

Searching Numbers for Jesus

Key Verse - Numbers 21:9 “And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.”

Key Truth - Jesus is our cure from sin.

Introduction:

- When I say *cure*, what comes to your mind?
 - o Answers: sickness, medicine
- Here is a common symbol used for medicine.
- Why do you think this symbol was chosen?
- In Numbers (the fourth book of the Bible), God gave us a reason to use this symbol.

Lesson:

1. **God led Israel with a cloud** (Num. 9:15-22).

- A special cloud revealed God’s presence.
- A special cloud stayed at the tabernacle until it was time to move.

2. **God’s people complained about the traveling** (Num. 21:4-5).

- Complaining is sin.
- Sin separates and brings death.

3. **God sent serpents to judge the people, and many people died** (Num. 21:6).

- Remember...sin is punished by death.

4. **The people cried for help** (Num. 21:7).

- The people wanted a cure so they would not die.
- God had a plan that required Israel to trust Him.

Application/Illustration

Slide 1: This is the verse that guides us to Jesus.

Slide 2: This is the truth children will memorize.

Slide 3: Medicine

Slide 4: EMS Emergency Medical Service

Teacher: Use the scriptures given to tell the story and explain as you go.

Slide 5: Moses leads Israel to follow the pillar of cloud.

Slide 6: Angry Men

Slide 7: Serpents

Teaching Point:

- Complaining showed that they did not trust God.
- Complaining showed that they doubted God.

5. God told them what to do (Num. 21:8-9).

- Moses was to make a serpent of brass.
 - o It would be like the one that bit them.
- Moses would put the serpent on a pole.
 - o This one would help instead of hurt.
- Anyone that would trust what God said would look at the snake on the pole and live.

Ask Students: What was the cure for Israel?

- It was not the serpent.
- The cure for not trusting God was...trusting God.
- The cure for the snake bite was faith in God.

- God asked Israel to trust Him.
- The cure for Israel reminds us of our modern-day medical symbol.

When Adam sinned, he was punished with death. Since then, all men are born with sin, deserving to be punished by death.

In Genesis: God promised a man to save us.

In Exodus: God provided a lamb as a substitute.

In Leviticus: God provided a priest to bring men to God.

In Numbers: God provided a cure from sin.

- The cure was not medicine but faith.
- Jesus is the “cure for sin.”
- Teacher: Read John 3:14-17 to your class.

Next week Tracy will help us to better understand this treasure truth in a special story.

Application/Illustration

They had not trusted God; now they could be healed if they would trust God’s plan.

Teacher: Christ was made in the likeness of men , yet He was without sin (Phil. 2:7).

Slide 8: Serpent on pole

Slide 9: Serpent /Symbol

Slide 10: Key Truth Review

Slide 11: Key Truth

Slide 12: Key Verse