



UNLIKELY HEROES – Pt. 12
Balaam's Donkey
Being Faithful to God's Instructions

New Horizon Church 08-08-2021 Pastor John Raymond

1. Don't _____ what God has blessed.

Numbers 22:7-13 (NLT), ¹² But God told Balaam, "Do not go with them. **You are not to curse these people, for they have been blessed!**" ¹³ The next morning Balaam got up and told Balak's officials, "Go on home! **The LORD will not let me go with you.**"

Genesis 12:1-3 (NIV), "The LORD had said to Abram, 'Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. ² "I will make you into a great nation, and **I will bless you**; I will make your name great, and **you will be a blessing**. ³ I will **bless those who bless you**, and whoever **curses you I will curse**; and all peoples on earth will be **blessed** through you.'"

2. Don't sell _____ out.

Numbers 22:14-19 (NLT), ¹⁸ But Balaam responded to Balak's messengers, "Even if Balak were to give me his **palace filled with silver and gold, I would be powerless to do anything against the will of the LORD my God**. ¹⁹ **But stay here one more night**, and I will see if the LORD has anything else to say to me."

Numbers 22:1-38 (NLT), ²⁰ That night God came to Balaam and told him, "Since these men have come for you, get up and go with them. **But do only what I tell you to do.**"

3. Be open to God's _____.

Numbers 22:21-27 (NLT), ²¹ So the next morning Balaam got up, saddled his donkey, and started off with the Moabite officials. ²² **But God was angry that Balaam was going**, so he sent the angel of the LORD to stand in the road to block his way. As Balaam and two servants were riding along, ²³ Balaam's donkey saw the angel of the LORD standing in the road **with a drawn sword in his hand**. The donkey **bolted off the road** into a field, but Balaam beat it and turned it back onto the road. ²⁴ Then the angel of the LORD stood at a place where the road narrowed between two vineyard walls. ²⁵ When the donkey saw the angel of the LORD, it **tried to squeeze by and crushed Balaam's foot** against the wall. So Balaam

beat the donkey again. ²⁶ Then the angel of the LORD moved farther down the road and stood in a place too narrow for the donkey to get by at all. ²⁷ This time when the donkey saw the angel, it **lay down under Balaam**. In a fit of rage Balaam beat the animal again with his staff."

Proverbs 12:10 (NLT), "The godly care for their animals, but the wicked are always cruel."

Proverbs 27:6 (NLT), "Wounds from a **sincere friend** are better than many kisses from an **enemy**."

Numbers 22:31-33 (NLT), ³¹ Then the LORD **opened Balaam's eyes**, and he saw the **angel of the LORD** standing in the roadway with a **drawn sword** in his hand. Balaam **bowed his head and fell face down** on the ground before him."

4. Don't _____ your obedience.

James 4:10 (NLT), "**Humble yourselves** before the Lord, and he will lift you up in **honor**."

1 Corinthians 4:4-5 (NLT), ⁴ My conscience is clear, but that doesn't prove I'm right. It is the Lord himself who will examine me and decide. ⁵ So don't make judgments about anyone ahead of time—before the Lord returns. For **he will bring our darkest secrets to light and will reveal our private motives**. Then God will give to each one whatever praise is due."

Revelation 2:14 (NLT), ¹⁴ "But I have a few **complaints** against you. You tolerate some among you whose teaching is like that of **Balaam**, who showed Balak how to **trip up the people of Israel**. He taught them to **sin** by eating food offered to idols and by committing sexual sin."

2 Peter 2:15 (NLT), "They have **wandered off the right road and followed the footsteps of Balaam** son of Beor, who loved to **earn money by doing wrong**."
