

Moses and the Bronze Snake

Discovery

Bible reading. Pray for revelation of what the Spirit wants to highlight to each one of you in the reading... ... then read Numbers 21:1-9

How big is God?

Mike took a quick whiz round the galaxy in his talk looking at how long it would take to drive to various heavenly bodies! You could go through that again if you like or look at a youtube video that does the same kind of thing at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Usj6viU0Aal#t=189.173924085>

(it is called 'STUNNING VIEWS - From Earth to Universe and back again', by Anton Wieser)

Mike's figures are here: Distance from here to Hong Kong 6,000 miles - 2.5 days to drive at 100mph; round the world - 25,000 miles = 10 days; to the moon - 250,000 miles = 100 days; to the sun 93million miles = 8 mins at speed of light, or 100 years to drive; nearest star (Alpha Proxima/Centauri) 4.24 light years = 25 million years; and that is only the nearest star, inside our galaxy!

Read Ephesians 4:10 (which refers to Jesus after he ascended). How big is God? Consider this for a while, maybe singing to praise and worship him for considering us worth his attention considering his majesty.

Discussion

Read Numbers 21:7-9 again. Note that God didn't answer Moses prayer exactly as he'd asked, but did something else.

Discuss why (maybe considering what would have happened if he'd simply done what Moses asked, and what good came from the way he answered).

Read 2 Kings 18:1-4 and discuss why Hezekiah decided to smash up the bronze snake. Consider how it had changed from a life saver to something deadly.

Application

What might be the snakes in our lives? Mike suggested they were sins resulting from giving in to temptation. What are the things we are particularly tempted by, our weakness, and what sins do we find ourselves falling into time and again?

What are the things that we look to for comfort or to make our lives work instead of God, that might be good, but which we've made into idols?

Try to get people to be honest and open, and then spend time praying for each other. Also pray for our church, for protection from temptation and strength to stand firm in the face of it when God allows it to challenge us. Pray for the leaders of the church, who are particularly in the firing line in the battle between good and evil.

God bless you as you spend time together tonight.

Mike