

Anglican Old Testament Curriculum Grades 4th-8th

Craft Project Addendum

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WEEK 1 — GOD THE CREATOR

Genesis 1:1–2:3

CRAFT 1 — SEVEN DAYS OF CREATION HANGING MOBILE

Grades: 4–6

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Low–Medium

Materials: Wooden embroidery hoop or two crossed craft sticks, cardstock, markers or colored pencils, scissors, hole punch, yarn or string, glue, optional beads and nature-themed stickers.

- **Step-by-Step:**
- Give each student seven small cardstock circles.
- On the first circle, create a picture representing **light**.
- On the second circle, create a picture representing **sky and water**.
- On the third circle, add **land and plants**.
- On the fourth circle, add the **sun, moon, and stars**.
- On the fifth circle, add **birds and sea creatures**.
- On the sixth circle, add **animals and people**.
- On the seventh circle, write “**God rested and blessed the seventh day.**”
- Punch a hole at the top of each circle.
- Cut seven different lengths of yarn or string.
- Tie one creation circle to each piece of string.
- Attach the strings around an embroidery hoop or to crossed craft sticks.
- Add beads to the strings if desired.
- Tie another piece of string to the top for hanging.
- Add a small center tag reading “**God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.**” — **Genesis 1:31**
- Hang the completed mobile where the seven pieces can move freely.

Faith Connection: Creation has order and purpose because God intentionally brought all things into being.

CRAFT 2 — CREATION IN A JAR

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 20–30 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Clear plastic jar with lid or clean wide-mouth jar, blue and green tissue paper, cotton balls, small stones or pebbles, artificial leaves or moss, animal miniatures or animal cutouts, small wooden person or paper person silhouette, star sequins, glue, cardstock, string or ribbon.

Step-by-Step:

- Place several small stones in the bottom of the jar to represent the earth.
- Add small pieces of green tissue paper, artificial leaves, or moss to represent plants.
- Add blue tissue paper to represent water.
- Stretch several cotton balls slightly and place them higher in the jar to represent clouds.
- Add star sequins or small cardstock stars near the upper portion of the jar.
- Add several small animals or animal pictures.
- Place a small wooden or cardstock person in the scene to represent humanity.
- Look at all the different parts of creation represented inside the jar.
- Cut a small cardstock tag.
- Write **“God created with purpose and care.”**
- Add **Genesis 1:31** to the tag.
- Punch a hole in the tag.
- Tie the tag around the top of the jar with ribbon or string.
- Secure the lid.
- Display the jars together as a miniature “Creation Gallery.”

Faith Connection: The many different parts of creation belong to one world created and cared for by God.

Teacher Note: This can easily become a reusable craft-supply project. Miniature animals, wooden people, moss, stones, and jars can all appear again in later Genesis lessons.

CRAFT 3 — MADE IN GOD’S IMAGE MOSAIC

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Heavy cardstock, small precut pieces of colored paper or tissue paper, glue sticks, scissors, pencils, markers, optional metallic paper.

Step-by-Step:

- Give each student a sheet of heavy cardstock.
- Lightly draw a large human silhouette in the center.
- Cut or tear colored paper into small mosaic pieces.
- Fill the human silhouette with the different pieces.
- Allow the pieces to be different colors, shapes, and sizes.
- Leave a small amount of space between pieces so the mosaic pattern remains visible.
- At the top write **“MADE IN GOD’S IMAGE.”**
- Under the mosaic write **Genesis 1:27.**
- Around the outside of the person, add words describing ways people can reflect God's purposes, such as **love, create, care, serve, forgive, choose, pray, and worship.**
- Add several pieces of metallic paper if desired to make parts of the mosaic stand out.
- Allow the project to dry.
- Display everyone's mosaics together rather than comparing individual designs.

Faith Connection: Being made in God's image gives every person value and calls us to love, care, and live responsibly.

Older Student Extension: Grades 7–8 can choose three of the surrounding words and explain on the back how each relates to being made in God's image.

CRAFT 4 — CREATION CROSS

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–35 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Large wooden craft sticks, smaller craft sticks, tacky glue, acrylic or washable paint, paintbrushes, artificial greenery, tiny shells, small stones, star shapes, twine, optional wooden animals or birds.

Step-by-Step:

- Place one large craft stick vertically.
- Place a second craft stick horizontally across it to form a cross.
- Glue the two pieces together.
- Allow the glue to set while preparing the decorations.
- Paint the cross in earth, sky, or natural tones.
- Allow the paint to dry slightly.
- Glue a small piece of greenery near the bottom to represent plants and land.
- Add a small shell to represent the sea.
- Add a small bird, animal, or animal shape to represent living creatures.
- Add one or two small stars near the upper portion.
- Add a small stone near the bottom.
- Tie a short piece of twine around the center of the cross if desired.
- On the back write **“God created all things.”**
- Add **Genesis 1:1**.
- Attach a loop of twine to the back for hanging.
- Allow the project to dry completely before taking it home.

Faith Connection: The creation story begins God's great story in Scripture, which ultimately leads us toward His work of redemption.

EXTENDED CRAFT — 3-D CREATION SHADOW BOX

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Extended

Time: 45–60 minutes or two class periods

Cleanup: High

This is the **special project for Week 1**—something students could genuinely want to keep.

Materials: Small cardboard box, shoebox, or deep cardboard lid; cardstock; paint; paintbrushes; cotton balls; tissue paper; small stones; sand; artificial moss or greenery; twigs; shells; star stickers or sequins; animal miniatures or cutouts; wooden people or cardstock silhouettes; glue or tacky glue; scissors; string; optional battery-operated mini light.

Step-by-Step:

- Turn the box on its side so the opening faces forward.
- Paint the upper inside portion blue to represent the sky.
- Paint or cover the bottom portion with green and brown for land.
- Add blue paper or paint to one section of the bottom for water.
- Glue small stones, sand, or shells along portions of the ground and water.
- Stretch cotton balls and glue them into the upper portion as clouds.
- Add stars to the background.
- Create a sun and moon from cardstock.
- Attach the sun and moon to the background.
- Add artificial moss, leaves, or tiny twigs for vegetation.
- Place fish shapes near the water.
- Add birds to the sky.
- Add animals to the land.
- Add human figures near the center or foreground.
- Arrange everything before permanently gluing the figures into place.
- Glue each element securely.
- Cut a cardstock title strip.

- Write “**AND GOD SAW EVERY THING THAT HE HAD MADE, AND, BEHOLD, IT WAS VERY GOOD.**”
 - Add **Genesis 1:31** beneath the words.
 - Attach the title to the front or top of the shadow box.
 - Older students may add seven small numbered tabs around the inside edge representing the seven days.
 - If using a battery-operated mini light, secure it behind the upper edge of the box where it can illuminate the scene.
 - Allow everything to dry thoroughly.
1. Display the completed shadow boxes together for a **Creation Gallery** before students take them home.

Faith Connection: Students build one complete scene from many individual pieces, reinforcing that God's creation is ordered, purposeful, diverse, and good.

Teacher Preparation

For a 35-minute Sunday School period, I **would not attempt the entire Extended Craft from scratch during class**. Pre-paint the boxes or have the basic backgrounds prepared. Students can then spend class assembling and personalizing their creation scenes. For a longer parish activity, they can complete the whole project themselves.

JOURNALING — GRADES 7–8; OPTIONAL GRADES 5–6

Directions:

Allow students **7–10 minutes of quiet writing time** to reflect on the Journal Message and respond to the **Reflect & Write** prompt. Encourage thoughtful and honest reflection, reminding students that their journals are private. Students may share a thought or sentence if they choose. Close with the **Prayer Thought**, allowing students a quiet moment to continue the prayer in their own words.

Teacher Note: Sharing is always optional. There are no “right” answers; journaling is intended to encourage personal reflection, prayer, and application of Scripture.

Journal Message:

God created intentionally and with care. Scripture tells us that human beings are made in God's image, which means our lives have value and purpose. Being made in God's image also gives us responsibility for how we treat other people and God's creation. This builds directly on the guide's existing reflection that because God created us, our lives have meaning.

Reflect & Write:

What does it mean to you that God created you with purpose? Think of one way you can honor God as Creator through the way you treat another person, care for creation, or use the abilities God has given you.

Prayer Thought:

Lord, thank You for creating me. Help me use the life and gifts You have given me to honor You.

WEEK 2 — THE FALL AND GOD’S PROMISE

Genesis 2:4–3:24

CRAFT 1 — GOD SEEKS US GARDEN DOOR HANGER

Grades: 4–6

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Low–Medium

Materials: Heavy cardstock or thin craft foam, door-hanger template, green construction paper, artificial leaves, flower or leaf stickers, markers, scissors, glue, ribbon or twine.

Step-by-Step:

- Trace and cut a door-hanger shape from heavy cardstock or craft foam.
- Write **“WHERE ART THOU?”** across the top.
- Add **Genesis 3:9** underneath.
- Cut several leaf shapes from green construction paper.
- Arrange the leaves around the outside edge to create a garden border.
- Glue the leaves into place.
- Add artificial leaves or small flower embellishments if desired.
- In the center write **“God seeks us because He loves us.”**
- Add a small cross near the bottom as a reminder that God's work of restoration ultimately leads us toward Christ.
- Tie a small ribbon or piece of twine around the neck of the hanger.
- Allow the glue to dry before hanging it on a door.

Faith Connection: Adam and Eve hid from God, but God came looking for them. Our sin does not make God stop loving or seeking His people.

CRAFT 2 — BROKEN & RESTORED HEART MOSAIC

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Cardstock, red or assorted colored construction paper, scissors, glue, metallic gold paper or gold-colored paper strips, markers.

Step-by-Step:

- Cut a large heart from cardstock.
- Cut or tear colored paper into irregular pieces.
- Arrange the pieces inside the heart, leaving small spaces between them so the heart appears broken into sections.
- Glue the pieces into place.
- Cut very thin strips of metallic or gold-colored paper.
- Place the gold strips along several of the spaces between the broken pieces.
- Glue the strips into place.
- At the top write **“SIN BREAKS.”**
- At the bottom write **“GOD RESTORES.”**
- Add **Genesis 3:9**.
- On the back write one example of a relationship that can be damaged by wrong choices: our relationship with God, family, friends, other people, or creation.
- Underneath write one way mercy, forgiveness, obedience, or love can help restore a relationship.

Faith Connection: Sin damages relationships, but brokenness is not the end of God's story. God begins His work of restoration.

Older Student Extension: Grades 7–8 can add the words **Creation — Fall — Redemption** to the back and briefly explain where this week's story fits into the larger biblical story.

CRAFT 3 — COVERED WITH CARE LEAF BOWL

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–35 minutes plus drying time

Cleanup: Medium–High

Materials: Small disposable bowl to use as a mold, plastic wrap, artificial fabric leaves or sturdy paper leaves, decoupage glue or diluted school glue, foam brushes, cardstock, hole punch, ribbon.

