

5. When and how have you experienced the severe mercy of God?

6. Read Psalm 44:8-26. The Psalmist is brutally honest. He accuses God and even taunts him. How is this different from what the Israelites did in the wilderness?

7. What are some of the ways the bronze serpent foreshadows Christ on the cross?

8. What practical or helpful insight did you get from any of the gospel applications at the end of the sermon?

SERIES: Promised Land (Gospel Project)

SERMON 2: "The Bronze Serpent"

TEXT: Numbers 21:4-9

DATE: March 18/19, 2017

Can we be brutally honest with God?

Philippians 2:14; 1 Corinthians 10:9-11

God's prayer book for his people is filled with brutally honest prayers of _____.

Brutal honesty before God is not, in and of itself, a _____.

Numbers 21:4-9

1. What's the problem with Israel's _____ in the wilderness?

The basic difference and problem is in their _____.

Wilderness Boot Camp:

The only way they will survive and win the war is by _____ God.

The attitude displayed in verse 5 will get them _____ in the Promised Land.

The Nature of God's Judgment:

When God executes judgment, he is only _____.

The Severe Mercy of God:

He gets their _____. If they repent, he provides a way of _____ death in the wilderness AND death in Canaan.

2. What is the kind of complaining that God _____?
Psalm 44:8-26

- The complaints are made to God _____.
- They are cries made out of a _____ with God.
- These are not cries of spoiled _____; these cries of spiritual disorientation.

3. What is God's antivenin for a poisoned, complaining heart?
1 Corinthians 1:23-25; Galatians 3:13; John 3:14-15; 2 Corinthians 1:21

A bronze snake lifted high on a pole:

- N_____
- O_____
- C_____
- J_____

Sin on a _____.

Family Discussion Questions:

1. The Israelites impatience cost them a lot. How can we be more patient with each other?
2. In what way can God's judgment and discipline be an act of mercy?
3. Why did Jesus compare himself to the bronze serpent?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Just as the Israelites looked upon the bronze serpent lifted high on the pole and were healed, so also we look with faith upon Jesus Christ lifted on the cross and are saved from the punishment of our sin.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Read Numbers 21:1-9. What happening that leads to this new generation of Israelites to grumble against God?
3. The text says that the Israelites became impatient. When have you allowed impatience with God's work in your life to cause you to grumble about what he has done for you?
4. What is the problem (or problems) with the Israelites' complaining?

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Whom can we trust?