Make: The Lord's Face

At a Glance:
After Jacob and Esau meet again for the first time in more than 20 years, Jacob tells Esau, "I had seen your face as though I had seen the face of God, and you were pleased with me" (Genesis 33:10). In this project, children will create a decorative hanging of the Lord's face and the faces of some people who love them. You can decide whether you would prefer to have children draw their own pictures or use pre-printed images for the picture of the Lord.





Supplies Needed for Each Student:
- stiff paper circle or paper plate
- ribbon, yarn, or string (about 6-8 inches)
- crayons or markers
- glue
- printed picture of the Lord's face
- two text strips: "We can see the Lord's face / in the faces of good people around us."
- *optional:* glitter and other decorations such as sequins and glue

Teacher Preparation:
- If you are going to use paper circles, prepare these by cutting them out of stiff paper (plates or bowls make good templates to draw around). Make the circles as large as you can using standard paper.
- Punch a hole in each paper circle or paper plate for the ribbon or string to thread through.
- Cut out enough copies of the Lord's face for each child to have one.
- Cut your ribbon, yarn or string into 6-8 inch pieces, one for each child.
- Cut out the text strips.

Directions:

1. Remind students that Jacob had been worried about seeing his brother again. But Esau was very happy to see Jacob. He hugged him and even cried because he was so happy. Jacob says that seeing Esau pleased with him was like seeing the face of God.
2. "Can you imagine what it would be like to see the Lord's face smiling at you, loving you and pleased with you? How might that make you feel?"

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continued

3. "When we see someone who loves us smiling at us, that is a little bit like seeing the face of the Lord. Think about seeing your parents faces when they are really happy to see you or especially pleased about something good you have done. That love is how the Lord looks on us too!"
4. "Today we are going to make a project to show how we can see the Lord's love in good people around us."
5. Hand out the paper circles or paper plates and the crayons or markers. Ask children to draw the faces of some people they love and who love them on one side. These could be parents, grandparents, teachers, etc. Encourage them to use the whole space. Remind them that the hole for the ribbon or yarn is at the top!
6. Hand out the pictures of the Lord's face and have children glue them in the center of the other side of the paper plate or circle. (Alternatively, have children draw their own pictures of the Lord's face.)
7. Ask children to draw rays of light around the Lord's face, right to the edge of the circle. *Optional:* have children glue glitter or other decorations around the Lord's face.
8. Hand out the two text slips and help the children to glue one on each side of their paper plates or circles.
9. Give each child a length of ribbon, yarn or string and help them thread it through the pre-punched holes and tie the ends together to create a loop.
10. When the circle is turned, people can see the face of the Lord and the faces the children drew and read the whole sentence: We can see the Lord's face in the faces of good people around us.

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