Step-by-Step:

- Turn a disposable bowl upside down.
- Cover the outside completely with plastic wrap.
- Brush a thin layer of glue over the plastic-covered bowl.
- Place overlapping leaves around the bowl.
- Brush glue gently over each leaf as it is added.
- Continue overlapping leaves until most of the bowl is covered.
- Add a second layer of leaves where additional strength is needed.
- Allow the project to dry completely.
- Carefully lift the leaf bowl away from the mold.
- Remove any remaining plastic wrap.
- Trim uneven edges if necessary.
- Cut a small cardstock tag.
- Write **“God did not abandon them.”**
- Add **Genesis 3:21**.
- Punch a hole in the tag and attach it to the bowl with ribbon.

Faith Connection: Even after Adam and Eve sinned, God cared for them and provided clothing for them. His response included both consequences and mercy.

Teacher Preparation: Because drying takes longer than a normal class period, prepare one completed example beforehand. Students can take their projects home on a later Sunday, or this can be completed across two sessions.

CRAFT 4 — GOD'S PROMISE GARDEN CROSS

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Wooden cross or large craft sticks, artificial greenery or moss, small artificial leaves, twine, tacky glue, cardstock, markers, optional small flowers.

Step-by-Step:

- If using craft sticks, glue two large sticks together to form a cross.
- Wrap a small amount of twine around the center.
- Glue artificial greenery or moss around portions of the cross.
- Add several individual leaves.
- Add a few small flowers if desired.
- Leave portions of the wooden cross visible beneath the garden materials.
- Cut a small cardstock tag.
- Write **“GOD'S STORY DOES NOT END IN THE GARDEN.”**
- Add **Genesis 3:15** as the Scripture reference.
- Attach the tag near the bottom with twine.
- Add a loop of twine to the back for hanging.
- Allow the project to dry thoroughly.

Faith Connection: Genesis 3 introduces the brokenness caused by sin while beginning the biblical story of God's restoration. The garden cross helps students look forward to Christ without losing the focus of the Genesis account.

EXTENDED CRAFT — GARDEN OF EDEN 3-D DIORAMA: BEFORE & AFTER

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Extended

Time: 45–60 minutes

Cleanup: High

Materials: Shoebox or small cardboard box, cardstock, paint, brushes, artificial moss, greenery, twigs, small stones, blue paper or cellophane, wooden people or cardstock figures, animal miniatures, artificial leaves, glue, scissors, markers, small piece of vellum or translucent paper, optional battery-operated tea light.

Step-by-Step:

- Turn the box on its side with the opening facing forward.
- Create a garden background using paint, cardstock, or construction paper.
- Add blue paper to represent water.
- Glue moss, greenery, stones, and small twigs throughout the garden.

- Add miniature animals or cardstock animal figures.
- Place two human figures in the garden to represent Adam and Eve.
- Create a tree from a twig and artificial leaves.
- Divide the scene visually into two portions without drawing a dividing line.
- Make one side lush and open to represent God's good creation and relationship with humanity.
- Make the second portion more subdued using fallen leaves, bare twigs, or darker paper.
- Place Adam and Eve partly behind leaves on the second side to represent hiding.
- Create a small translucent or vellum pathway extending toward them to symbolize God seeking His people.
- If desired, place a battery-operated tea light behind the translucent pathway.
- Add a cardstock title across the top reading **“WHERE ART THOU?”**
- Add **Genesis 3:9**.
- Add a second small tag reading **“God seeks. God cares. God begins to restore.”**
- Allow the entire diorama to dry.
- Have students use their finished scenes to retell what changed between the beginning and end of Genesis 3.

Faith Connection: The diorama visually shows the heart of the lesson: God's good creation is damaged by human sin, but God does not abandon His people. He seeks them, cares for them, and His work of restoration begins.

JOURNALING — GRADES 7–8; OPTIONAL GRADES 5–6

Directions:

Allow students **7–10 minutes of quiet writing time** to reflect on the Journal Message and respond to the **Reflect & Write** prompt. Encourage thoughtful and honest reflection, reminding students that their journals are private. Students may share a thought or sentence if they choose. Close with the **Prayer Thought**, allowing students a quiet moment to continue the prayer in their own words.

Teacher Note: Sharing is always optional. There are no “right” answers; journaling is intended to encourage personal reflection, prayer, and application of Scripture.

Journal Message:

Adam and Eve chose their own way instead of trusting God, and their choice damaged their relationships with God, each other, and creation. Yet God did not abandon them. He sought them, cared for them, and began His work of restoration.

Reflect & Write:

Why do you think people sometimes hide from God when they know they have done something wrong? How does knowing that God is merciful help us come back to Him?

Prayer Thought:

Lord, when I make wrong choices, help me turn toward You instead of hiding from You.

This expands the guide's existing emphasis that wrong choices hurt relationships while God continues to show mercy.

WEEK 3 — CAIN AND ABEL: JEALOUSY AND FORGIVENESS

Genesis 4:1–16; 6:5–8

CRAFT 1 — HEART & HANDS PRAYER PLAQUE

Grades: 4–6

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Cardboard or heavy cardstock, colored cardstock, scissors, glue, markers, yarn or ribbon, hole punch, optional foam letters or stickers.

Step-by-Step:

- Cut a large heart from heavy cardstock or lightweight cardboard.
- Trace both hands onto colored cardstock.
- Cut out the two handprints.
- Position one hand on each side of the heart as though the hands are holding it.
- Glue the hands into place.
- Across the heart write **“GUARD MY HEART.”**
- Add **Genesis 4:7** beneath the words.
- Around the outside of the heart add words such as **love, patience, kindness, forgiveness, self-control, prayer.**
- Punch two holes near the top.
- Thread ribbon or yarn through the holes to make a hanger.
- Add simple decorations if desired.
- Allow the glue to dry before hanging.

Faith Connection: God warned Cain before he acted. We can bring anger and jealousy to God and ask Him to help us make a different choice.

CRAFT 2 — TWO PATHS CHOICE STONES

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Two smooth stones per student, acrylic or paint markers, brushes, permanent markers, small drawstring bag or paper bag, cardstock tag, twine.

Step-by-Step:

- Give each student two clean, smooth stones.
- On one stone paint or write **ANGER** on one side.
- On the reverse side write **STOP & PRAY**.
- On the second stone paint or write **JEALOUSY** on one side.
- On the reverse side write **CHOOSE LOVE**.
- Decorate around the words with simple symbols such as a heart, cross, praying hands, or pathway.
- Allow the stones to dry.
- Place both stones inside a small bag.
- Create a tag reading “**I can choose what I do next.**”
- Add **Genesis 4:7**.
- Attach the tag to the bag with twine.
- Encourage students to keep the stones somewhere they will see them during the week.

Faith Connection: Feelings such as anger and jealousy are real, but they do not have to control what we choose to do.

CRAFT 3 — FORGIVENESS BRIDGE

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–35 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Jumbo craft sticks, regular craft sticks, tacky glue, cardstock, markers, twine, small wooden blocks or folded cardstock supports.

Step-by-Step:

- Place two small wooden blocks or folded cardstock supports several inches apart.
- Lay jumbo craft sticks across the space to begin forming a bridge.
- Glue the sticks together.
- Add craft sticks along both sides as railings.
- Use smaller craft sticks or twine to strengthen and decorate the sides.
- On several bridge pieces write words such as **listen, pray, apologize, forgive, kindness, patience, mercy.**
- Create a small sign reading **“FORGIVENESS BUILDS A WAY FORWARD.”**
- Attach the sign to the bridge.
- Allow the bridge to dry completely.
- Discuss which words would be hardest to practice when someone is angry or hurt.

Faith Connection: Cain allowed anger to separate him from his brother. Forgiveness and reconciliation require choices that move us toward one another rather than farther apart.

CRAFT 4 — MERCY BEADS KEYCHAIN

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Pony beads or wooden beads, cord, key rings, alphabet beads if available, small cross bead or charm, scissors.

Step-by-Step:

- Cut a length of sturdy cord.
- Attach one end securely to a key ring.
- Choose beads representing different responses to difficult emotions.
- Assign a meaning to several colors, such as **stop, pray, listen, forgive, love.**
- Thread the beads onto the cord in that order.
- Add alphabet beads spelling **MERCY** if available.
- Add a cross bead or charm at the end.

- Tie the cord securely.
- Trim excess cord.
- Review the beads from top to bottom as a simple reminder of what students can do when anger or jealousy begins to grow.

Faith Connection: God's warning to Cain reminds us to recognize what is happening in our hearts before our feelings become harmful actions.

EXTENDED CRAFT — CAIN & ABEL STORY SCENE: THE CHOICE

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Extended

Time: 45–60 minutes

Cleanup: Medium–High

Materials: Small wooden board, sturdy cardboard base, or shallow box lid; air-dry clay; craft sticks; artificial grass or moss; small stones; twigs; cardstock; markers; glue; paint; brushes; optional miniature baskets.

Step-by-Step:

- Cover the base with paint, paper, moss, or artificial grass to create an outdoor scene.
- Use air-dry clay to make two simple figures representing Cain and Abel.
- Create several small clay animals for Abel's portion of the scene.
- Create small vegetables, grain, or plants for Cain's portion.
- Place the two brothers on opposite portions of the base.
- Create two small offering areas from stones or craft sticks.
- Arrange the offerings beside each figure.
- Create a pathway between the two sides.
- Place a small sign beside the pathway reading **“YOU STILL HAVE A CHOICE.”**
- Add **Genesis 4:7**.
- Add a second small sign near the front reading **“Stop • Pray • Choose What Is Right.”**
- Allow the clay and glue to dry completely.
- Use the finished scene to discuss the point in the story when Cain could have responded differently.

Faith Connection: The project focuses on the moment before Cain's harmful action—God warned him, and Cain was responsible for what he chose next.

JOURNALING — GRADES 7–8; OPTIONAL GRADES 5–6

Directions:

Allow students **7–10 minutes of quiet writing time** to reflect on the Journal Message and respond to the **Reflect & Write** prompt. Encourage thoughtful and honest reflection, reminding students that their journals are private. Students may share a thought or sentence if they choose. Close with the **Prayer Thought**, allowing students a quiet moment to continue the prayer in their own words.

Teacher Note: Sharing is always optional. There are no “right” answers; journaling is intended to encourage personal reflection, prayer, and application of Scripture.

Journal Message:

Cain became angry and jealous, but God spoke to him before he acted. God gave Cain an opportunity to recognize what was happening in his heart and choose what was right. Our feelings are real, but they do not have to control our actions.

Reflect & Write:

What warning signs might tell you that anger, jealousy, resentment, or another strong feeling is beginning to control your choices? What could you do before you act?

Prayer Thought:

Lord, help me recognize what is happening in my heart and give me wisdom to choose what is right.

