

Directions

This booklet has fun craft ideas that extend learning and help students apply the lesson to their lives. Set up your craft area as follows:

- Make a Crafts site sign to set on an easel by the Crafts site.
- Locate your Crafts site near a sink or bathroom or have wet wipes available to wipe sticky hands and clean up spills.
- Set up enough tables so kids have space to work on their crafts. Cover the work area with plastic tablecloths or newspaper. Set up another table where projects can dry.
- Have pencils, markers, paper, scissors, glue sticks, tape, glue, and other common classroom supplies available each week.

Look in the Crafts folder on the Express Activities & More CD when a lesson calls for a pattern or template. Make copies of these before class begins. Each week, gather other supplies as noted in the lesson.

Option: Make photocopies of the “Do This” box for helpers and students, using heavy paper or cardstock. Trim to size, and set out with supplies.



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Proverbs Pencil

Lesson 1: The Wisdom of Solomon

1

You Need

- Pencil, sharpened, 1 per student
- Scissors
- White school glue
- Colorful or decorative tissue paper, cut into 10 × 20-inch rectangles
- Curling ribbon, cut into 4-inch pieces, 1 per student
- Hole punch
- Colorful heavy paper
- Markers

Get Ready

- Cut the paper into small circles, squares, or rectangles; punch a hole in each one.
- Write Proverbs 9:10, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom," or Proverbs 2:6, "The LORD gives wisdom," on your board, poster board, or slips of paper for students to copy.
- Gather supplies and set them out.
- Make a sample to show the students.



Cedar Sachet

Lesson 2: Solomon Builds the Temple

2

You Need

- Drawstring muslin bags, available at craft & kitchen stores; or squares of fabric, 1 per student & pinking shears
- Cross stencil, slightly smaller than the bag
- Gold acrylic craft paint
- Stencil pouncer brush
- Paper plates
- Masking tape
- Blow dryer
- Newspaper
- Cedar wood chips or shavings, available at pet stores
- *Optional:* Thin gold ribbon

Get Ready

- Use pinking shears to cut squares of fabric approximately 7 × 7 inches, if not purchasing bags.
- Gather supplies and set them out.
- Make a sample to show the students.



Proverbs Pencil

Lesson 1: The Wisdom of Solomon

Introduce the Craft

Say Proverbs 9:10 says, “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom.” What is the fear of the Lord? *Let students discuss this.*

The fear of the Lord begins with faith, which comes through God’s Word and Sacraments. Because of sin, we deserve God’s anger and punishment. But because we are God’s children through faith in Jesus, we know that God loves us and forgives us for Jesus’ sake. We approach God with reverence and awe, wanting to do His will. Show sample.

Today, you’ll make a proverbs pencil. Solomon was very wise. He recorded some wise sayings in the Book of Proverbs. As you use your pencil and grow in your writing skills, remember that God’s gifts of reading, writing, and listening are gateways to learning God’s Word, which makes us wise unto salvation through Jesus.

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Do This

- Write Proverbs 9:10 or another proverb on a paper tag. String a 4-inch piece of ribbon through the hole.
- Fold the tissue paper in half to make a 10 × 10-inch square, with the colorful side of the paper facing out.
- Cut a fringe, about 3 inches long, into the side of the tissue opposite the fold.
- Working left to right, squeeze a line of glue; place the pencil along the edge of the paper with the eraser near the fringe and the writing tip just beyond the folded side of the paper.
- Apply a zigzag line of glue on the tissue paper, excluding the fringe; firmly roll the paper around the pencil. Continue gluing and rolling until paper runs out.
- Roll the paper-covered pencil between the palms of your hands. This will compress the paper and give it an attractive, wrinkly texture. Fluff the fringe on top.
- Twist the paper at the base of the fringe, just above the eraser end of the pencil, and continue to fluff the fringed top. Use the ribbon to tie the tag onto the pencil; then curl the ribbon with scissors.

Cedar Sachet

Lesson 2: Solomon Builds the Temple

Introduce the Craft

Say Smell these cedar wood chips. Pass around a plate full of cedar chips. **Imagine a whole building lined with cedar and gold. The look and smell would tell you that you were someplace special. The temple was a beautiful house just like this. It was designed by God, but built by Solomon. It was the earthly place where God dwelled with His people.**

Today, you will make a sachet filled with cedar chips to put in a drawer at home. Show sample. **Sometimes, in our sin, we want to hide from God. But when you open your drawer, smell the cedar, and see the golden cross, you can remember that God sent His Son, Jesus, to be your Savior. Jesus is Immanuel, God with us. He dwells with us through Word and Sacrament and draws us near to God. Through Him, we have forgiveness and life eternal.**

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Do This

- Fold newspaper, and use it to line the inside of the muslin bag (or put the newspaper under the fabric square).
- Position the stencil on the bag or fabric, and tape it in place.
- Dip the stencil pouncer brush into the paint. Tap off the excess paint. For best results, use just a small amount of paint; the brush should be almost dry.
- Holding the stencil down, pounce the paint by bouncing the brush straight up and down over the stencil, working from the outside in. Fill the stencil completely.
- Remove the stencil, dry the paint with the blow dryer, and then remove the newspaper.
- Fill the bag with cedar wood chips and pull the drawstring closed (or put chips on the fabric, gather the edges near the top, and tie with gold ribbon). Tie off the drawstring with a gold ribbon, if desired.

