

# THE BRONZE SNAKE

## CENTRAL TRUTH

God is the eternal King who provides the way of salvation.

## KEY QUESTION

- ↑ Why did God punish the complaining Israelites with snakes? Why did God provide healing through a snake on a pole?

Obviously, God wanted to make a point: Sin deserves punishment. But God is not only just; He is also merciful. God showed the Israelites how to be saved from the danger of the snake bites. God instructed Moses to place an image of a snake on a pole. All the people who looked at the snake on the pole would recover.

## KEEP IN MIND

- ▮ This passage may seem weird, and even intense to some students. Using the **Exploration Tip** to guide you, help students to see that this passage points to the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross (see John 3:14-15). Salvation is in Christ alone by God's grace alone.
- ▮ Oftentimes, our prayers are limited to requests and needs aimed toward the Lord. However, Moses modeled through Psalm 90 that we must also have a posture of honor and reverence to the Lord—simply worshiping Him for who He is and all that He has already done.

## APPLICATION

- ▮ How can you help someone who has questions about God to look to the Lord to find Him?

## THE WIN

**FOR THE STUDENT:** God is just and will not allow sin to go unpunished; He is also gracious and abundant in mercy. In Christ alone, true salvation is found. v

**FOR THE LEADER:** This teaching is great opportunity to point students to the finished work of Jesus on the cross, challenging those who have not placed their trust in Jesus to do so (without singling out students and calling them out by name).

## 7 ARROWS

- ↻ What does this passage say?
- ↑ What does this passage tell us about God?
- ← What did this passage mean to its original audience?
- ↔ How does this passage change the way I relate to people?
- ↓ What does this passage tell us about the human heart?
- ↻ How does this passage prompt me to pray?
- What does this passage demand of me?