WEEK 4 — NOAH AND GOD'S COVENANT

Genesis 6:9–9:17

CRAFT 1 — RAINBOW COVENANT SUNCATCHER

Grades: 4–6

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Clear contact paper, black cardstock, tissue paper in rainbow colors, scissors, hole punch, ribbon or clear cord.

Step-by-Step:

- Cut a rainbow-shaped frame from black cardstock.
- Place the frame onto the sticky side of clear contact paper.
- Tear tissue paper into small pieces.
- Arrange the colored tissue pieces inside the rainbow frame.
- Slightly overlap the pieces so light can shine through the different colors.
- Cover the finished design with a second piece of clear contact paper.
- Press firmly around the entire project.
- Trim excess contact paper.
- Punch a hole near the top.
- Add ribbon or clear cord for hanging.
- Attach a small tag reading **“I do set my bow in the cloud.”**
- Add **Genesis 9:13**.
- Hang the suncatcher in a sunny window.

Faith Connection: The rainbow was God's covenant sign—a visible reminder of His promise.

CRAFT 2 — COVENANT PROMISE BRACELET

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Elastic jewelry cord, colored beads, letter beads, cross bead or charm, scissors, small cardstock tags.

Step-by-Step:

- Cut a length of elastic cord large enough to comfortably fit around the wrist.
- Choose several bead colors representing the colors of the rainbow.
- Arrange the colors before beginning to string them.
- Thread the beads onto the elastic.
- Add letter beads spelling **PROMISE** or **COVENANT** if available.
- Add a small cross bead or charm.
- Check the bracelet size before tying.
- Tie the elastic securely.
- Trim the excess cord.
- Create a small tag reading **“God Keeps His Promises.”**
- Add **Genesis 9:13**.
- Attach the bracelet loosely to the tag for students to take home.

Faith Connection: The bracelet gives students a wearable reminder of the lesson's central truth: God is faithful to His covenant.

CRAFT 3 — NOAH'S OLIVE BRANCH WALL HANGING

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Small natural twig or wooden dowel, green felt or cardstock, scissors, glue, twine, wooden or cardstock dove, markers, optional wooden beads.

Step-by-Step:

- Choose a twig or wooden dowel for the top of the hanging.
- Cut several olive-leaf shapes from green felt or cardstock.
- Attach the leaves to smaller twigs or lengths of twine.
- Arrange the leaves to resemble an olive branch.
- Cut or use a prepared dove shape.
- Attach the dove near the branch.
- Add a small leaf to the dove's beak.
- Cut a cardstock tag.
- Write **“GOD IS FAITHFUL.”**
- Add **Genesis 8:11**.
- Hang the tag below the branch.
- Add wooden beads to the hanging cords if desired.
- Tie a longer piece of twine to each end of the upper twig to create a hanger.

Faith Connection: The returning dove and olive leaf showed Noah that the waters were going down and that a new beginning was coming.

CRAFT 4 — COVENANT RAINBOW WEAVING

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 30–35 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Small cardboard loom or precut heavy-cardboard rectangle, yarn in several colors, scissors, craft stick or plastic yarn needle, white or neutral yarn for warp threads, wooden dowel or twig.

Step-by-Step:

- Cut small notches across the top and bottom of the cardboard loom.
- Stretch neutral yarn vertically between the notches.
- Choose the first yarn color.
- Weave the yarn over and under the vertical strands.

- Continue several rows before changing colors.
- Add additional colors until the woven section resembles a rainbow.
- Push each row gently toward the previous row so the weaving remains close together.
- Tie off the final yarn.
- Carefully remove the weaving from the cardboard loom.
- Tie the upper loops to a wooden dowel or natural twig.
- Add a hanging cord.
- Attach a small tag reading **“COVENANT — GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES.”**
- Add **Genesis 9:13**.

Faith Connection: Each strand becomes part of one strong piece, providing a tangible reminder of God's enduring covenant and faithfulness.

EXTENDED CRAFT — NOAH'S COVENANT RAINBOW WALL ART

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Extended

Time: 45–60 minutes

Cleanup: Medium–High

Materials: Small wooden plaque, canvas board, or heavy cardboard; acrylic paint; brushes; cotton cord or macramé cord; yarn in rainbow colors; wooden beads; small wooden dove or cardstock dove; artificial olive leaves; glue; scissors; twine; optional wood-burning-style markers or permanent markers.

Step-by-Step:

- Paint the wooden plaque or canvas with a simple sky background.
- Allow the background to dry while preparing the rainbow.
- Cut several lengths of thick cotton cord in gradually increasing sizes.
- Wrap each length of cord with a different color of yarn.
- Curve the wrapped cords into rainbow arches.
- Arrange the arches together before gluing.
- Glue each arch securely to the plaque.
- Add a few cotton fibers or small pieces of batting at the ends for clouds if desired.

- Add a small dove beside or above the rainbow.
- Place an artificial olive leaf near the dove.
- Add wooden beads or natural twine for texture.
- Across the bottom write **“GOD KEEPS HIS COVENANT.”**
- Add **Genesis 9:13** beneath the words.
- Attach a sturdy hanging cord to the back.
- Allow the entire project to dry completely.
- Display the finished pieces together before students take them home.

Faith Connection: The rainbow is not simply a colorful part of Noah's story. Scripture identifies it as the sign of God's covenant, reminding His people of His faithfulness.

JOURNALING — GRADES 7–8; OPTIONAL GRADES 5–6

Directions:

Allow students **7–10 minutes of quiet writing time** to reflect on the Journal Message and respond to the **Reflect & Write** prompt. Encourage thoughtful and honest reflection, reminding students that their journals are private. Students may share a thought or sentence if they choose. Close with the **Prayer Thought**, allowing students a quiet moment to continue the prayer in their own words.

Teacher Note: Sharing is always optional. There are no “right” answers; journaling is intended to encourage personal reflection, prayer, and application of Scripture.

Journal Message:

After the flood, God established His covenant and gave the rainbow as its sign. Throughout Scripture, God's people learn that God's character is faithful even when human beings are not. A covenant reminds us that God's promises can be trusted.

Reflect & Write:

What does God's faithfulness mean to you? Think about one promise or truth about God that you want to remember when life feels uncertain.

Prayer Thought:

Lord, thank You for Your faithfulness. Help me trust Your promises even when I cannot see what comes next.

This preserves the original Week 4 journal focus: **“A covenant is a promise. One promise of God I am thankful for is...”**

WEEK 5 — GOD CALLS ABRAHAM

Genesis — The Call of Abraham

CRAFT 1 — ABRAHAM’S JOURNEY COMPASS

Grades: 4–6

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Cardboard circles or heavyweight cardstock, metallic paper or foil, markers, scissors, brads, cardstock arrows, hole punch, twine, optional adhesive gems.

Step-by-Step:

- Cut a large circle from heavyweight cardstock or thin cardboard.
- Draw the four main compass directions around the outside.
- Decorate the center to resemble an old-fashioned travel compass.
- Cut a pointed arrow from cardstock.
- Attach the arrow to the center with a brad so it can turn.
- Across the top write **“GO WHERE GOD LEADS.”**
- Add **Genesis 12:1** near the bottom.
- Punch a hole at the top and add twine for hanging.
- Turn the compass arrow in different directions and discuss that Abraham did not receive every detail before he obeyed.
- On the back write **“Trust God • Listen • Obey • Go.”**

Faith Connection: Abraham trusted God’s direction even though he did not know everything about the journey ahead.

CRAFT 2 — JOURNEY WALKING STAFF

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Wooden dowels approximately 18–24 inches long or sturdy natural branches prepared in advance, twine, wooden beads, leather-look cord or ribbon, feathers if desired, small cardstock or wooden tags, markers, tacky glue.

Step-by-Step:

- Give each student a prepared wooden dowel or smooth branch.
- Wrap twine tightly around the upper portion of the staff.
- Add several wooden beads to pieces of cord.
- Tie the beaded cords near the wrapped section.
- Create a small tag reading **“FAITH GOES WHERE GOD LEADS.”**
- Add **Genesis 12:1**.
- Tie the tag securely to the staff.
- Add additional twine or simple decorative wrapping.
- Near the bottom, add four words on a narrow tag or wooden piece: **Hear • Trust • Obey • Go.**
- Allow any glued pieces to dry completely.
- Use the finished staffs while briefly retelling Abraham's departure from his homeland.

Faith Connection: Abraham's journey began with God's call and Abraham's willingness to trust and obey.

Teacher Note: For safety, use short dowels rather than full-size walking sticks, and sand any natural branches beforehand.

CRAFT 3 — PROMISE LANDSCAPE PAINTING

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–35 minutes

Cleanup: Medium–High

Materials: Small canvas boards or heavy watercolor paper, washable tempera or acrylic paint, brushes, water cups, paper towels, fine-tip markers, optional natural sponges.

Step-by-Step:

- Place the canvas horizontally.
- Paint a simple horizon across the background.

- Create distant hills or mountains.
- Add land in the foreground.
- Paint a pathway beginning near the bottom and disappearing toward the horizon.
- Add a simple figure representing Abraham walking along the path if desired.
- Add a few tents, trees, or animals to suggest the journey.
- Allow the painting to dry slightly.
- Across the sky or upper portion write **“BY FAITH, ABRAHAM WENT.”**
- Add **Genesis 12:1** as the lesson Scripture reference.
- On the back write **“I do not have to see the whole road to trust God.”**
- Allow the painting to dry completely.

Faith Connection: Faith means trusting God's direction even when we cannot yet see where the entire journey will lead.

CRAFT 4 — ABRAHAM’S TRAVEL POUCH

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–35 minutes

Cleanup: Low–Medium

Materials: Felt rectangles, hole punch, yarn or cord, plastic yarn needles, wooden beads, scissors, fabric markers, small wooden cross or cross bead.

Step-by-Step:

- Fold a rectangular piece of felt in half to form a pouch.
- Punch evenly spaced holes along both sides.
- Thread yarn or cord through a plastic yarn needle.
- Lace the sides together.
- Tie the ends securely.
- Punch two holes near the top flap.
- Add a cord closure.
- Decorate the front with simple journey symbols such as mountains, a tent, stars, or a pathway.

- Write **“TRUST GOD”** using a fabric marker.
- Add a small wooden cross or cross bead to the closure.
- Place a small card inside reading **“Hear • Trust • Obey • Go.”**
- Add **Genesis 12:1** to the card.

Faith Connection: Abraham left what was familiar and trusted God's call to begin a new journey.

EXTENDED CRAFT — ABRAHAM’S JOURNEY MAP ON BURLAP

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Extended

Time: 45–60 minutes

Cleanup: Medium–High

Materials: Burlap or canvas squares, wooden dowels, twine, fabric markers or paint, brushes, felt, small stones, sand, craft sticks, tacky glue, wooden beads, optional miniature tent pieces.

