

# JANUARY 23

## GOD PROVIDED MANNA (EXODUS 16-17)

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### RECAP

#### Christ Connection

When God's people were hungry and thirsty, God gave them food and water. Later, God sent His Son, Jesus. Jesus said, "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35). Bread and water give people life for a little while, but Jesus gives people life forever.

#### Big Picture Question:

*What is worship? Worship is celebrating the greatness of God.*

#### Key Passage Phrase:

Let us worship God. Psalm 135:5-6

## THE GOSPEL PROJECT @HOME

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### FAMILY WORSHIP

*Consider doing this during a designated time each week or before/after a meal together:*

**Read all or parts of Exodus 16-17 from the Bible, talk about the scripture, pray and do the fun activity or family serve project this week.**

Did you know the Guinness World Records book has records for foods? For instance, the largest chocolate peanut butter cup is more than 440 pounds. The longest rolled fruit snack was as long as a football field at 300 feet long. In 2011, the largest hamburger for sale was created in California and weighed 777 pounds. Here's the catch: Guinness World Record rules state that the food created for any world record cannot be thrown out and must be eaten by the public. Can you imagine trying to eat that much food?

When the Israelites crossed the Red Sea, they started complaining to Moses because they had nothing to eat and nothing to drink. They probably would have loved to have a bite of that 777-pound hamburger, wouldn't they? But God gave them something greater than a hamburger. God heard their cries, so He gave the Israelites quail every evening and manna every morning.

Manna was a special bread that symbolized God's faithfulness to meet the needs of His people. God gave the Israelites instructions for when to collect the manna and how much to eat. God provided this flaky bread every morning for 40 years. That equals out to more than 7,000 gallons of manna per person. Now that should be in the Guinness Book of World Records.

**God provided water and manna for His people's physical hunger. Later, He provided His Son, Jesus, for our spiritual hunger. The Israelites needed bread to live for a little while, but whoever has Jesus will live forever.**

***Pray:** God, You are faithful to meet our needs. You knew that our greatest need was to be rescued from sin. You sent Jesus from heaven to meet our needs and to give eternal life to everyone who believes in Him.*

### FAMILY PRAYER

Mornings

Thank God for the basic needs He has met for you and your family. How has God provided what you need to live? How can you give thanks for His provision?

### **Evenings**

Ask God to help you grow in contentment. Like the Israelites, we can grumble and complain for more. How can thanking God for all He has provided help us to remain content? How has He already provided everything we need in Jesus?

## **FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

### **For Fun**

Make a list of things you need to live (e.g. food, shelter, clothing) and then make a list of blessings God has provided above your needs (e.g. ice cream, extra blankets, two coats or pairs of shoes, a vehicle). Assign a different family member to read each of the following verses: Psalm 81:10; Malachi 3:10; Philippians 4:19. Discuss how the whole Bible points to God's provision for us. We can give thanks because God provides for our needs.

Like Jacob, we are all born in sin. There is nothing we can do to please God or earn His forgiveness, but God has shown His love by sending Jesus through Jacob's family to rescue us from sin. Jesus' work on the cross removes our sin and provides forgiveness when we believe in Him.

### **To Serve**

As a family, shop for supplies to put into a care kit for those in need. Include items like toothpaste, socks, lip balm, lotion, sanitizer, and bottled water. Place the items in a large ziplock bag with a note to share God's love. Keep the bag in your car and be ready to give it away the next time you see someone in need.

*Supplies: large ziplock bag, care kit items*