

Large Group

The People Complained

Bible Passage | Numbers 16; 20-21

Memory Verse | Romans 8:28

Story Point | The Israelites sinned when they complained against God and Moses.



Countdown Video (3 mins)

Memory Verse Song (4 mins)

Worship Leader connects the lesson to the memory verse, leads the memory verse song with hand motions, and closes in prayer.

Welcome (1 mins)

Large Group Leader tell kids what to expect to happen (1 minute)

- watch the lesson video
- retell the story.
- read the story from scripture

Watch the Lesson Video (4 mins)

Retell the Story (11 mins)

Lead the kids in a fun retelling of the story

Here are some resources to help you formulate this time.

Review what we learned:

The Israelites did not always obey God. We've learned how the Israelites grumbled against God when they didn't have the food they wanted. Even though God provided for their needs, they grumbled for more. Last week, we learned how the people doubted God and refused to enter the Promised Land. They chose to fear the people in Canaan more than they trusted in God. Today, we'll see how **the Israelites sinned when they complained against God and Moses.**

Today's Lesson

As the Israelites traveled through the wilderness, they continued to complain. **the Israelites sinned when they complained against God and Moses.** What did the people complain about? [Allow responses.] Korah and other men were jealous and wanted to be priests like Moses, but God reminded them that He chose Moses to lead. Then the Israelites complained that they didn't have enough water. They also became impatient about the journey. Why is it important to know that God's plan is always on time? [Allow responses.] God's Word promises that He is never late, and we can trust that His plan is always best.

God provided water for the Israelites, but the people continued to complain. What was the punishment for their disobedience? [Allow responses.] The Israelites were bitten by poisonous snakes. But God did not leave them to suffer. When the people understood their sin, God made a way for them to be healed. What did God tell Moses to do? [Allow responses.] God told Moses to make a bronze snake and put it on a pole. Whenever people looked at the snake, they would be healed.

Like the Israelites, we sin when we complain and do not trust God. The Israelites faced death for their sin, but when they looked to the bronze snake they were healed. The consequence for our sin is also death, but when we look to Jesus and trust in Him, we will be saved.

Gospel Discussion | The snake on the pole provided physical healing for the Israelites, but they needed something greater: to be completely forgiven of their sin. Everyone has disobeyed God, but in His mercy and love, He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sins. When we turn away from our sin and trust in Jesus, we will be saved and have complete forgiveness of sin.

Read from the Bible (4 mins)

Numbers 21:4-9

Remind Kids of Four Questions (1 min)

- What did you like about today's story?
- What did you find confusing?
- What did you learn about people?
- What did you learn about God?

Worship Song (4 mins)

Worship Leader briefly introduces self, welcomes kids, leads 1st worship song, and prays for the time.