Step-by-Step:

- Lay the burlap or canvas horizontally.
- Lightly sketch a winding journey path across the material.
- Paint or draw land, mountains, water, and desert areas around the pathway.
- Add small pieces of sand, stones, and natural materials to give the map texture.
- Make a miniature tent from felt and small craft sticks.
- Attach the tent near one portion of the journey.
- Add a small Abraham figure from felt, cardstock, or wood.
- Place footprints along portions of the pathway.
- Add a star-filled sky near the destination as a visual hint of God's unfolding promises to Abraham.
- Across the top write **“GO UNTO A LAND THAT I WILL SHEW THEE.”**
- Add **Genesis 12:1**.
- Attach a wooden dowel across the top.
- Tie twine to both ends of the dowel for hanging.
- Add another dowel across the bottom if additional weight is needed.

- Allow all glued elements to dry completely.

Faith Connection: Abraham could not see the whole journey when God called him, but he trusted the One who was leading him.

JOURNALING — GRADES 7–8; OPTIONAL GRADES 5–6

Directions:

Allow students **7–10 minutes of quiet writing time** to reflect on the Journal Message and respond to the **Reflect & Write** prompt. Encourage thoughtful and honest reflection, reminding students that their journals are private. Students may share a thought or sentence if they choose. Close with the **Prayer Thought**, allowing students a quiet moment to continue the prayer in their own words.

Teacher Note: Sharing is always optional. There are no “right” answers; journaling is intended to encourage personal reflection, prayer, and application of Scripture.

Journal Message:

God called Abraham to leave what was familiar and go somewhere God would show him. Abraham did not receive the entire plan before he began. Faith required him to listen, trust, and act.

Reflect & Write:

Is it harder to trust when you do not know exactly what will happen? Think of one area of your life where you can practice trusting God one step at a time.

Prayer Thought:

Lord, help me trust You even when I cannot see the whole path ahead.

This retains the guide's original idea: **“God asked Abraham to trust Him without knowing the whole plan.”**

WEEK 6 — GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISE

Abraham Learns to Wait and Trust

CRAFT 1 — PROMISE SEED PLANTER

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Medium–High

Materials: Small terracotta pots or biodegradable planting pots, potting soil, easy-growing seeds such as marigold or zinnia, paint markers, craft sticks, markers, ribbon or twine.

Step-by-Step:

- Give each student a small planting pot.
- Decorate the outside with stars, leaves, or simple patterns.
- Write **“GOD’S PROMISES ARE WORTH WAITING FOR.”**
- Fill the pot with soil.
- Plant the seeds according to package directions.
- Gently cover the seeds with soil.
- Add a small amount of water.
- Write **“TRUST & WAIT”** on a wooden craft stick.
- Add the week's Genesis Scripture reference.
- Place the marker into the soil.
- Tie twine or ribbon around the pot if desired.
- Send home simple instructions for caring for the seed.

Faith Connection: We cannot make a seed grow instantly. Abraham also had to wait and trust that God would fulfill His promise.

CRAFT 2 — GOD’S PROMISE NIGHT-LIGHT

Grades: 4–6**

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Clear plastic cups or small plastic jars, dark blue tissue paper, star-shaped tissue pieces or star stickers, decoupage glue, foam brushes, battery-operated tea lights, ribbon, cardstock tags.

Step-by-Step:

- Tear dark blue tissue paper into small pieces.
- Brush a thin layer of decoupage glue onto the outside of the container.
- Add overlapping pieces of blue tissue.
- Add stars throughout the design.
- Brush another thin layer of glue over the tissue.
- Allow the container to begin drying.
- Place a battery-operated tea light inside.
- Create a small tag reading **“LOOK NOW TOWARD HEAVEN.”**
- Add **Genesis 15:5**.
- Tie the tag around the top with ribbon.
- Turn down the classroom lights and illuminate the finished projects together.

Faith Connection: God used the stars to help Abraham understand the greatness of His promise.

Safety: Use only battery-operated lights—never candles.

CRAFT 3 — PROMISE KNOT WALL HANGING

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–35 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Small wooden dowel or natural twig, several colors or textures of yarn, twine, wooden beads, cardstock or wooden tag, markers, scissors.

Step-by-Step:

- Cut several lengths of yarn.
- Fold each piece over a wooden dowel or twig.
- Loop the yarn through itself to secure it to the dowel.
- Continue until several strands hang from the wood.

- Add wooden beads to selected strands.
- Tie knots at different places along the yarn.
- As each knot is tied, think about something that requires patience and trust.
- Trim the bottom strands into a simple shape.
- Create a center tag reading **“GOD IS FAITHFUL.”**
- Add the week's Genesis Scripture reference.
- Attach the tag to the hanging.
- Tie twine to both ends of the dowel to make a hanger.

Faith Connection: The knots provide a physical reminder to hold onto God's faithfulness while waiting.

CRAFT 4 — PROMISE STAR ORNAMENT

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 20–30 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Air-dry clay, rolling pins or smooth dowels, star cookie cutters, drinking straws, letter stamps or toothpicks, ribbon, optional metallic paint.

Step-by-Step:

- Give each student a small amount of air-dry clay.
- Knead the clay until it is soft.
- Roll the clay to an even thickness.
- Cut a large star using a cookie cutter.
- Smooth the edges with a fingertip.
- Use letter stamps or a toothpick to add **“GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES.”**
- Add **Genesis 15:5** if space allows.
- Use a straw to make a hanging hole near the top.
- Add small, impressed stars or patterns around the edge.
- Allow the clay to dry completely.

- Paint selected details after drying if desired.
- Thread ribbon through the hole for hanging.

Faith Connection: The star reminds students of God's promise to Abraham and that God's word can be trusted even when fulfillment requires waiting.

EXTENDED CRAFT — STARRY PROMISE CONSTELLATION LANTERN

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Extended

Time: 45–60 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Clean metal cans with smooth edges or sturdy black cardstock lantern forms, adult-use hammer and nail if using cans, black or dark blue paint, brushes, battery-operated tea lights, tracing paper, star templates, twine, wooden beads, cardstock tags.

Step-by-Step:

- Have an adult prepare clean cans beforehand and make sure every edge is completely safe.
- Fill cans with water and freeze them before class if holes will be punched into metal.
- Draw or transfer star patterns around the outside.
- With **adult supervision and adult handling where appropriate**, create holes following the star patterns.
- Allow the ice to melt and thoroughly dry the cans.
- Paint the outside dark blue or black.
- Allow the paint to dry.
- Add small painted stars between the punched designs.
- Create a tag reading “**NUMBER THE STARS, IF THOU BE ABLE TO NUMBER THEM.**”
- Add **Genesis 15:5**.
- Attach the tag with twine and a wooden bead.
- Place a battery-operated tea light inside.
- Darken the room and illuminate the lanterns.
- Look at the patterns of light while rereading God's promise to Abraham.

Faith Connection: Abraham looked into a night sky filled with more stars than he could count. The lantern helps students experience something of that image while remembering that **God's promise did not depend on Abraham's ability to see how it could happen—it depended upon God's faithfulness.**

JOURNALING — GRADES 7–8; OPTIONAL GRADES 5–6

Directions:

Allow students **7–10 minutes of quiet writing time** to reflect on the Journal Message and respond to the **Reflect & Write** prompt. Encourage thoughtful and honest reflection, reminding students that their journals are private. Students may share a thought or sentence if they choose. Close with the **Prayer Thought**, allowing students a quiet moment to continue the prayer in their own words.

Teacher Note: Sharing is always optional. There are no “right” answers; journaling is intended to encourage personal reflection, prayer, and application of Scripture.

Journal Message:

Abraham and Sarah waited a long time for God's promise to be fulfilled. Waiting did not mean that God had forgotten them. Their story reminds us that God's timing and our timing are not always the same.

Reflect & Write:

Why can waiting be difficult? Instead of focusing only on what you are waiting for, think about how prayer, patience, and trust can shape you while you wait.

Prayer Thought:

Lord, when waiting is difficult, help me remember that You are faithful.

The curriculum specifically emphasizes that waiting is part of faith, not failure, and that God's timing shapes trust.

WEEK 7 — FAITH TESTED: GOD PROVIDES

Abraham and Isaac

CRAFT 1 — JEHOVAH-JIREH WOODEN PLAQUE

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–35 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Small unfinished wooden plaques or wood slices, paint or paint markers, brushes, twine, small artificial greenery, tacky glue, permanent markers, optional wooden beads.

Step-by-Step:

- Give each student a small wooden plaque or wood slice.
- Paint a simple mountain silhouette across the lower portion.
- Allow some of the natural wood to remain visible.
- Across the center write **“THE LORD WILL PROVIDE.”**
- Add **Genesis 22:14** beneath the words.
- Add a small amount of greenery along the bottom edge.
- Wrap a short length of twine around one portion of the plaque.
- Add one or two wooden beads if desired.
- Attach twine to the back for hanging.
- Allow the project to dry completely.

Faith Connection: Abraham learned that God saw his need and provided what was necessary.

CRAFT 2 — RAM YARN-WRAPPED ORNAMENT

Grades: 4–6

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Precut cardboard ram shapes, white or cream yarn, brown felt, glue, markers, wiggle eyes if desired, twine.

Step-by-Step:

- Give each student a sturdy cardboard ram shape.
- Wrap white or cream yarn around the body until most of the cardboard is covered.
- Secure the yarn on the back with glue.
- Cut two curled horn shapes from brown felt.
- Glue the horns near the ram's head.
- Add an eye with marker or a wiggle eye.
- Add small felt ears if desired.
- Tie a piece of twine around the top for hanging.
- Attach a small tag reading **“GOD PROVIDED.”**
- Add **Genesis 22:13–14**.
- Allow the glue to dry.

Faith Connection: The ram reminds students that at the crucial moment, God provided.

CRAFT 3 — FAITH & TRUST PARACORD KEYCHAIN

Grades: 6–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–35 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Paracord or sturdy craft cord, key rings, scissors, wooden beads, alphabet beads if available, small cross charm, adult-use lighter or glue for securing cord ends.

Step-by-Step:

- Cut two lengths of sturdy cord.
- Attach the cords to a key ring.
- Use a simple square-knot pattern to begin the keychain.
- Continue knotting until the desired length is reached.
- Add a wooden bead near the bottom.
- Add letter beads spelling **TRUST** if available.
- Add a small cross charm.
- Secure the ends with strong glue or have an adult finish paracord ends safely.

- Trim excess cord.
- Attach a small tag with **Genesis 22:14**.

Faith Connection: Each knot builds upon the one before it, reminding students that faith grows as we learn to trust God.

Teacher Note: I especially like this for Grades 7–8. It feels much less like a little-child craft, and many of them will put it on a backpack.

CRAFT 4 — GOD PROVIDES PRAYER BOX

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Small unfinished wooden boxes or sturdy papier-mâché boxes, paint markers, decorative paper, glue, small wooden crosses, ribbon or twine, small cardstock pieces.

