

Matchstick Cross

JUNIORS & PRIMARIES

Day 2

Materials

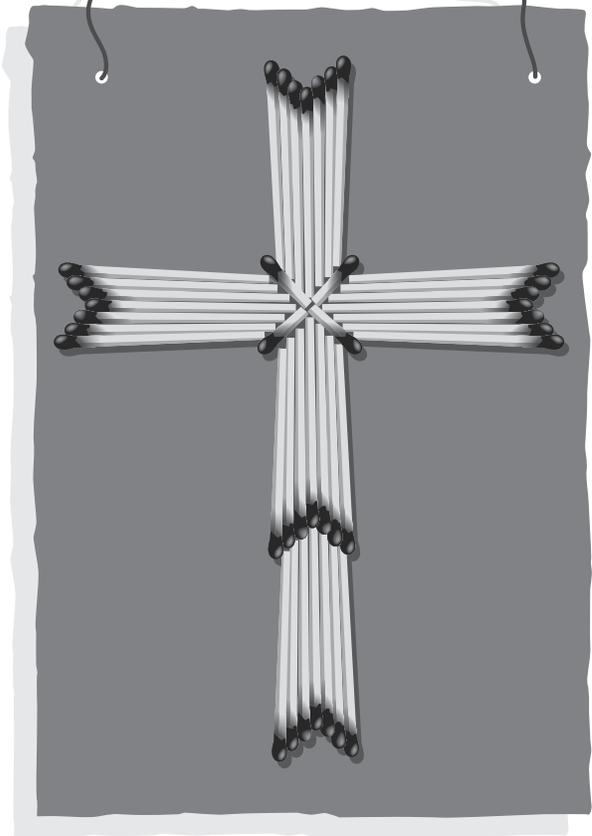
- Wooden matches, 39 per child
- Corrugated cardboard, one 6x9-in. piece per child
- 24 gauge floral wire, one 9-in. piece per child
- Brown acrylic craft paint, amount varies
- Zippered baggies, 1 per child

Tools and Basic Supplies

- Votive candle
- Aluminum foil
- Office paper cutter or utility knife and straight edge
- ¼-in. hole punch
- Small foam paintbrushes
- Paper towels
- Scissors
- Craft glue
- Toothpicks
- Small plastic cups

Pre-Prep

1. Using an office paper cutter or a utility knife and straight edge, cut the corrugated cardboard into 6x9-in. pieces, 1 per child.
2. For the hanging wire, punch a hole near each of the top two corners of the cardboard pieces with a ¼-in. hole punch.
3. Cut the floral wire into 9-in. pieces.
4. Light a votive candle and use it to light the matches, burning just the tips of all the matches. Lay the burnt matches on a piece of foil to cool.
5. Place 35 burnt matches in a zippered baggie for each child.
6. Mark a point 1 inch above the exact center of each cardboard piece.
7. For each cross, cut off the ends of 4 burnt matchsticks so that they measure approximately ¾-inch from the tip. Then glue a starter "X" at the marked point on each piece of cardboard with the 4 cut matchsticks. The tips should be pointing outward. Let the "X" dry and then store the cardboard pieces carefully.



8. Immediately before class, pour glue and brown paint into small plastic cups. Be sure to water down the paint a little so it will dry faster.

Teaching Tie-In

Hold up the sample craft and say:

Who can tell me why a cross is important to Christians? Take responses. **Jesus, our King of all kings, died on the cross. When you look at your matchstick cross, ask yourself if it's important to you. And remember that He didn't stay dead—He rose from the grave! Have you decided to follow Jesus?**

Class Time Directions

1. Using straight strokes, gently paint the piece of cardboard with the brown paint. Be careful not to paint the matchstick "X" in the center.
2. Use a paper towel to wipe off any excess paint so the cardboard will dry quickly.
3. Let the painted cardboard sit for a moment while you lightly wrap the piece of wire around a crayon, stick pen, or your finger. Then carefully remove the looped wire and gently pull the ends apart to create a slightly curled look.
4. Insert the ends of the wire into the two holes in the piece of cardboard and then bend up to secure.
5. Using a toothpick to distribute the glue, fill the top part of the "X" with a small "pool" of glue that extends approximately 1 inch above the "X."
6. Begin by placing your first matchstick into the pool of glue with the tip pointing upward and the bottom touching the center of the "X."
7. Then one-by-one, place 3 matchsticks on each side of the first matchstick with the bottoms touching the "X."
8. Repeat with another "pool" of glue and matchsticks for each part of the "X."
9. Finish the cross by adding one more section of matches directly beneath (and touching) the bottom section.

Tip Corner

- A scroll saw or band saw works well for cutting corrugated cardboard.
- A hand drill with a ¼-in. bit can be used for drilling holes in multiple pieces of cardboard at the same time.
- To simplify this craft, omit painting.

Super Simple Idea

As an alternative to the Matchstick Cross, try one of the following Oriental Trading Company craft kits. (Call 1-800-875-8480 or visit www.orientaltrading.com.)

- Nail Cross Necklace Craft Kit (IN-48/3102)

Verse and Song Time

This section is for those who have extra time after the daily craft is completed.

