

Balaam's Donkey

"If you are following God, you are blessed, so Satan tries everything he can to get us to walk away from God so he can trap us with the consequences of sin."

Balaam was not a good man, but Balaam spoke with God. The king of Moab wanted to hire Balaam to curse Israel, but God told Balaam he could not curse them because God had blessed them. Balaam ended up going to the king of Moab, and this made God angry, so He sent an angel to destroy Balaam. Balaam's donkey tried to save him by turning aside, but Balaam just got mad and kept striking her. God opened the mouth of the donkey so she could warn Balaam, and Balaam eventually saw the angel. Instead of cursing Israel, Balaam only blessed them. But later, we learn that Balaam had a terrible plan; he told the Moabites to get the Israelites to start serving their false god, Baal. The Israelites fell for Balaam's plan, and thousands perished because of their disobedience. If you are following God, you are blessed, so Satan tries everything he can to get us to walk away from God so he can trap us with the consequences of sin. Stick close to God.

Family Time Questions

- Why couldn't Balaam curse Israel?
- What do you need to do to be a part of God's people?
- What happened to the Israelites when they worshiped Baal?
- What can we learn from this story?

Bible Verses

- Numbers 22-24 - Balaam's donkey
- Numbers 31:16 - Balaam's treachery
- *Content Warning* - Numbers 25 tells the story of Israel falling for Balaam's plan and worshipping Baal at Peor; Parental guidance highly recommended.

Prayer

"Dear God, thank You for Your power and protection. Please help us to stay close to You and not be tempted to walk away. In Jesus' name, Amen."