



“Lent | Getting Ready for Hope: The Bronze Serpent” March 12

Discussion Questions

1. What really annoys you that other people complain about? What do you complain about the most and why? Read Numbers 21: 4-5. What are the Israelites complaining about, and do you have sympathy for them?
2. Do you agree that most of the suffering in the world is the result of human sin – either by us or by others? Why or why not? How have you thought of sin in the past, and what do you make of Jenny’s definition of sin as the moving of God out of the center of our lives?
3. Is sin the biggest problem in the world, the biggest problem in our own lives? Why or why not?
4. Read Numbers 21:6-9. Explain how the problem facing the Israelites and the solution offered are the same. How might you face up to the reality of sin more effectively in your life during this season of Lent?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 5:21. How does Jesus become the solution (the antidote) to the venom of sin in our lives?
6. The Rhythm of Life, 5 ancient spiritual practices, is meant to be our guide and fuel for the Christian life, a “long walk in the same direction”. Which one of the 5 practices are you most struggling with right now and why? Pray for help with this.

Numbers 21:4-9

The Bronze Snake

4 They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea,[a] to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; 5 they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!"

6 Then the Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. 7 The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

8 The Lord said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." 9 So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.