

Marinating in God's Word:  
Numbers 21:4-9 and John 3:1-17

To meet Jesus is to be changed. So it was in the gospels, and so it is in our lives.

For further reflection on your own or in a small group, consider these questions:

It's bad enough to worry about food and water in the wilderness, but now snakes! Yikes! Gallup's phobia poll put snakes atop even public speaking. Why do you suppose we so fear snakes? What other significant snake scriptures can you think of?

The Lord prescribed a strange "anti-venom" remedy, but it worked. How? Was the object magical? If not, then how were they healed? In what ways was this event an enacted prophecy, fulfilled in the New Testament era?

As Jesus spoke with Nicodemus, he described the serpent on the pole as an enacted prophecy, one which he was yet to fulfill. The serpent was a remedy for a snake bite. But when Jesus was "lifted up," he had a much greater impact. How so?

Do you have a day that you can remember when you first believed? Whether you do or not, how would you describe your "born again" experience?