

Memorial Day Craft – Memorial Stones

“What are some good things God has done for you that you want to remember?” Ask for input from the children.

“The most important thing God has done for us is given his son Jesus. Jesus came to earth to live a perfect life and die on the cross to take the punishment for our sins. This is the best thing God could have done for you and for me, so that we are no longer separated from Him by our sin. We need to always remember how God gave us Jesus.”

“Today you are going to paint your own memorial stone as a reminder to you of how God gave us Jesus. When you look at your stone you can remember how Jesus died on the cross for your sins and you can thank God sending His Son Jesus to die in your place.”

Craft Objective: To be used with lesson on Joshua 4 as a way for the children to remember God’s sacrifice of His Son Jesus.

Materials Needed:

One clean, dry stone for each child
One paintbrush for each child
One paper plate or pie tin for each child to use as a paint palette
One color acrylic paint. The amount of paint needed depends upon the number of children.
Masking tape
Sharpie marker

Procedure:

Pass out one stone, one paintbrush, and one empty paint palette to each child.
Show a stone which is already completed.
The children will choose which side of their stone will be the top.
Squeeze a small amount of paint onto each child’s palette.
The children will paint a cross on the top of their stone.
The adult helpers will write each child’s name on a piece of masking tape and stick it to the bottom of the stone.
Set the stones aside and allow to dry.

Tips:

For youngest children, you could forego the paintbrushes and have the children use their finger to make the cross.

The stones must be scrubbed clean and be completely dry for the paint to stick to the surface. I recommend you wash the stones a few days in advance and set them outside to dry.

If due to time or budget constraints you do not want to paint the stones, the lesson can be just as effective if the children simply bring home a plain stone. The teacher can bring in a collection of stones to choose from or if available you could take the class for a walk to choose a small stone from the grounds of your church campus.