



You must not put a curse on those people, because they are blessed.
Numbers 12:12



Radiant Kids *Learning At Home*

Bible Study:



Read Numbers 22-25. See that the true hero of this story is God, who's ways cannot be thwarted by any man. Balaam was a prophet for hire, and had spoken oracles from many sources at other times, but he recognized God as **El Elyon – God MOST HIGH and El Shaddai – God ALMIGHTY** (Numbers 24:16).

The gospel in the story:



In the third oracle, Balaam sees Israel as beautiful. In their own strength, Israel was anything but beautiful; they were rebels, and untrusting, and grumblers (in fact, right after the account of Balaam, the men of Israel allowed themselves to be seduced into worshipping Baal!). But God chose to set them apart as His people. Hence their beauty!! That is the heart of the Gospel that those who are in Christ become beautiful creatures – blessed new creations! And, as Balaam's second oracle clearly points out, it is God's intent that it will be said of God's chosen people **"See what God has done!"** And of course, Balaam's fourth oracle points directly to the TRUE answer to **how** God will make ugly and corrupt people beautiful: Jesus, the Star that will come out of Jacob (Num. 24:17)!!!

Application:

Head: **What did we learn?**

Q: Why did Balak want to hire Balaam? A: He was afraid of the Israelites, and wanted Balaam to curse them

Q: What was Balaam's response? A: He said he would ask God.

Q: What was God's answer to Balaam's question? A: (His answer is our memory verse for this week).

What word did God put into Balaam's mouth? A:

Three separate blessings (each is a beautiful picture of the Good News of God's Grace, Holiness and Might) and a prophesy of a conqueror who would come from Jacob and destroy God's enemies (spoiler alert: Jesus)

Heart : **Memory verse**

You must not put a curse on those people, because they are blessed. Numbers 12:12

Hands: **How does this affect the way I live my life?**

Just as Israel was blessed by God through an act of grace, so we are blessed through the grace of Jesus. And He gives us a new heart that wants to know God's will and pursue it.

(unlike Balaam, who even though he heard and spoke God's word, was blind to His Lordship)

Home: **How does this affect my household?**

Balaam saw Israel as a nation separated – that is set apart. That's what the term Holy means – set apart. And that's how our households should be viewed – as set apart, holy, for God's purposes.

Heaven: **How help us share our faith?**

Just as Israel was secure in their faith, and was able to boldly face opposing nations, we can be secure in the knowledge that we are God's children. When we see adversity, we can rest in the fact that God is on our side and not our adversary!