

EXODUS

“The Bronze Snake”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- That the Israelites Leaving Egypt is called the Exodus
- 12 Spies checked out the Promised Land
- God used a Bronze Snake in the Desert
- God used a donkey to teach a lesson

Series Theme Verse: “The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.” - Exodus 14:14

Lesson Objective: For students to understand that sin leads to death and only God saves.

Lesson Passage: Numbers 21:4-9

Materials Needed: Bibles, theme verse cut up and taped under chairs

Lesson Plan:

Talking Points: Numbers 21:4-9

- Now that you have read 21:4-9, have the students read 21:1-3 and tell you what happened right before the story of the Bronze Snake. (The Israelites were attacked, partially defeated, turned to God, God gave them the victory)
- Once again, the Israelites are traveling in the desert and what do they begin to do? (Complain against God and Moses)
- What is their complaint? (No bread, no water, we don't like the Manna, you brought us out here to die)
- What was the Lord's response? (He sent venomous snakes among them and many were bitten and many died)
- What was the people's response? (Went to Moses and confessed their sin and asked forgiveness, or for Moses to ask God to remove the snakes)
- Did Moses pray for the people? (Yes)
- What did the Lord say to Moses? (Make a snake and put it on a pole)
- Why would Moses do that? (Because anyone who looked at the snake would be healed)
- Did Moses do as God said? (Yes, Moses made a snake of bronze and put it on a pole)
- Were people healed? (Yes, anyone who was bitten and looked at the bronze snake lived)
- What was the Israelites' sin? (Unthankfulness and complaining against God)

The Story Retold:

- This story is retold in a way in the New Testament. Have someone look up John 3:14. While they are looking up the story, set the scene for the students:
 - Nicodemus, a Pharisee, approached Jesus at night, asking some spiritual questions that led to a discussion on how one can be saved.
 - Jesus is explaining to Nicodemus that salvation comes by being born again through faith in Jesus.
- Have the student read John 3:14.
- What story is Jesus referring to when he speaks the words in John 3:14? (Moses lifting up the bronze snake)
- Jesus says that he must be lifted up as the bronze snake was, this is foreshadowing what event? (Jesus' lifted up on the cross)
- Anyone who trusts in Jesus will be healed from the death of sin, just as the Israelites were healed from their death to sin by looking at the bronze snake.
- We have many things to be thankful for, but our salvation from sin that leads to death is chief among them.
- Optional Activity: Have students pretend to unwrap a gift that they hate (you tell them what is in the gift secretly, like a pink bunny pajama set) and have them open the gift showing thankfulness and describing the gift in their thankfulness and having the other students guess what the gift is. (Ex. Wow! These are so fuzzy and I love the pink color! When I go to sleep each night I will sleep like a bunny all warm and toasty.)

The Story and Me:

- Have the Series theme verse cut into pieces and taped under the students' chairs before they get there.
- Tell them that the verse is under their chairs, they just have to piece the verse together, now.
- Say the verse together, giving individuals a chance to say it by themselves from memory.