

## Lesson 48: Balaam's Donkey Talks

[Numbers 22:1-38](#)

**Youtube Link:** [https://youtu.be/\\_GCs81\\_XUNQ](https://youtu.be/_GCs81_XUNQ)

**Children's Bible Story Video:** <https://youtu.be/UNTASaSDXKo>

**Worship Theme:** God helps us obey Him.

**Memory Verse:** My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.  
(Psalm 121:2)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. In the Name of Jesus <https://youtu.be/0b41QksexPE>
2. Lord I Worship You <https://youtu.be/1C4guXZFdAw>
3. I Am Free from Sin <https://youtu.be/zosjd2E8cmE>

### Prayer

**Song:** Select songs from the list above.

### Icebreaker: Sounds of the Animals (Khmer Game)



1. Ask the children to seat or stand in a circle
2. A designated child starts the game first by turning to the right and making sounds like a cat (Meow meow)
3. Then the person on the right must make the same sound (Meow meow).
4. If a child turns left, they have to make the sound of a dog (woof woof), with the person on the left making the same sound (woof woof)
5. The one who makes a mistake is the one who loses the game.



### Introduction:

God's people, the Israelites, had escaped from Egypt where they'd been slaves. Because the Israelites didn't trust God, they had to wander in the wilderness for 40 years. Now they were on their way to the Promised Land, and they were camping by the banks of the Jordan River. God always wants us to obey Him. When it is hard for us to obey God, He promises to help us. Today we will learn about a man named Balaam who needed God's help to obey God.

### Bible Story:

Balaam was a man who often tried to tell the future. Balak, the king of Moab, was afraid of the Israelites because he thought they were going to invade his land and steal his kingdom. He asked Balaam to put a curse on the Israelites to frighten them away. But Balaam wouldn't do it. He couldn't curse the Israelites. God told him that the Israelites were blessed people. The king wanted to change Balaam's mind, so he invited Balaam to the palace. He planned to offer Balaam a big reward to put a curse on the Israelites. God told Balaam he could visit the king, but God warned Balaam to say only what God told him to say.

The next day Balaam got on his donkey to go see the king. But God was angry with Balaam. God knew that Balaam's heart wasn't right. It was important to God that Balaam obey wholeheartedly, so three times God sent an angel to block the donkey's path. But Balaam kept trying to go on. He couldn't see the angel, so he didn't understand why his donkey kept stopping. He beat his donkey to make her move. Finally God made the donkey speak to Balaam. It's amazing, but God made the donkey talk to Balaam!

Suddenly Balaam could see the angel. Now he knew for sure what God wanted—he was ready to obey God with his whole heart. God went to a lot of effort to encourage Balaam to obey! God sent an angel to stop Balaam, and God made the donkey talk to get his attention! God cares so much about obedience that he’s willing to do whatever it takes to help us. He gives us the Bible, our parents and teachers, and the Holy Spirit, among other things. God helps us obey him.

#### Questions to discuss:

1. Why was King Balak afraid? (He was afraid Israelites would take over his country)
2. What did King Balak want Balaam to do? (Curse Israel so that bad things would happen to Israelites)
3. Why was God angry at Balaam? (Because his heart was not ready to obey God; he wanted to get the reward more than obey God)
4. Why did God make the donkey talk to Balaam? (To get Balaam’s attention; because Balaam wasn’t doing what God wanted him to do)
5. What should you do when you need help to obey God? (Ask God to help you because God always helps us obey him!)
6. What can you do to show that you obey God?

#### Game: Human Knots

1. Children cannot talk during this game. Choose 1 child to be the leader.
2. Have the children (except the leader) stand in a circle with their arms out and grab two different hands. Now they’re in a knot.
3. They have to untangle themselves, but they cannot talk or let go of their hand.
4. Only the leader can talk and give the children instruction to help them untangle themselves. Children have to obey the leader.



After the game, explain that sometimes life is like this. We have to wait for God to help us untangle us from our troubles. Just like the leader helped you get out of the knot, God promises to help us obey him. God makes everything turn out great in the end. Our job is to trust him and obey, and he helps us do that.

#### Memory Verse:

“My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.” (Psalm 121:2)

#### Craft: Let’s Make an Angel



1. Give a paper plate (if paper plate is not available, you can use paper cut in circle) to each children.
2. Cut a slice of the plate and tape it to the center.
3. Cut out a circle from a different paper for the angel’s face.
4. Decorate it using glitter or color pens and write “Obey God” on the angel.

**Song:** Select songs from the list above

#### Prayer

##### Teacher’s Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)

The Holy Spirit lives in those who have a relationship with Jesus. God uses us every day to do amazing things and show his power in our lives and in the lives of others. Think about some past experiences in which you have seen the direct hand of God. Take a few moments to thank God for these experiences, and begin to pray for opportunities to share these experiences with people who need to hear about them. You will be surprised to see the fruit of this prayer.