Eternal-Cake Necklace

Lesson 3: God Provides for Elijah

3

You Need

- Flour, salt, oil & water
- Jar & small pitcher or measuring bowl (with pouring spout)
- Mixing bowl & spoons
- Baking sheet & oven
- Toothpicks & cording
- Nail polish, metallic or clear

Get Ready

- Measure 2 cups of flour and place in a jar.
- Stir together 1 cup salt, 1 cup water, and 1 tablespoon oil, and place the mixture in a pitcher or measuring bowl
- Gather remaining supplies and set them out.
- Make a sample to show the students.
- *Note:* In order to give the craft adequate time to dry, have children do the craft *before* the Explore session. If that's not possible, print directions for finishing it at home, or let children know ahead of time that they may have to finish the craft next week in Sunday School.



Fire-of-God Candle Holder

Lesson 4: Elijah and the Prophets of Baal

4

You Need

- Smocks or old shirts
- Plastic tablecloth or waxed paper
- Small glass jar or clear glass votive candle holder for each student
- Modge Podge or school glue watered down with equal parts water & glue
- Paintbrushes
- Red & yellow tissue paper
- Masking tape & pen or marker
- *Optional:* Tea light candle for each student (regular or battery operated)

Get Ready

- Gather supplies and put a plastic tablecloth or waxed paper on the table.
- Put Modge Podge in small cups so all children can easily reach it.
- Make a sample to show the students.
- *Option:* If you have a worship service after Sunday School, ask your pastor if he would like to have the children's candle holders displayed either on the altar or on a table where they can be a visual reminder of the Bible story. Put them on a tray in case they are not completely dry yet.



Eternal-Cake Necklace

Lesson 3: God Provides for Elijah

3

Introduce the Craft

Ask What did you have for breakfast today?

Accept responses. Think of all the good things God has given you already today. Give students a minute to list as many gifts from God as they can think of. Read and discuss the list.

In a time of scarcity, God provided food and life for the widow and her son. Today, God provides for us too. He gives us more than the food in our kitchen cupboard; He generously provides food for life through His Word and in the feast of the Lord's Supper, where He forgives our sins for Jesus' sake.

Today, you'll make a little cake out of flour and oil. You will bake it so it hardens, then string it to make a necklace. The round shape of the cake can remind you of the endless gifts of our loving God. The cross in the middle can remind you of the gifts of food and eternal life that God gives you through Christ.

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Do This

- Take turns stirring the flour into the liquid mixture in the mixing bowl. Knead until dough forms.
- Pinch off an almond-size piece of dough; roll it into a ball, and place on a baking sheet.
- Use fingers to flatten dough into a thin, round cake.
- Press a lengthwise toothpick into the cake to make a cross shape. Make a hole near the top for a cord.
- Teacher: Draw a diagram of the baking sheet, labeling each cake with the student's name. Bake the cakes at 350° for about a half hour.
- Once cool, seal the cakes with nail polish. *Note:* This may have to be done at home or next week.
- Once dry, string a cord through the hole, then overlap the ends of the cord by several inches and tie two knots, one from the end of each cord into the overlapped section of the cord, so the length of the necklace may be adjusted.
- *Note:* To avoid a choking hazard, attach the ends of the cord around the neck with clear adhesive tape, instead of knotting them.

Fire-of-God Candle Holder

Lesson 4: Elijah and the Prophets of Baal

4

Introduce the Craft

Say God showed that He is the one true God when He sent fire to the altar Elijah had built and rain to the land. When the people saw the fire, they said, "The LORD, He is God" (1 Kings 18:39).

God sent Jesus to die as payment for our sins and to rise again from the dead. Through God's Word and in Baptism, the Holy Spirit gives us faith to say, "I believe in God."

Show the children your sample with a lit candle in it.

Say Today, we are making candle holders that look like the flames God sent down onto Elijah's altar. Our candle holders will remind us that God is the one true and powerful God who saves us from our sins.

Do This

- Put a small piece of masking tape on the bottom of the jar or candle holder and print your name on it.
- Tear small pieces of tissue paper to look like flames.
- Paint Modge Podge on the outside of the candle holder.
- Arrange tissue paper on the outside of the candle holder and press down, making sure that no paper sticks up over the top edge of the candle holder.
- Gently paint Modge Podge on top of the tissue paper.
- Set aside to dry.
- Place a small candle in the holder.

Whirlwind Bottle

Lesson 5: Elijah Is Taken to Heaven

5

You Need

- Clear plastic bottle with smooth sides, 1 per student
- Red glitter
- Dish soap
- Eyedropper & small bowl
- Water
- *Optional:* Pitchers of water, funnels & towels

Get Ready

- Put water in the bottles ahead of time, allow the children to fill the bottles at a tap, or have pitchers of water, funnels, and towels for children to fill the bottles in the classroom.
- Set out supplies in classroom.
- Make a sample to show the students.



Jesus-Washes-My-Sins-Away Washcloth

Lesson 6: Naaman and Elisha

6

You Need

- Inexpensive white washcloths, 1 per student
- Puffy fabric paint, 2–3 ounces per student
- Smocks or old shirts for children to wear over their Sunday clothes
- Paper with washing instructions copied from fabric-paint label
- Pencils
- Safety pins
- *Optional:* Small clear suction-cup hook for hanging washcloth

Get Ready

- Pin a piece of paper with washing instructions to each washcloth.
- Put a washcloth and a smock at each place where you want children to sit.
- Set out fabric paints so all the children can reach them.
- Make a sample to show the students.