Step-by-Step:

- Give each student a small box.
- Decorate the lid with mountains, leaves, a cross, or simple geometric designs.
- Write “**GOD PROVIDES**” across the lid.
- Add **Genesis 22:14**.
- Glue a small wooden cross to the top if desired.
- Decorate the sides with paint markers or paper.
- Cut several small pieces of cardstock.
- On one card write something God has already provided for which the student is thankful.
- On another card write a need the student wants to place before God in prayer.
- Place the cards inside the box.
- Add blank cards without printed writing lines so additional prayers can be added at home.
- Tie a piece of twine or ribbon around the box if desired.

Faith Connection: The prayer box connects God's provision in Abraham's story with the practice of trusting God with our own needs.

EXTENDED CRAFT — MOUNT MORIAH RELIEF ART

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Extended

Time: 45–60 minutes

Cleanup: High

Materials: Canvas board or heavy cardboard, air-dry clay, small stones, sand, twigs, paint, brushes, tacky glue, artificial moss, twine, small cardstock or wooden Scripture plaque.

Step-by-Step:

- Place the canvas or board horizontally.
- Use air-dry clay to build a raised mountain across the surface.
- Shape a pathway winding toward the top.
- Press small stones into portions of the clay.
- Add sand for additional texture.
- Create a simple altar near the upper portion using tiny stones.
- Add small twigs to the scene.
- Create a ram from clay or use a small wooden ram.
- Position the ram near a small thicket made from twigs.
- Allow the clay to begin setting.
- Paint the mountain, sky, and pathway.
- Add small amounts of moss or greenery.
- Attach a plaque reading **“THE LORD WILL PROVIDE.”**
- Add **Genesis 22:14**.
- Allow the finished relief to dry thoroughly.

Faith Connection: The raised landscape helps students retell the movement of the story—from Abraham's difficult journey up the mountain to God's provision.

JOURNALING — GRADES 7–8; OPTIONAL GRADES 5–6

Directions:

Allow students **7–10 minutes of quiet writing time** to reflect on the Journal Message and respond to the **Reflect & Write** prompt. Encourage thoughtful and honest reflection, reminding

students that their journals are private. Students may share a thought or sentence if they choose. Close with the **Prayer Thought**, allowing students a quiet moment to continue the prayer in their own words.

Teacher Note: Sharing is always optional. There are no “right” answers; journaling is intended to encourage personal reflection, prayer, and application of Scripture.

Journal Message:

Abraham faced an extraordinarily difficult test of faith. At the crucial moment, God provided. Abraham named the place in remembrance of God's provision.

Reflect & Write:

When you hear the words “**God provides,**” what kinds of things come to mind besides possessions or money? Think about ways God can provide strength, wisdom, people, courage, forgiveness, or hope.

Prayer Thought:

Lord, help me recognize Your provision and trust You with what I need.

WEEK 8 — GOD WORKS THROUGH IMPERFECT FAMILIES

Jacob and His Family

CRAFT 1 — JACOB’S LADDER STRING ART

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 30–35 minutes

Cleanup: Low–Medium

Materials: Small cork tiles or thick foam board, push pins, embroidery floss or yarn, cardstock, markers, optional star stickers.

Step-by-Step:

- Place push pins in two vertical rows to create the sides of a ladder.
- Add pairs of pins between the rows to establish several rungs.
- Tie embroidery floss securely to the bottom pin.
- Wrap the floss upward around the pins to create the ladder.
- Add contrasting floss around the outer edges if desired.
- Add stars around the upper portion.
- Create a small title reading **“GOD IS WITH ME.”**
- Add the lesson's Genesis Scripture reference.
- Attach the title near the bottom.
- Make sure all pins are firmly seated before taking the project home.

Faith Connection: Jacob's dream reminded him that God was present and that God's promises had not disappeared.

Teacher Note: For younger students, use thick foam board and blunt plastic pegs rather than sharp pins.

CRAFT 2 — STONE OF REMEMBRANCE

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Large smooth stones, paint markers or acrylic paint, brushes, permanent markers, felt circles, glue.

Step-by-Step:

- Give each student a large smooth stone.
- Paint a simple night sky or star pattern on one side.
- Allow the background to dry slightly.
- Write **“GOD IS HERE.”**
- Add **Genesis 28:16**.
- On the opposite side add a simple ladder, cross, or star design.
- Glue a felt circle to the bottom if the stone will be displayed indoors.
- Allow the paint to dry completely.
- Encourage students to place the stone somewhere at home where they will see it regularly.

Faith Connection: Jacob used a stone to mark a place where he had encountered God. The remembrance stone helps students remember that God is present in their lives too.

CRAFT 3 — FAMILY THREADS WEAVING

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 30–35 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Cardboard looms, several colors and textures of yarn, scissors, plastic yarn needles, wooden beads, twine.

Step-by-Step:

- Prepare a simple cardboard loom with notches along the top and bottom.
- Stretch neutral yarn vertically across the loom.
- Choose several different yarn colors and textures.
- Begin weaving the first yarn over and under the vertical threads.
- Change yarn periodically so many different colors become part of the same weaving.
- Include thick, thin, smooth, or textured yarn.

- Add a wooden bead to selected strands if desired.
- Continue weaving until most of the loom is filled.
- Carefully remove the weaving from the loom.
- Tie the loose ends securely.
- Attach a small tag reading **“GOD WORKS THROUGH IMPERFECT PEOPLE.”**
- Add the Week 8 Genesis reference.
- Add a twine loop for hanging.

Faith Connection: Families contain different personalities, strengths, weaknesses, and struggles. God worked through Jacob's complicated family and remained faithful to His promises.

CRAFT 4 — GRACE REPAIRS THE BROKEN CLAY HEART

Grades: 6–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 30–40 minutes plus drying

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Air-dry clay, rolling pins, heart cutters or templates, clay tools or craft sticks, metallic paint marker, acrylic paint if desired, ribbon.

Step-by-Step:

- Roll a piece of air-dry clay into a flat slab.
- Cut a large heart shape.
- Carefully separate the heart into several irregular pieces.
- Gently press the pieces back together while leaving the divisions visible.
- Smooth the outer edge while keeping the interior cracks.
- Use a straw to make a hanging hole.
- Allow the clay to dry.
- Trace the visible cracks with a metallic paint marker.
- Add the word **“GRACE”** across the heart.
- Add ribbon through the hanging hole.
- On a small, attached tag write **“God remains faithful.”**

Faith Connection: Jacob's family experienced conflict, deception, hurt, and broken relationships, yet human failure did not cancel God's faithfulness.

Teacher Note: This echoes the broken-heart idea from Week 2, but I think it's different enough for older students because this is a **clay repair project** rather than a paper mosaic. If you want every craft to be completely unique throughout the 13 weeks, this would be the one I would replace.

EXTENDED CRAFT — JACOB'S DREAM ILLUMINATED NIGHT SCENE

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Extended

Time: 45–60 minutes

Cleanup: Medium–High

Materials: Deep picture frame, shallow cardboard box, or shadow-box frame; dark blue cardstock or paint; wooden craft sticks; cotton batting; metallic paper; star stickers; vellum or translucent paper; glue; scissors; battery-operated fairy lights or tea lights; small stones; cardstock.

Step-by-Step:

- Paint or cover the inside background with dark blue.
- Add stars across the night sky.
- Create a rocky ground using small stones or textured cardstock.
- Build a ladder from narrow wooden craft sticks.
- Position the ladder so it rises diagonally from the ground toward the upper portion of the scene.
- Add translucent vellum behind or around the ladder.
- Place a short strand of battery-operated fairy lights behind the vellum if the frame allows it.
- Make sure the battery pack remains accessible.
- Add a small Jacob figure resting near the bottom.
- Place a small stone near the figure to represent the stone Jacob used.
- Add light cotton batting around the upper portion to soften the illuminated area.
- Across the bottom add **“SURELY THE LORD IS IN THIS PLACE.”**
- Add **Genesis 28:16**.

- Turn on the lights and check the effect in a dim room.
- Secure all loose pieces.
- Allow the project to dry before displaying it.

Faith Connection: Jacob was far from home and his family situation was complicated, but God met him there. God's presence and promises rested on God's faithfulness—not Jacob's perfection.

JOURNALING — GRADES 7–8; OPTIONAL GRADES 5–6

Directions:

Allow students **7–10 minutes of quiet writing time** to reflect on the Journal Message and respond to the **Reflect & Write** prompt. Encourage thoughtful and honest reflection, reminding students that their journals are private. Students may share a thought or sentence if they choose. Close with the **Prayer Thought**, allowing students a quiet moment to continue the prayer in their own words.

Teacher Note: Sharing is always optional. There are no “right” answers; journaling is intended to encourage personal reflection, prayer, and application of Scripture.

The families in Genesis were far from perfect. They experienced favoritism, disagreements, deception, hurt, and poor choices. Yet human imperfection did not make God unfaithful. God continued working through imperfect people.

Reflect & Write:

None of us is perfect. How can knowing that God works through imperfect people give you hope when you make mistakes? What is one area where you would like God to help you grow?

Prayer Thought:

Lord, thank You for being faithful even when I fail. Help me learn, grow, and become more like the person You call me to be.

WEEK 9 — GOD IS WITH US IN HARD TIMES

Genesis 37:1–36; 39:1–6

CRAFT 1 — GOD IS WITH ME BRAIDED WRISTBAND

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Embroidery floss or thin cord in three colors, alphabet beads, small cross bead, scissors, tape or clipboards.

Step-by-Step:

- Choose three colors of cord.
- Tie the strands together at one end.
- Secure the end to the table or a clipboard.
- Braid the three strands together.
- Add alphabet beads spelling **WITH ME** if desired.
- Add a small cross bead.
- Continue braiding until the bracelet fits comfortably.
- Tie the ends securely.
- Trim excess cord.
- Attach a small tag reading “**And the LORD was with Joseph.**” — **Genesis 39:2a.**

Faith Connection: The bracelet reminds students that God's presence remains with His people even during difficult and unfair circumstances.

CRAFT 2 — JOSEPH’S HOPE WEAVING

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–35 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Small cardboard looms, yarn in several colors, plastic yarn needles, scissors, wooden dowel or twig, cardstock tag.

Step-by-Step:

- Prepare the cardboard loom with vertical threads.
- Begin with darker or neutral-colored yarn near the bottom.
- Gradually introduce brighter colors as the weaving progresses.
- Continue weaving over and under the vertical threads.
- Push each row gently against the previous row.
- Remove the completed weaving from the loom.
- Attach it to a small wooden dowel or twig.
- Add a hanging cord.
- Attach a tag reading **“GOD IS WITH US IN HARD TIMES.”**
- Add **Genesis 39:2a**.

Faith Connection: Hard circumstances were part of Joseph's story, but they were not evidence that God had abandoned him.

