

Watch this video:
<https://youtu.be/JndLaj3fQyw>
"The Bronze Snake"
by the Gospel Project (3:04)

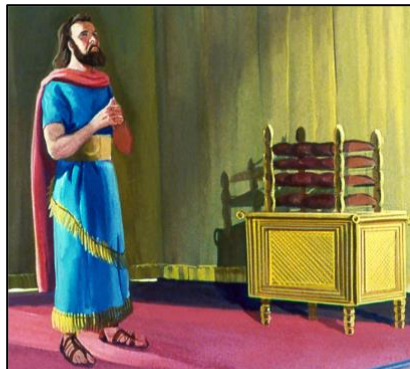


WATER FROM ROCK AT KADESH & THE BRONZE SNAKE (NUMBERS 20:1-29, 21:4-9)



The Bible says that the Israelites were getting closer to the time when they could enter the Promised Land. The Lord always took care of them. But at a place called Kadesh, the Israelites were tired of the long journey.

They complained about the food and water. They even said that God gave them miserable food. They wished they were back in Egypt!



The Lord was upset with His people because they were not content. He always gave them what they needed. He protected them from the wild animals and snakes in the desert. But they always thought they should get more. Moses asked God, "What should I do?"

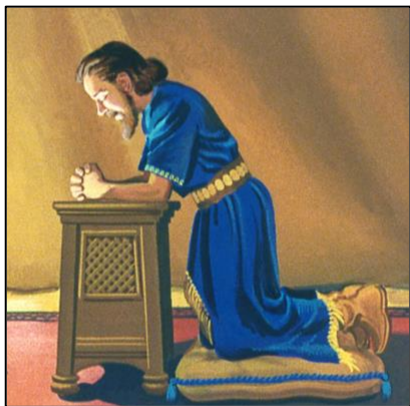
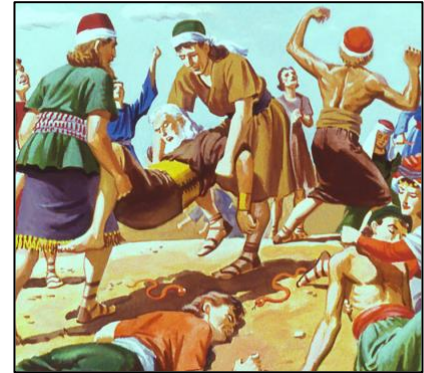
God said, "Speak to the rock and it will pour out water. It will be enough for the people and the animals." But Moses was angry with the people. He yelled at them, "Listen, you rebels, must we bring water from this rock?" Then he hit the rock 2 times. That is not what God told Moses to do. He disobeyed. God did give the people water but he punished Moses. He said that Moses would not go into the Promised Land.





The Lord decided to teach the Israelites that they should stop complaining. God was the only one that could save them.

God sent poisonous snakes into the camp. The snakes bit the people and many of them got sick and died. Now the people knew that they needed the Lord to protect them. They knew that they had been wrong to complain. They told Moses that they were sorry.



Moses prayed. He told God how sorry the people were. The Lord answered Moses' prayer. He did not take the poisonous snakes away, but He did something that would help the Israelites remember that they should always look to God for help. He told Moses to make a snake out of a shiny metal called "bronze". Moses was to put the bronze snake on a pole so all the people could see it. If anyone was bitten, they could look at the bronze snake and be healed. This would help them remember that God would take care of them.

The Israelites who had been bitten by the snakes looked at the bronze snake on the pole. God made them well. They remembered that God takes care of His people. Only God could help them! Only God could make them well!



Activities:

Older Kids:

- Read Philippians 4:11. Paul learned to be content even in prison. What can you learn from Paul and from the Israelites?
- Read John 3:14. How was Jesus like the bronze snake?

A good song for this lesson: "I'm happy today."





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

BREAD
BRONZE
DISCOURAGED
LIVE

LOATHES
LOOKED
LORD
MOSES

POLE
PRAYED
SERPENTS
SINNED