

Crafts

Craft: Story of Absalom's Return Puppet Show

Materials List:

- Craft sticks (large or medium)
- Colored construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Markers or crayons
- Yarn (for hair)
- Googly eyes (optional)
- Tape

Instructions:

1. Introduction:

- Briefly introduce the story of 2 Samuel 14, focusing on Absalom's return to Jerusalem and the reconciliation with King David, facilitated by Joab and the wise woman of Tekoa.

2. Create Characters:

- Use construction paper to cut out shapes for different characters (Absalom, King David, Joab, and the Woman of Tekoa).
- Draw faces on each shape using markers or crayons. Optionally, glue on googly eyes.
- Cut small pieces of yarn and glue them onto the characters' heads for hair. Absalom can have longer pieces to symbolize his noted long hair.

3. Attach to Craft Sticks:

- Glue each character to the top of a craft stick. Allow the glue to dry completely.

4. Decorate the Scene:

- Use additional construction paper to create simple props or backgrounds, such as a palace, a field, or a city gate, where different parts of the story occur.
- Draw or cut out these elements and set them up as a backdrop for the puppet show.

5. Perform the Story:

- Have students retell the story using their puppet characters, taking turns to act out different scenes. They can focus on key moments such as the wise woman's appeal to King David, the return of Absalom, and his eventual reunion with David.

Reinforcement of the Lesson:

This craft activity helps reinforce the story and lessons of forgiveness, reconciliation, and wisdom from 2 Samuel 14 in several ways:

- Engagement: Creating puppets helps students engage concretely with the characters and events, making the biblical narrative more memorable.
- Comprehension: As students act out the story, they must think critically about each character's actions and motivations, deepening their understanding of the narrative.
- Application: Discussing themes such as forgiveness and wisdom after the puppet show reinforces

the relevance of these values in their own lives.

- Collaboration: Working together to create and perform the story fosters teamwork and communication skills.

Overall, the hands-on nature of the craft encourages active learning and personal connection to the biblical story.