CRAFT 3 — PRESENCE POCKET TOKEN

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes plus drying

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Air-dry clay, rolling pins, small circle cutters, alphabet stamps or toothpicks, small cross stamp, optional paint markers.

Step-by-Step:

- Roll a small piece of clay.
- Cut a circle approximately two inches wide.
- Smooth the edges.
- Press a small cross into one side.
- Add **“GOD IS WITH ME”** around the cross.
- On the reverse add **GEN. 39:2**.
- Allow the clay to dry completely.

- Add paint-marker details if desired.
- Keep the finished token in a pocket, backpack, or bedside dish.

Faith Connection: The token is a quiet reminder of the curriculum's central truth for this week: God does not abandon His people in hardship.

CRAFT 4 — HOPE IN HARD TIMES WALL CROSS

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–35 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Wooden cross, twine, yarn, small stones, wooden beads, artificial greenery, tacky glue, small metal or wooden tag.

Step-by-Step:

- Wrap portions of the wooden cross with twine.
- Add several strands of colored yarn.
- Glue a few small stones near the base.
- Add a small amount of greenery.
- Thread wooden beads onto a short piece of cord.
- Attach the beads to the cross.
- Add a tag reading **“THE LORD WAS WITH JOSEPH.”**
- Add **Genesis 39:2a**.
- Attach a hanging loop.
- Allow the project to dry completely.

Faith Connection: God's presence does not promise an easy life; it gives hope and strength during difficulty.

EXTENDED CRAFT — JOSEPH'S JOURNEY TEXTURED MAP

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Extended

Time: 45–60 minutes

Cleanup: High

Materials: Canvas or burlap, paint, sand, small stones, yarn, craft sticks, cardstock, small wooden figure, glue, brushes, twine.

Step-by-Step:

- Create a landscape background on canvas or burlap.
- Add a pathway showing Joseph being taken away from home.
- Use sand and stones to create texture.
- Add small landmarks along the journey.
- Use yarn to mark Joseph's route.
- Place a small figure representing Joseph along the path.
- Add a final marker representing Egypt.
- Place the words **“THE LORD WAS WITH JOSEPH”** beside the journey rather than only at the destination.
- Add **Genesis 39:2a**.
- Attach a dowel and twine for hanging.

Faith Connection: God was with Joseph throughout the journey—not merely after circumstances improved.

JOURNALING — GRADES 7–8; OPTIONAL GRADES 5–6

Directions:

Allow students **7–10 minutes of quiet writing time** to reflect on the Journal Message and respond to the **Reflect & Write** prompt. Encourage thoughtful and honest reflection, reminding students that their journals are private. Students may share a thought or sentence if they choose. Close with the **Prayer Thought**, allowing students a quiet moment to continue the prayer in their own words.

Teacher Note: Sharing is always optional. There are no “right” answers; journaling is intended to encourage personal reflection, prayer, and application of Scripture.

Journal Message:

Joseph experienced circumstances that were unfair and painful, yet Scripture tells us, **“And the LORD was with Joseph.”** God's presence did not immediately remove Joseph's difficulties. God remained with him through them. The curriculum intentionally emphasizes that God's presence gives hope without promising that hardship will quickly disappear.

Reflect & Write:

What might it mean to trust that God is present when something is difficult, unfair, or does not change as quickly as you hoped?

Prayer Thought:

Lord, help me remember that You are with me, especially when life is difficult.

WEEK 10 — GOD BRINGS GOOD FROM EVIL

Genesis 45:1–15; 50:15–21

CRAFT 1 — BEAUTY FROM BROKENNESS CROSS

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 30–35 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Wooden cross, broken pieces of colored craft tile or precut mosaic pieces with safe edges, tacky glue, grout optional, metallic paint marker.

Step-by-Step:

- Arrange mosaic pieces across the wooden cross.
- Leave small spaces between the pieces.
- Experiment with the arrangement before gluing.
- Glue each piece securely.
- Allow the project to dry.
- Add grout if the teacher chooses a traditional mosaic finish.
- Write **Genesis 50:20** on the back.
- Add a hanging loop.

Faith Connection: God can bring redemption and good from what has been broken without calling the original harm good.

CRAFT 2 — FORGIVENESS DOOR HANGER

Grades: 4–6

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Wooden or heavy-cardstock door hangers, paint markers, ribbon, wooden beads, small cross embellishment.

Step-by-Step:

- Decorate the door hanger with simple patterns.

- Across the front write **“CHOOSE FORGIVENESS.”**
- Add a small cross.
- Add **Genesis 50:20**.
- Tie ribbon around the hanger.
- Add several wooden beads if desired.
- On the back write **“Forgiveness does not make wrong things right. It refuses to let wrong have the final word.”**

Faith Connection: Joseph recognized the wrong his brothers had done while choosing forgiveness.

CRAFT 3 — RECONCILIATION BRIDGE STRING ART

Grades: 6–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 30–40 minutes

Cleanup: Low–Medium

Materials: Cork board or thick foam board, push pins, embroidery floss, cardstock tags.

Step-by-Step:

- Arrange pins in the shape of two sides connected by a bridge.
- Wrap embroidery floss around the pins on one side.
- Carry the thread across the bridge.
- Continue wrapping toward the opposite side.
- Add several different threads until the bridge is clearly visible.
- Add words around the bridge such as **truth, forgiveness, wisdom, mercy, healing, trust**.
- Attach **Genesis 50:20** at the bottom.

Faith Connection: Forgiveness and reconciliation are related, but rebuilding relationships can also involve truth, wisdom, and time.

CRAFT 4 — GOOD FROM EVIL TRANSFORMATION JAR

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Easy–Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Clear plastic jars, dark and light glass gems or beads, ribbon, Scripture tag.

Step-by-Step:

- Place several dark-colored stones or beads into the jar.
- Discuss difficult parts of Joseph's story.
- Add lighter and brighter stones.
- Notice that the dark pieces remain part of the jar.
- Continue until the jar contains many colors.
- Secure the lid.
- Tie ribbon around the top.
- Attach **Genesis 50:20**.
- Add a tag reading **“GOD CAN REDEEM WHAT OTHERS MEANT FOR HARM.”**

Faith Connection: Redemption does not erase what happened; it shows that evil does not have greater power than God's purposes.

EXTENDED CRAFT — JOSEPH STORY MOSAIC

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Very

Time: 45–60 minutes

Cleanup: Medium–High

Purpose

Students create a mosaic from many irregular, “broken-looking” pieces. When viewed separately, the pieces seem disconnected; when placed together, they form one complete image.

The finished design illustrates an important truth from Joseph's story: **God did not call the evil done to Joseph good. Instead, God remained faithful and brought good from circumstances others intended for harm.**

Suggested Finished Designs

Allow students to choose one central image:

- **Wheat stalks** — representing how God eventually used Joseph to preserve life during the famine.
- **A cross** — connecting the theme of God's redemptive work to the larger Christian story.

- **Two hands joined together** — representing Joseph's forgiveness and reconciliation with his brothers.
- **A sheaf of grain surrounded by a simple border** — especially good for older students who want a more mature-looking project.

For this lesson, **I think the wheat stalks are the strongest choice.** They connect directly to Joseph's story without simply repeating the reconciliation craft already in the curriculum.

Materials

- Small canvas board or unfinished wooden plaque — approximately 8 × 10 inches
- Precut mosaic tiles, craft-foam mosaic pieces, colored cardstock pieces, or smooth broken-look craft tiles
- Gold, tan, brown, cream, green and/or assorted colored pieces
- Tacky craft glue
- Pencil
- Printed wheat-stalk template — optional
- Metallic gold paint marker
- Black or dark brown paint marker
- Acrylic paint — optional for background
- Paintbrushes
- Small containers or trays for sorting mosaic pieces
- Genesis 50:20 Scripture reference card
- Twine or picture hanger — optional
- Optional grout for older students and teacher-supervised finishing

Teacher Preparation: Use commercially made mosaic pieces or precut irregular craft pieces.

Students should not break glass or ceramic tiles themselves.

Step-by-Step

- Give each student a canvas board or wooden plaque.
- If desired, paint the background a simple neutral color and allow it to dry. A natural wood background can also be left unfinished.
- Ask students to look at the individual mosaic pieces before beginning. Point out that the pieces are different shapes and may not appear useful when viewed separately.
- Lightly sketch the outline of the chosen design onto the canvas or wood. For the recommended wheat design, draw two or three simple stalks of grain.
- Arrange the mosaic pieces over the drawing **before gluing**.
- Begin with the main image. Use gold, tan, or cream pieces to form the heads of the wheat.
- Use darker or green pieces to form the stems and leaves.
- Leave small spaces between the pieces so that the mosaic effect remains visible.
- Once satisfied with the arrangement, lift and glue each piece into position.

- Continue adding pieces around the central image if a mosaic background or border is desired.
- Encourage older students to create a gradual visual change in the background. Darker or more irregular pieces can appear near the edges, with lighter pieces appearing closer to the central wheat image.
- Allow the glue to set.
- If grout is being used, have the teacher demonstrate how to spread a thin layer between the pieces and carefully wipe the surface clean. Grout is optional; the project works very well without it.
- Beneath the mosaic, use a paint marker to write:

“But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good.”

Genesis 50:20a

- If space is limited, use:

GOD MEANT IT UNTO GOOD

Genesis 50:20

- Add a small decorative border if desired.
- Attach twine or a picture hanger to the back after the project has completely dried.

Teacher Discussion During the Craft

As students work, draw their attention to the mosaic rather than turning the activity into another formal lesson.

You might say:

“If you looked at only one piece of this mosaic, you probably couldn't tell what the finished picture would become. Joseph experienced parts of his life that must have seemed broken and disconnected. What his brothers did was wrong. But their wrongdoing did not stop God from remaining faithful or working for good.”

For Grades 7–8, you can take that thought one step deeper:

“Genesis 50:20 does not say that evil became good. Joseph calls what his brothers intended **evil**. The good came from what **God did despite it**.”

That distinction is particularly important because your Teacher Guide tells the older students to explore how God redeems **without approving harm**.

Faith Connection

Individual moments in Joseph's story looked broken and disconnected, but God's faithfulness continued through the whole story. God can bring redemption and good from what others intend for harm without calling the harm itself good.

JOURNALING — GRADES 7–8; OPTIONAL GRADES 5–6

Directions:

Allow students **7–10 minutes of quiet writing time** to reflect on the Journal Message and respond to the **Reflect & Write** prompt. Encourage thoughtful and honest reflection, reminding students that their journals are private. Students may share a thought or sentence if they choose. Close with the **Prayer Thought**, allowing students a quiet moment to continue the prayer in their own words.

Teacher Note: Sharing is always optional. There are no “right” answers; journaling is intended to encourage personal reflection, prayer, and application of Scripture.

Journal Message:

Joseph did not pretend that what his brothers did was acceptable. He called their actions evil, yet he also recognized that God had brought good from what others intended for harm. Joseph's story teaches both truth and forgiveness.

