

# Message Notes

Experiencing God in Prayer:

## 4. Coming Clean – 1 John 1.5-10; Numbers 22.21-35

What Balaam teaches us about dealing with sin:

1. Don't blame others while avoiding God.
2. Sometimes, God will do the miraculous to get our attention amid sin.
3. The path of sin is reckless.
4. Sin must be acknowledged and turned away from.
5. No path of sin is beyond redemption.

### LifeConnect Group Discussion Questions

- Why do you think God is angry with Balaam for leaving (v. 22), since just prior, he had told him to go and later repeats that comment (vv. 20, 35)? How might this be explained by the interaction and insights of Balaam and his donkey?
- What do you think God is trying to teach the opportunistic and spiritually blind Balaam through his loyal and spiritually alert donkey? Does God succeed in this? (Read on to vv. 37-38 and 23.12, 20, 26.)
- Which was the greater miracle: God opening Balaam's eyes or his donkey's mouth? Why do you think so?
- Do you sometimes blame others when you know you are to blame for something wrong?
- Have you ever confessed a sin to a fellow Christ-follower? How did the other person react?
- Is there value in confessing sin to another person, even though God is the one who pronounces forgiveness?
- What's the difference between confessing sin and repenting of sin?
- Do you find that it is common to confess the symptoms of sin rather than the root sin itself?