

Balaam and his talking donkey!Week 2

Theme: We need to obey God.

Animal acting: Have a list of familiar animals prepared. Organise the group into two teams. A volunteer is given an animal to act/mime. The first team to guess it correctly wins 5 points. If the volunteer needs to make any sounds to give the teams a clue, they only win 3 points for guessing correctly. Use animals that can easily be acted without sounds, ie. snake, kangaroo, monkey.

Opposites: Played like 'Simon says', give rapid instructions that have a natural opposite (ie. stand up/sit down, face left/right). Players have to do the opposite of the instruction. Children sit out when they make a mistake.

Donkey Racing: Use the donkey head template in resources, sandwich a broom handle between two copies of the template. Make one donkey for each team and organise the teams into a donkey race. Simple!

Intro: Ask the children if they have ever been in a situation where they have been trying to tell someone something important and the person they have been telling either hasn't listened or hasn't understood what they were saying? Our story today is about someone who needed to listen and obey God.

Story: Numbers 22 v 1-35 This is such a strange story, which demonstrates God's power and control over all things, that it reads quite well straight from the Bible. It can even be acted out to some comical effect. It may help to give some background: Moses was leading his people through many countries on their way to Israel; the huge numbers of his people worried some kings of these countries; Balaam was a prophet who could bless or curse people and situations and was called upon by the king to help; God had blessed Moses' people and wouldn't allow them to be cursed or stopped.

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 4 v 30 'When you are in trouble,,,,,then you will finally turn to the Lord and obey him.' To help demonstrate God's power in our lives no matter what our situation is. Separate the memory verse into four parts and display them on four walls. Stand the children in the middle of the floor and face each part of the verse in turn, turning to the next part as you read each one.

Application: Do you believe God can guide us in **all** situations? Can you think of any situations where God can't guide or help us? Sometimes we try to follow our own path and that can lead us into trouble but God is always there for us to turn to although he sometimes has to do unusual things to remind us he is there ready to guide us.

Prayer: Think of a time when you need reminding to be obedient to your parents/teacher or God. Ask God to help you remember and turn to him for guidance.

Resources: funsheet, donkey head

Song: 'Every move I make, I make in you'
from 'Kids Praise Party: We Wanna Be Like Jesus' CD

Week 2



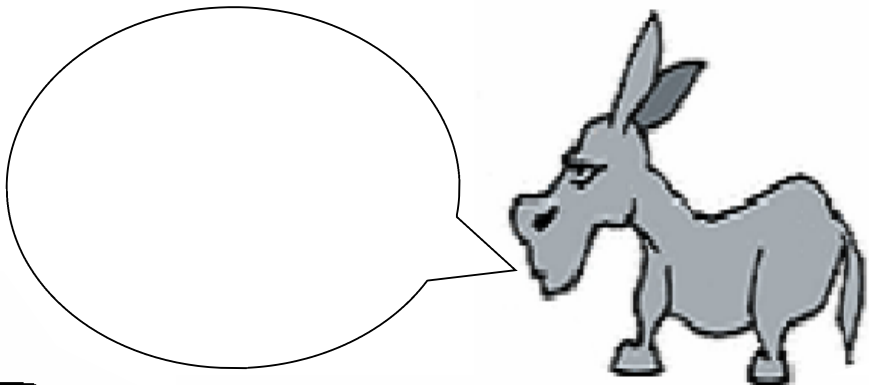
Balaam and his talking 'When you are in trouble.... then you will finally turn to the Lord and obey him.' Deuteronomy 4 v 30

True or False ?

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Balak wanted to buy God's blessing. | T/F |
| 2. God's blessing can be bought. | T/F |
| 3. Balaam was a bit greedy. | T/F |
| 4. God doesn't always accomplish His will. | T/F |
| 5. We should listen to God's warnings. | T/F |

What do you think Balaam's donkey is saying? Circle the correct sentence and write it in the speech bubble.

- Hey, stop hitting me!
- Look, look I can see an angel!
- What have I done to you that deserves a beating?



The King's messenger is lost. Which route should he take to get to Balaam's tent?

C L Y N G E A J T B A C M R B U V M U B
 O U L B D L V I N Z N U N R P T B Q N E
 Q Y P L P V M C D P R O P H E T G N U H
 L Y U K A D C A R Z M J A W P O C Y D T
 R R Y O K N A T A N T K Y P Y M Z M L L
 H F F J S D G K A L A B Q N Y E K N O D
 I H K Q P Z L E A K A S B K M J H A U U
 D E T S P Z O C L O Q B Q B O D K S F W
 Y L G P R O Z J Z O H M T C E E K V L Q
 E M E M X W M W E B F J H S J S R Y Y N
 D G Y B O H F Y M H A T R D W S E K H I
 P M G B S J M J D M B U H W S E N L O X S
 U B M O L Q E T W V C T T E S L C L O V
 G P Q H K I Q R Q I U A K K L B V W I U
 I M H S W L S N I O T A C I I O C W R U
 C W V S V H Q A M C T M U E A K R Z F A
 E N V R J E V S I N H E R P G G C D Y D
 U G G V E T P L T H D O T I W H H O X D
 M K S R M Y B P A I D N S Y A G R A D W
 M B T N W O Q U L U Q Q T B F D E K F T

ANGEL OF THE LORD
 BALAK
 BALAAM
 BLESSED

CURSE
 DONKEY
 JERICHO

PROPHET
 STRUCK
 TREE