Reflect & Write:

Why is forgiveness different from saying that something wrong was, okay? Think about how forgiveness, truth, wisdom, and healing can work together.

Prayer Thought:

Lord, give me a forgiving heart and the wisdom to understand what forgiveness means.

The guide appropriately reminds older students that forgiveness and reconciliation are not identical and that forgiveness should not be forced.

WEEK 11 — JONAH: GOD’S MERCY FOR ALL

Jonah 1–4

CRAFT 1 — MERCY COMPASS

Grades: 4–6

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 20–25 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Cardboard circles, cardstock arrows, brads, markers, twine.

Step-by-Step:

- Cut a large compass circle.
- Add the four compass directions.
- Create a movable arrow and attach it with a brad.
- Around the outside write **Listen • Obey • Show Mercy • Love Others.**
- Across the center write **“GOD’S MERCY IS FOR EVERYONE.”**
- Add **Jonah 2:9b.**
- Attach twine for hanging.

Faith Connection: Jonah traveled in the wrong direction, but the deeper problem was learning to let his heart move toward God’s mercy.

CRAFT 2 — SECOND-CHANCE SEA GLASS CROSS

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–35 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Wooden cross, blue and green sea-glass-style craft pieces, tacky glue, twine, small Scripture tag.

Step-by-Step:

- Arrange sea-glass pieces over the wooden cross.
- Mix different shades of blue and green.

- Glue each piece securely.
- Wrap twine around the center if desired.
- Add a hanging cord.
- Attach a tag reading **“SALVATION IS OF THE LORD.”**
- Add **Jonah 2:9b**.
- Allow the cross to dry.

Faith Connection: Jonah received another opportunity to obey, reminding students of God's patience and mercy.

CRAFT 3 — NINEVEH MERCY LANTERN

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Clear plastic jar, blue tissue paper, translucent paper, decoupage glue, brushes, battery tea light, cardstock.

Step-by-Step:

- Cover portions of the jar with blue tissue paper.
- Add translucent shapes representing waves.
- Add a simple city silhouette representing Nineveh.
- Allow the jar to dry.
- Add a battery-operated light.
- Attach a tag reading **“GOD CARES ABOUT PEOPLE EVERYWHERE.”**
- Add **Jonah 4** as the lesson reference.

Faith Connection: God's concern extended beyond Jonah to the people of Nineveh.

CRAFT 4 — COMPASSION BEAD HANGER

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Driftwood-style stick or dowel, cord, beads, small wooden fish, heart and cross shapes, cardstock tag.

Step-by-Step:

- Cut several lengths of cord.
- Attach them to the wooden stick.
- Thread beads onto each strand.
- Add a fish to represent Jonah's rescue.
- Add a heart to represent compassion.
- Add a cross to represent God's saving mercy.
- Tie each strand securely.
- Add a hanging cord.
- Attach **“MERCY • COMPASSION • SECOND CHANCES”**.
- Add **Jonah 2:9b**.

Faith Connection: God's mercy reached Jonah and Nineveh and challenges God's people to show compassion too.

EXTENDED CRAFT — JONAH’S JOURNEY 3-D MAP

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Extended

Time: 45–60 minutes

Cleanup: High

Create a textured map on canvas showing **God's call → Jonah fleeing → sea → rescue → Nineveh → God's lesson about mercy** using paint, sand, twine, miniature boat, fish, city pieces, and greenery.

Place **“GOD'S MERCY IS FOR ALL”** prominently at the center so the fish never becomes the main point.

Faith Connection: Every part of Jonah's journey points toward the character of God—patient, compassionate, and merciful.

JOURNALING — GRADES 7–8; OPTIONAL GRADES 5–6

Directions:

Allow students **7–10 minutes of quiet writing time** to reflect on the Journal Message and respond to the **Reflect & Write** prompt. Encourage thoughtful and honest reflection, reminding students that their journals are private. Students may share a thought or sentence if they choose. Close with the **Prayer Thought**, allowing students a quiet moment to continue the prayer in their own words.

Teacher Note: Sharing is always optional. There are no “right” answers; journaling is intended to encourage personal reflection, prayer, and application of Scripture.

Journal Message:

Jonah received God's mercy when he ran away, but he struggled when God showed mercy to people he did not like. Jonah's story asks us to look not only at our actions but also at our hearts. God's compassion reaches farther than our personal preferences.

Reflect & Write:

Why can it sometimes be difficult to want mercy for someone we dislike or disagree with? How might remembering the mercy God gives us change the way we treat other people?

Prayer Thought:

Lord, thank You for Your mercy toward me. Teach me to show mercy and compassion to others.

This reflects the guide's central purpose for Jonah: **God's mercy is for everyone**, and obedience includes bringing our hearts into alignment with God's compassion.

WEEK 12 — MOSES: GOD FREES HIS PEOPLE

Exodus 3:1–12; 12:31–42; 14:21–31

CRAFT 1 — EXODUS WALKING STICK

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Low–Medium

Materials: Short wooden dowels, twine, beads, leather-look cord, Scripture tags.

Step-by-Step:

- Wrap twine around the upper portion of the dowel.
- Add several wooden beads.
- Tie additional cord below the wrapped section.
- Create a tag reading **“THE LORD SHALL FIGHT FOR YOU.”**
- Add **Exodus 14:14**.
- Tie the tag securely to the staff.
- Add **Trust • Follow • Freedom** on a second tag.

Faith Connection: Moses learned to trust God's presence and power as God led His people toward freedom.

CRAFT 2 — RED SEA RESIN-LOOK SUNCATCHER

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–35 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Clear plastic sheets or contact paper, blue cellophane, sand, cardstock frame, twine.

Step-by-Step:

- Create two tall sections of blue cellophane representing walls of water.
- Leave a clear pathway between them.
- Add a thin strip of sand-colored paper along the pathway.
- Seal the design between clear contact sheets.

- Add a sturdy cardstock frame.
- Write **“THE LORD SHALL FIGHT FOR YOU.”**
- Add **Exodus 14:14**.
- Punch a hole and attach hanging cord.

Faith Connection: Israel's escape depended upon God's power and faithfulness.

CRAFT 3 — FREEDOM LEATHER BRACELET

Grades: 6–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Faux-leather bracelet blanks, letter stamps or permanent markers, snap closures, cross charms.

Step-by-Step:

- Measure the bracelet around the wrist.
- Stamp or write **“FREED”** or **“TRUST GOD.”**
- Add **EX. 14:14**.
- Add a small cross charm if desired.
- Decorate with simple geometric markings.
- Attach or adjust the closure.
- Check that the bracelet fits comfortably.

Faith Connection: God heard His people's cries and acted to deliver them from slavery.

CRAFT 4 — MOSES CALLING WOOD-BURN LOOK PLAQUE

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 30–35 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Wooden plaque, brown and red paint markers, artificial leaves, orange and yellow yarn, tacky glue, twine.

Step-by-Step:

- Draw a simple bush on the plaque.
- Add red, orange, and yellow flame details.
- Add small artificial leaves.
- Wrap a small amount of yarn around portions of the design for texture.
- Write “**HERE AM I.**”
- Add **Exodus 3:4**.
- Add twine for hanging.
- Allow everything to dry.

Faith Connection: God called Moses personally and promised to be with him.

EXTENDED CRAFT — EXODUS: FROM SLAVERY TO FREEDOM RELIEF

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Extended

Time: 45–60 minutes

Cleanup: High

Using canvas, clay, sand, stones, paint, and translucent blue material, students create a raised scene of the Israelites traveling through the divided sea.

Add **Exodus 14:14** and the words “**GOD HEARS • GOD RESCUES • GOD LEADS.**”

Faith Connection: The Exodus shows God acting to rescue His people and leading them into freedom.

JOURNALING — GRADES 7–8; OPTIONAL GRADES 5–6

Directions:

Allow students **7–10 minutes of quiet writing time** to reflect on the Journal Message and respond to the **Reflect & Write** prompt. Encourage thoughtful and honest reflection, reminding students that their journals are private. Students may share a thought or sentence if they choose. Close with the **Prayer Thought**, allowing students a quiet moment to continue the prayer in their own words.

Teacher Note: Sharing is always optional. There are no “right” answers; journaling is intended to encourage personal reflection, prayer, and application of Scripture.

Journal Message:

God heard the cries of His people and called Moses to help lead them out of slavery. Moses did not feel ready for what God asked him to do, but God promised His presence. At the Red Sea, Israel had to trust God when they could not see a way forward.

Reflect & Write:

Have you ever felt that something good or important was beyond your ability? What difference does it make to remember that God can give courage, wisdom, and strength for what He calls us to do?

Prayer Thought:

Lord, when I feel afraid or unprepared, help me trust Your presence and follow where You lead.

WEEK 13 — MOSES AND THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Exodus 19:1–6; 20:1–17

CRAFT 1 — LOVE GOD • LOVE OTHERS WOODEN SIGN

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–35 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Small wooden plaque, paint markers, twine, small wooden heart and cross shapes, glue.

Step-by-Step:

- Draw a vertical divider down the center of the plaque.
- Across one side write “**LOVE GOD.**”
- Across the other write “**LOVE OTHERS.**”
- Add a small cross to the first side.
- Add a wooden heart to the second side.
- Add simple symbols representing ways the commandments guide each relationship.
- Add **Exodus 20:1–17**.
- Attach twine for hanging.

Faith Connection: God's commandments guide His people in loving Him and living faithfully with one another.

CRAFT 2 — COMMANDMENT CORD BRACELET

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Cord, ten small beads, one cross bead, clasps or adjustable knots.

Step-by-Step:

- Cut a comfortable length of cord.
- Add ten beads representing the Ten Commandments.
- Separate the beads visually into commandments concerning God and those concerning our neighbor.
- Add a cross bead at the center.

- Tie or clasp the bracelet.
- Attach a tag reading **“GOD'S GUIDANCE IS A GIFT.”**
- Add **Exodus 20**.

Faith Connection: The beads remind students that God's commandments shape both our relationship with God and our relationships with other people.

CRAFT 3 — GUIDING LIGHT LANTERN

Grades: 4–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 25–30 minutes

Cleanup: Medium

Materials: Clear plastic jar, vellum, tissue paper, decoupage glue, battery tea light, black cardstock, Scripture tag.

Step-by-Step:

- Cover the jar with translucent vellum or light tissue.
- Cut two simple tablet shapes from dark cardstock.
- Attach the tablets to the front.
- Add a small cross or heart.
- Write **“GOD'S WORD GUIDES US.”**
- Add **Exodus 20**.
- Place a battery-operated light inside.
- Turn down the classroom lights and illuminate the lanterns.

Faith Connection: God's commandments were given to guide His people in faithful living, not to make them earn His love.

CRAFT 4 — TEN COMMANDMENTS WALL WEAVING

Grades: 6–8

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 30–40 minutes

Cleanup: Low

Materials: Wooden dowel, ten lengths of cord, beads, small wooden tags, markers, twine.

