

Why Did You Do That?

When have you done something another person thought was very bad?

Read Numbers 25:1-18.

1. Why did the Israelite men sleep with the Moabite women?
 - A. They had been invited to a sleep-over.
 - B. The Moabite/Midianite women had seduced them.
 - C. There wasn't enough room in the Israelite tents for everyone.
 - D. They were teens who had no sexual restraint.
 - E. Most males never pass up an opportunity to have sex.
 - F. It's not that big of a deal—everyone does it.
 - G. Balaam suggested this when he couldn't curse God's people.
 - H. This would grow the number of Israelites by adding more offspring.
 - I. Other.

2. What made this so offensive?
 - A. The Israelite men were married, so they were cheating on their wives.
 - B. The Moabite women were married; they cheated on their husbands.
 - C. These Moabite women were pagan priestesses.
 - D. It was pagan worship: sacrifice to Baal, then sex with a priestess.
 - E. They were worshiping the pagan god Baal instead of Yahweh.
 - F. It happened right after God changed Balaam's curses to blessings.
 - G. What were the Israelite women supposed to do now?
 - H. This was a repeat of the orgy around the golden calf (Exodus 32:6).
 - I. Other.

3. Why did the Israelite leaders get executed publicly (vss. 4-5)?
 - A. Their sin was public so their punishment had to be public.
 - B. Leaders get judged by a higher standard.
 - C. God was furious at that time.
 - D. This added shame to their disgusting actions.
 - E. It was the common practice at that time.
 - F. God commanded this.
 - G. The same thing happened with the golden calf (Exodus 32:27-28).
 - H. This cooled God's anger.
 - I. Other.

