

Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- How were the Israelites healed? (See Num. 21:9.)
- Can people save themselves from sin? (See John 3:16.)
- Recall a time this week when you grumbled. Then share a way God has provided for you.

The Bronze Snake

Numbers 20–21

STORY POINT: GOD TOLD HIS PEOPLE TO LOOK AT THE BRONZE SNAKE TO BE HEALED.

The Israelites did not trust God to lead them into the promised land, so God punished them and made them wander in the wilderness for 40 years. Along the way, the Israelites grumbled and complained that they did not have water to drink.

God told Moses to speak to a rock. Instead of talking to the rock, Moses hit the rock with his staff. Water came out, but God was angry that Moses and Aaron did not obey. So God said Moses and Aaron would not lead the Israelites into the promised land.

The Israelites continued through the wilderness. They continued to complain.

God disciplined His people by sending venomous snakes that bit the Israelites, and many of the people died. Some of the people realized they had sinned by complaining to God, so they told Moses, "Please ask God to take the snakes away."

God told Moses, "Make a snake image and put it on a pole. When anyone who is bitten looks at it, he will recover."

Moses made a bronze snake and mounted it on a pole. Whenever someone was bitten, that person looked at the bronze snake and recovered.



Christ Connection: The Israelites faced a huge problem because of their sin.

God sent snakes to punish Israel, but anyone who was bitten could look at the bronze snake on the pole and live. Because of our sin, we face a huge problem: we are separated from God. We deserve to die, but anyone who looks to Jesus on the cross and trusts in Him will live forever with God.