

MARCH 14, 2021



Children's Message

LOOK • LENT 4 • YEAR B

TODAY'S READINGS

Numbers 21:4-9 • **Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22** • **Ephesians 2:1-10** • **John 3:14-21**

Select one of these options to create a children's message to fit kids' interests and gifts and your congregation's size and sanctuary features. You can finish your time together with the prayer.

READ THE STORY

Place a bookmark on page 74 in the Whirl Story Bible. Read the story "Snakes in the Wilderness." Notice the faces of the people. Ask if anyone remembers a time when they were thirsty and tired. Share a story about a time you were thirsty and tired. Point out the snakes. Notice how the people's faces are different after Moses makes his staff with the bronze snake.

ENTER THE EPISTLE

The Epistle for today is all about *grace*. In preparation, make simple letters that spell the word *grace*. Hide the letters G-R-A-C-E around the worship space. Invite the kids to find five letters that spell a very special word. Unscramble the letters together and talk about what grace means. (Unconditional love, God's love, another chance, something you can only be given, something that is not earned, etc.)

WONDER ABOUT THE STORY

I wonder why this story about snakes is in the Bible.... Snakes are cool—a little scary, too, for some people. What can we learn from this story? (To trust God!)

WITNESS THE STORY

Look up John 3:16-17. Tell the kids this is one of the most favorite passages in the whole Bible. Interview people in the congregation about why they like it. (Prep your interviewees ahead of time to make sure that the concept of God's love and grace shines through.)

WONDER ABOUT THE SEASON

If this is your fourth week decorating a cross, add this week's theme: *Look*. What other words mean close to the same thing as *look*? (See, witness, observe, etc.) Wonder why look is an important faith-word for us. How can we look for what God is doing in the world?

SEE THE SEASON

What new purple things can be found in or added to the worship space today? Is anyone wearing purple? Did anyone eat something purple during the past week? Lent is the season that gets us ready for Easter—how are you getting ready for Easter?

PRAYER

Gather around the cross or font and hold hands. **God of grace and love, thank you for loving us. Thank you for Jesus. Help us to look for what you are doing in the world, and help us join in to be a part of it. Amen.**

