

## Unit 7 • Session 3 Balaam and Balak

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Numbers 22–24

**STORY POINT:** God commanded Balaam to bless His people.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What does it mean to sin? To sin is to think, speak, or behave in any way that goes against God and His commands.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Balak want Balaam to curse the Israelites? *(Balak was afraid the Israelites would move into the land and take over, Num. 22:4-5)*
2. Who came to stop Balaam? *(an angel of the Lord, Num. 22:22)*
3. Why did Balaam hit his donkey? *(Balaam could not see why the donkey kept stopping, and he was angry; Num. 22:31-33)*
4. How did God use Balak's sin to bless His people? *Guide kids to discuss that Balak sinned by planning to have Balaam curse the Israelites, but God turned the situation around so that Balaam would bless them instead. God shows His great power when He changes difficult situations into blessings.*
5. When might we miss what God is doing around us, like Balaam did? *Guide kids to see that we often desire sinful things. We often think that our plans will be better than God's plans for us. When we chase after sinful things, we can miss out on being a part of God's good plans.*
6. How does God show grace to sinners? *Help kids see that God's sending the angel to stop Balaam was gracious. Instead of letting Balak continue with his sinful plan, God changed those plans to fit His own good plans. God shows us grace through Jesus, who died to save us from sin so that we can be part of God's plan to rescue sinners all over the world.*

**God commanded Balaam to bless His people.** Balaam spoke about Jesus. God sent Jesus to save us. When we have faith, He transforms us and the plans we have for our lives so that they match God's plans.

**Questions from kids video (3 minutes)** Prompt kids to think about who or what angels are. Guide them to discuss what angels do. How can we serve God each day?