

Warm Up Activity

Read the clever and witty Dr. Suess poem found at the end of this guide and explain the powerful message behind it.

Describe other clever ways a powerful message can be shared.

Warm up Question

1. What is the most unusual – or clever - way in which God has communicated to you? (Answers could be through a dream, vision, song, clouds etc....)
2. What was His message and what was your response?
3. How did this experience change the way in which you seek to hear from God?

Can You Relate?

Numbers 22-25 finds God's people encamped in the plains of Moab. The Moabite king, Balak, seeks to have the people of Israel cursed, and calls on a pagan seer named Balaam to do the job. Balaam's motive appears pure, but his actions unveil his heart, as well as his root temptation. The general picture portrayed in this sometimes-comical story is this: There is One True God, and He is on Israel's side – even though their sins are egregious, as they step from temptation into sin (Numbers 25.) No human power will prevail against God and His plans for His people, and He will use any and every means possible to keep His people blessed and His plan in action; including talking animals, angels, and, in the face of egregious sin, punishment.

Note: God gave explicit commands against the actions found in Numbers 25 to His people, through Moses, in Exodus 34:11-16.

1. Who are the main characters, human and otherwise, found in Numbers 22-24? Briefly describe each and their role in the story found in these verses.
2. What are the driving factors behind the actions of Balak, the king of Moab?
3. What is the driving factor behind Balaam's actions? (What was Balaam's primary temptation)?
4. In all honesty, what is the driving factor behind most of the decisions you make? At work? At home? With your children? In traffic?

5. What is your greatest temptation in life? How do you fight this and any other temptation?
6. Read Numbers 23:26. What command from the LORD does Balaam share with Balak?
7. Read Ephesians 6:10-19. List the ways in which God equips us to fight the enemy and turn from the temptation to sin:

Live it Out

The next time you are facing the temptation to sin, recall this verse:

“All that the LORD says, that I must do.”

Remember you are clothed in the armor of God; remember what the LORD has said to you regarding your sin; then by the power of the Holy Spirit - turn away and obey God.

ALL THAT THE LORD SAYS, THAT I MUST DO.

Encourage your group to commit time to pray for one another, encourage one another, meet each other's needs, fellowship together and interceded for each other as the Lord leads. Encourage them to continue to meet and to return for the next scheduled gathering.

Did I Ever Tell You..?

BY DR. SEUSS

Did I ever tell you about the young Zode
Who came to two signs at the fork of a road?
One said: To Place One. And the other: Place Two. So the Zode had to make up his
mind what to do. Well... the Zode scratched his head. And his chin.

And his pants. And he said to himself. "I'll be taking a chance

"If I go to Place One. Now, that place may be hot! "And, so, how do I know if I'll like it or
not?

"On the other hand, though, I'll be sort of a fool "If I go to Place Two and I find it too
cool.

"In **that** case I may catch a chill and turn blue!

"So, maybe, Place One is the best. Not Place Two. "On the **other** hand, though, if Place
One is too **high**, "I may catch a terrible earache and die!

"So Place **Two** may be best!

On the other hand, though... "What might happen to me if Place Two is **too low**...?

"I might get some very strange pain in my toe!

"So Place One may be best." And he started to go.

Then he stopped. And he said, "On the OTHER hand, though.. "**On the other hand ...
other hand**

...other hand though...!" And for 36 hours and 1/2, that poor Zode

Made starts and made stops at that fork in the road, Saying, "Don't take a chance. No!
You may not be right." Then he got an idea that was wonderfully bright!

"Play safe!" cried the Zode. "I'll play safe! I'm no dunce! "I'll simply start off for both
places at once!"

And that's how the Zode, who would not take a chance, Got to No Place at All, with a
split in his pants.