MEMORY VERSE REVIEW

To review Ephesians 6:14, play an echo game with the verse. Divide the class into three parts and choose one part to start, another to echo, and the third to echo last. The first section says the first word of the verse, the second section echoes the word, and the third section echoes again. Continue through the entire verse. Vary the way the words are said, e.g., quiet, loud, fast, slow.

SONG TIME

Review these songs from the contemporary song motions DVD.

"Do Right"
"Admit, Believe, Forever Receive"
"Stand Up for Jesus"

Review these songs from the traditional song motions DVD.

"Buckle Up!"
"Admit, Believe, Forever Receive"
"Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"

Jeweled Cross

PRE-PRIMARIES & TODDLERS

Day 2

Materials

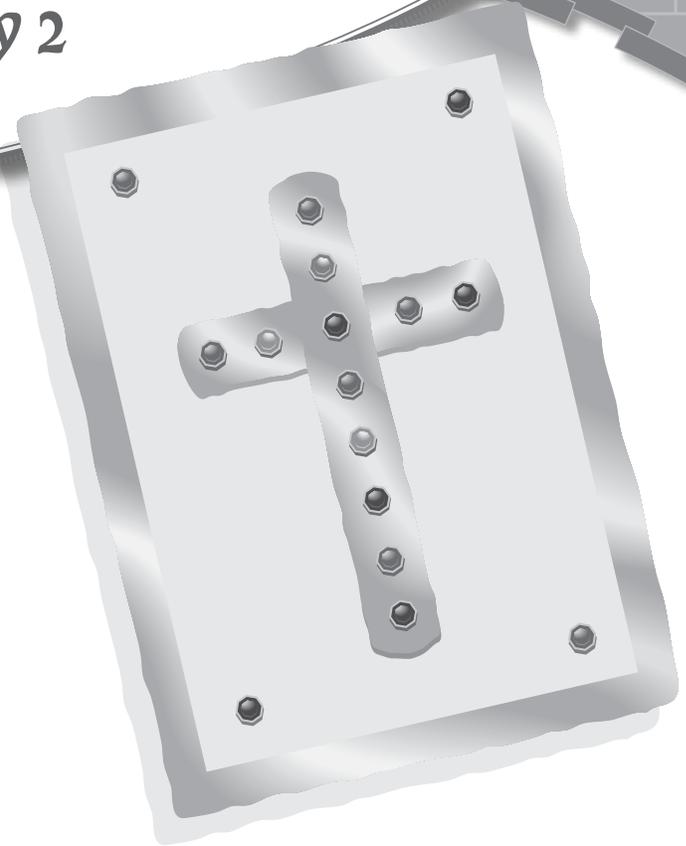
- Corrugated cardboard, one 6x9-in. piece per child
- Colored cardstock, 1 sheet for every two children
- Jumbo wood craft sticks, 2 per child
- Aluminum foil, one 12x16-in. piece per child
- Craft jewels, amount varies
- Twine, one 9-in. piece per child
- Duct tape, one 2-in. piece per child

Tools and Basic Supplies

- Office paper cutter or a utility knife and straight edge
- Scissors
- Invisible tape
- Glue sticks
- Craft glue

Pre-Prep

1. Using an office paper cutter or a utility knife and straight edge, cut the corrugated cardboard into 6x9-inch pieces.
2. Cut the aluminum foil into 12x16-in. pieces, one for each child.
3. Cut the colored cardstock into 5x8-in. sheets, one for each child.
4. Using scissors, cut one craft stick in half for each child. Then shorten the two halves by cutting an inch off each piece. (Every child should get 1 whole craft stick and 2 shortened halves, with rounded ends, to make their cross.)
5. Cut the twine into 9-in. pieces and then tie into loops, one for each child.



Teaching Tie-In

Show the sample craft and say:

Who knows what this shape is called? It's called a cross. This is what Jesus died on. Why? Because He loves us! But He didn't stay dead—He rose from the grave!

Class Time Directions

1. Glue stick one side of the piece of cardboard and then wrap with foil. Use just enough of the foil to cover the one side and wrap around the edges. (The remaining foil will be used to cover the craft sticks.) Tape the edges of the foil with invisible tape
2. Center the piece of colored cardstock on the foil-wrapped cardboard and then glue stick in place.

3. So that you'll be able to hang your craft on the wall, flip it over and lay the loop of twine in the center of the top half. Then attach the bottom of the loop to the cardboard with a 2-in. piece of duct tape.
4. With the foil that remains, wrap the large craft stick and the two small pieces. Then position in the shape of a cross on the colored cardstock. Glue in place with craft glue.
5. Now decorate, as desired, with jewels and glue stick.

Tip Corner

- A scroll saw or band saw works well for cutting corrugated cardboard.

Super Simple Idea

As an alternative to the Jeweled Cross, try the following Oriental Trading Company craft kit. (Call 1-800-875-8480 or visit www.orientaltrading.com.)

- Color Your Own Cross Fuzzy Pictures (IN-48/1918)

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SONG TIME

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- "Admit, Believe, Forever Receive"
- "Stand Up for Jesus"

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- "Buckle Up!"
- "Admit, Believe, Forever Receive"
- "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"