

Balaam & His Donkey

Name: _____

27



Do nothing out of selfish ambition...

Philippians 2:3 (NIV)

The Talking Donkey

Numbers 22-24

“Who could I get to curse the Israelites?” asked the king of Moab.

The king was afraid of the Israelites, so he sent money to the prophet, Balaam, so he would curse the Israelites. But, God told Balaam not to do it. The king of Moab sent more money and asked Balaam to come again. This time, God said he could go, but only to say what God told him.

Balaam jumped on his donkey and headed for Moab, but he had bad intentions. So, God sent an angel to stop him.

The angel stood in the way with his sword ready. Balaam didn't see him, but his donkey did. Twice, the donkey swerved to protect his owner, but Balaam beat his donkey until it went back on the trail. In another place, the angel stood in a narrow place and blocked the path. The donkey stopped and wouldn't go any further. Balaam got mad and hit the donkey over and over.

In that moment, God let the donkey speak.

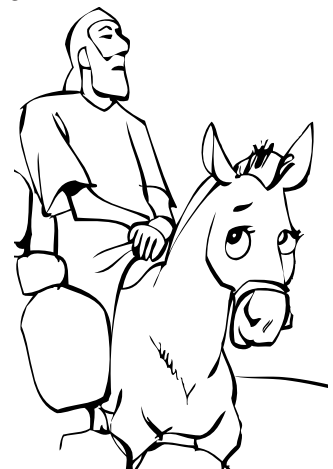
“Why are you hitting me?” asked the donkey. “All my life I've served you well!”

“You're making a fool out of me!” said Balaam. “If I had a sword, I'd use it on you!”

Then God opened Balaam's eyes and he saw the angel. He was really surprised and he bowed down.

“Your donkey saved you,” said the angel. “I came to stop you because you're doing wrong. Now go, but only say what I tell you to say.”

Balaam obeyed the angel. In Moab, Balaam blessed the people of Israel three times. The king of Moab got mad at Balaam, and Balaam went home.

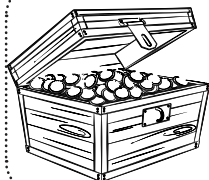


What did we discover?

- 1) God wanted to _____ the people of Israel and not curse them.
TRICK SEND BLESS
- 2) Balaam was only supposed to say what _____ told him to say.
GOD MOSES THE KING
- 3) The donkey swerved because he saw an _____ with a sword.
ANGEL SOLDIER LADY
- 4) Balaam _____ the people of Israel.
CURSED BLESSED CALLED



What's my motivation? Why do I do what I do?



God knows my true motivations.

I should do and say the things that honor God.



**Father God,
Help me have
right thoughts
and desires
in my heart.**