Step-by-Step:

- Attach ten cords to a wooden dowel.
- Add one wooden bead to each cord.
- Attach a small tag to each strand.
- Place a shortened commandment reminder on each tag.
- Arrange the first group under **LOVE GOD**.
- Arrange the remaining group under **LOVE OTHERS**.
- Add a center tag reading “**GOD'S LAW IS A GIFT.**”
- Add **Exodus 20:1–17**.
- Attach a hanging cord.

Faith Connection: The commandments belong together as God's guidance for a people already rescued and brought into relationship with Him.

EXTENDED CRAFT — MOUNT SINAI COVENANT DISPLAY

Grades: 5–8

Difficulty: Extended

Time: 45–60 minutes

Cleanup: High

Materials: Canvas board or wood base, air-dry clay, stones, sand, paint, brushes, two small wooden or clay tablets, twine, small wooden cross, glue.

Step-by-Step:

- Build Mount Sinai from air-dry clay.
- Press stones and sand into the mountain for texture.
- Paint the landscape after the clay begins to set.
- Create two stone-tablet shapes from clay or wood.
- Add abbreviated commandment reminders to the tablets.
- Position the tablets prominently on display.

- Add a pathway leading toward the mountain.
- Across the bottom write **“RESCUED FIRST — THEN TAUGHT HOW TO LIVE.”**
- Add **Exodus 19:1–6; 20:1–17**.
- Add a small cross near the base to connect God's unfolding covenant story with the larger Christian story.
- Allow everything to dry completely.

Faith Connection: God rescued Israel before giving the commandments. Obedience was a response to relationship and grace, not a price paid to receive God's love.

JOURNALING — GRADES 7–8; OPTIONAL GRADES 5–6

Directions:

Allow students **7–10 minutes of quiet writing time** to reflect on the Journal Message and respond to the **Reflect & Write** prompt. Encourage thoughtful and honest reflection, reminding students that their journals are private. Students may share a thought or sentence if they choose. Close with the **Prayer Thought**, allowing students a quiet moment to continue the prayer in their own words.

Teacher Note: Sharing is always optional. There are no “right” answers; journaling is intended to encourage personal reflection, prayer, and application of Scripture.

Journal Message:

God rescued Israel **before** He gave them the Ten Commandments. His commandments were not a way for Israel to earn His love. They were God's guidance for people already in relationship with Him—teaching them how to love God and live faithfully with one another. That rescued-first sequence is central to the lesson in your guide.

Reflect & Write:

Choose one commandment that you think is especially important in everyday life. How does following it show love for God or love for another person?

Prayer Thought:

Lord, thank You for Your Word and Your guidance. Help me obey You because I love and trust You.

MASTER CRAFT MATERIALS LIST

New Crafts — Weeks 1–13 | Grades 4–8

BASIC CRAFT SUPPLIES — KEEP ON HAND

These supplies recur throughout the new crafts and can become the permanent **ADEUS Craft Supply Box**. These are perfect items to ask from your parish or local crafters as a donation.

- Tacky craft glue
- White school glue
- Decoupage glue
- Glue sticks
- Low-temperature glue gun and glue sticks — adult/teacher use
- Scissors
- Hole punches
- Paintbrushes — assorted sizes
- Acrylic craft paint
- Paint markers
- Permanent markers
- Washable markers
- Colored pencils
- Pencils
- Heavy cardstock — white, black, brown, blue, green and assorted colors
- Construction paper — assorted colors
- Cardboard and corrugated cardboard
- Craft foam
- Felt — assorted colors
- Tissue paper — assorted colors
- Vellum or translucent paper
- Clear contact paper
- Cellophane — especially blue
- Aluminum foil
- Ribbon — assorted colors and widths
- Twine

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- Yarn — assorted colors, weights and textures
- Embroidery floss
- Craft cord
- Elastic cord
- Faux-leather cord
- Paracord
- Plastic yarn needles
- Wooden craft sticks — regular and jumbo
- Wooden dowels — several sizes
- Wooden beads
- Pony beads
- Alphabet beads
- Cross beads and small cross charms
- Assorted decorative charms
- Brad fasteners
- Wiggle eyes
- Star stickers
- Artificial greenery and leaves
- Artificial moss
- Cotton batting or cotton balls
- Small smooth stones
- Sand
- Small twigs
- Seashells
- Fabric scraps
- Decorative paper
- Battery-operated tea lights
- Small battery-operated fairy lights

WOOD & NATURAL MATERIALS

These are worth purchasing in larger quantities because we use them repeatedly and they store well. Always ask for donations from the parish for these items if possible.

- Small unfinished wooden plaques
- Small wood slices
- Wooden crosses
- Small wooden boxes
- Wooden door hangers
- Small wooden hearts
- Small wooden fish
- Small wooden animal shapes, especially sheep/rams
- Small wooden or clay people/figures
- Wooden tags
- Wooden dowels
- Short dowels suitable for walking-staff crafts
- Craft sticks
- Sanded branches or sturdy twigs
- Driftwood-style sticks
- Smooth river stones
- Small decorative stones
- Sand
- Shells
- Dried or artificial leaves
- Artificial moss and greenery

Money-saving note: Branches, twigs, stones, and some natural materials can be collected ahead of time rather than purchased. Anything brought into the classroom should be clean, dry, smooth, and free of sharp edges.

CLAY & 3-D BUILDING MATERIALS

- Air-dry clay
- Rolling pins or small wooden dowels for rolling clay
- Clay tools
- Cookie cutters — stars, hearts and basic shapes
- Alphabet stamps
- Small shape stamps
- Toothpicks
- Shoeboxes
- Shallow cardboard boxes
- Deep picture frames or shadow-box frames
- Canvas boards
- Small stretched canvases
- Burlap or canvas fabric
- Cork tiles
- Thick foam board
- Push pins — older students/teacher-supervised use
- Small cardboard looms
- Embroidery hoops

MOSAIC & TEXTURE MATERIALS

- Precut craft mosaic tiles
- Sea-glass-style craft pieces
- Colored glass gems
- Dark and light glass gems
- Metallic paper
- Metallic paint markers
- Gold paper strips

- Grout — optional and teacher supervised
- Colored paper scraps
- Felt scraps
- Fabric scraps
- Textured yarn
- Decorative stones
- Sand
- Moss

I would specifically use **craft mosaic pieces with smooth edges** rather than breaking ceramic or glass with the students.

CONTAINERS & SPECIAL FORMS

- Clear plastic jars
 - Small clear plastic containers
 - Clear plastic cups
 - Small terracotta or biodegradable planting pots
 - Disposable bowls for molds
 - Plastic wrap
 - Papier-mâché boxes
 - Small unfinished wooden boxes
 - Clear plastic sheets
 - Smooth-edge metal cans — optional for teacher-prepared lanterns only
-

JEWELRY, CORD & WEAVING SUPPLIES

- Embroidery floss
- Yarn
- Twine
- Elastic jewelry cord

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- Paracord
- Faux-leather cord
- Waxed craft cord
- Key rings
- Bracelet clasps
- Adjustable bracelet closures
- Faux-leather bracelet blanks
- Pony beads
- Wooden beads
- Alphabet beads
- Cross beads
- Cross charms
- Heart charms
- Plastic yarn needles
- Cardboard weaving looms
- Embroidery hoops

WEEK-BY-WEEK SPECIAL MATERIALS

This is the part I think will be most useful for the teacher preparing each Sunday.

Week	Special Materials to Pull or Purchase
1 — Creation	Embroidery hoop, clear jars, animal/person miniatures, wooden crosses, shells, stars, shoeboxes, optional miniature lights
2 — Fall & Promise	Door-hanger forms, artificial leaves, disposable bowl molds, plastic wrap, wooden crosses, greenery/moss, shoeboxes, miniature people/animals
3 — Cain & Abel	Smooth painting stones, small drawstring bags, key rings, cross charms, craft sticks, wood/cardboard bases, air-dry clay

Week	Special Materials to Pull or Purchase
4 — Noah	Clear contact paper, rainbow tissue, rainbow beads, twig/dowels, dove shapes, olive leaves, cardboard looms, yarn, wooden plaques/canvases
5 — Abraham Called	Cardboard compass circles, brads, short wooden dowels/branches, small canvases/watercolor paper, felt, plastic yarn needles, burlap
6 — God Keeps His Promise	Small planting pots, soil, flower seeds, clear jars/cups, battery tea lights, air-dry clay, star cutters, optional teacher-prepared metal lantern cans
7 — God Provides	Wood plaques/slices, cardboard ram shapes, cream yarn, brown felt, paracord, key rings, small wooden boxes, canvas board, clay, stones
8 — Imperfect Families	Cork tiles/foam board, push pins, large smooth stones, cardboard looms, air-dry clay, shadow boxes, vellum, fairy lights
9 — Hard Times	Embroidery floss, alphabet beads, cardboard looms, clay, circle cutters, wooden crosses, canvas/burlap, sand and small figures
10 — Good From Evil	Wooden crosses, mosaic pieces, wooden door hangers, cork/foam board, push pins, clear jars, dark/light gems, canvas/wood mosaic base
11 — Jonah	Compass circles/brads, sea-glass craft pieces, wooden crosses, clear jars, battery lights, wooden fish/hearts/crosses, canvas and miniature boat
12 — Moses/Freedom	Short dowels, blue cellophane, clear sheets/contact paper, faux-leather bracelet blanks, wooden plaques, canvas, clay and sand
13 — Ten Commandments	Wooden plaques, wooden hearts/crosses, ten-bead sets, clear jars, battery lights, dowels, wooden tags, clay/tablet materials

CONSUMABLES TO BUY IN BULK

For a church or diocesan program, these are the things I would **not** buy week by week:

- Cardstock and construction paper

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- Felt sheets and scraps
- Yarn and embroidery floss
- Twine and craft cord
- Wooden craft sticks
- Wooden beads and pony beads
- Cross charms
- Acrylic paints
- Paint markers
- Tacky glue
- Decoupage glue
- Air-dry clay
- Tissue paper
- Clear contact paper
- Ribbon
- Artificial greenery
- Moss
- Battery tea lights
- Small wooden plaques
- Wooden crosses
- Small canvases
- Smooth stones
- Sand
- Small plastic jars

REUSABLE TEACHER EQUIPMENT

These should **not** be counted as per-student consumables on individual craft sheets:

- Scissors
- Hole punches

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- Paintbrushes
- Rulers
- Rolling pins
- Clay tools
- Glue guns
- Low-temperature glue sticks
- Trays for sorting beads
- Paint palettes
- Water cups
- Table coverings
- Drying racks or trays
- Plastic yarn needles
- Sample cardboard looms
- Alphabet and shape stamps
- Teacher-prepared templates
- Stapler
- Paper cutter
- Adult-use hammer and nail for the optional lantern preparation