes of doves, olive branches, and other symbols of peace, or allow them to cut their own using construction paper.
- Encourage them to decorate these shapes using markers and crayons.

4. Crafting Peace Messages:
- Ask students to think of words or short phrases that make them feel at peace, such as “Love,” “Friends,” “Kindness,” etc.
- Have the students write these words on small strips of construction paper.

5. Assemble the Banner:
- Glue the peace symbols and peace messages around the title and Bible verse on the butcher paper, arranging them creatively to form a border or filling the space.
- Encourage them to be colorful and artistic.

6. Add Finishing Touches:
- Punch holes along the top of the paper and thread a piece of string or yarn through these holes to hang the banner.
- Allow the banner to dry if any glue was used.

7. Display:
- Once finished, hang the banner in the classroom or another communal space as a reminder of

peace and unity.

Reinforcement of the Lesson:

This activity reinforces the lesson of 2 Samuel 3 by focusing on the transition from conflict to peace, much like the eventual move towards unity within the divided kingdom. By using symbols of peace and contemplating what brings them harmony, students connect the historical context to their own lives, understanding the importance of working together, resolving conflicts, and supporting one another in growing stronger and more united. The craft encourages them to reflect on personal peace and the role they play in fostering unity.