

Home Family Worship with Kids 27. September 20th, 2020

Exodus 16:2-15 Bread from heaven in the desert.

Complaints and thanks.

Exodus 16:2-15 Children's Sermon on Manna from Heaven

(Copy out the lines in bold onto pieces of paper and have different family members read one as you go through the story)

Here we go...walking through the dessert. Our leader Moses. We are all walking, we've been walking for days so we're walking slowly. Trudging, in fact. None of us have been outside Egypt before. We are tired, we are afraid. God promised us that he would bring us to a place where we could build homes and live happily, but we don't know where that place is. We are worried. The desert is hot and we ran out of the food we brought with us with no food or water in sight. We are starting to complain...

Line 1: I'm soooooo hungry.

Line 2: I wish we could go back to Egypt.

Line 3: At least we had food to eat there.

Our stomachs are growling. We miss our dinners of meat and bread. Now it is evening and we all sit down to rest. When something strange happens. Look up! There are tons of birds in the sky! I think they are quail. They are landing right at our feet! We make a fire, we roast the quail.

Line 4: Hey! This tastes like chicken!

We can all sleep soundly because our stomachs are full. Go to sleep Israelites.

Wake up Israelites! Look at what is on the ground this morning! It is soft. It is white...

Line 5: What is all this? Bread?

The Israelites start tasting it.

Line 6: Mmm...tastes like angel food cake to me. Yummy.

Every day God sent manna and quail so the people had food to eat. They continued on their journey.

They had food as they continued on their way to the land that God promised them.

What do you think we can learn from this story?

God provided bread from heaven, which the people called manna. Manna is a word that means, "what is it?" because the Israelites had never seen anything like it. Each day they would collect enough for that day. If they collected more, it would be rotten by the next morning! God wanted to teach His people to trust Him to provide for them. God also provided quail for the people so they would have meat to eat.

God provides for us even when we grumble.

God wants us to come to Him with our wants and needs, but when we complain, that shows that our hearts are not grateful for what He has already done for us. God wants us to have thankful hearts!

What are some things you grumble about? Can you change that grumble into a thanks.

Here is a little story: can you change the grumble to a thanks?

It had been raining for two days and the children could not go out to ride their bikes. They complained to their mum and dad – it's not fair. It hasn't stopped raining and we have been stuck inside. I hate the rain.

Could you maybe stop and think about the farmers who haven't had any rain in a long time and need the rain to help their animals and their land to grow more grass or crops. Thank God for the rain and also stop and think about the house you get to live in so you don't get wet. The TV you get to watch or the games you get to play when you can't go outside. God still gives us what we need even when we don't get what we want.

Can you think of some other examples?

Video clips: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21K55IsS2jE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYjBa09OGAU>

Attitude of Gratitude: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dw0VCV0gKgl>

Songs: Thank you for making me: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pEYz4i2SL2k>

The Butterfly song:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2dAKab3Wgw&ab_channel=TGJourneyKids

Grateful: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x_rzyncwttw

I thank you, Lord: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YajaoSpkDPI>

Activities: Manna Meal

Supplies: Cornflakes or other cereal flakes, plastic tablecloth, plastic spoons, paper cups.

- Before children arrive, spread a large, clean, plastic tablecloth on the floor, and sprinkle cornflakes on the tablecloth's outer edges.
- Let children walk around the tablecloth's edge and gather the "manna" into paper cups using plastic spoons.
- Play some music and see how much "manna" they can pick up in that time. To make it more difficult use different utensils to pick up the flakes.
- Tell children that God gave the Israelites food every day for 40 years. Explain that we are to thank God for giving us what we need.

Thankful Hearts

Supplies: Heart templates –draw your own or use one from the internet. Crayons or pencils or felt pens.

- **Explain** that God wants us to have hearts that thank Him for the good things He has done for us. When we grumble and complain it shows that we are ungrateful for His gifts.
- Encourage the kids to think about the things that God has given them. What gifts (material things, talents, etc.) have they enjoyed from God?
- On your heart write out the things or draw some things you are thankful to God for.

Thankfulness Jar

Supplies: a large empty jar, small pieces of paper, pens or anything to write or draw with.

- Each day or during meal time think about something or a number of things you are grateful for, talk about it, draw it and put the paper into the jar.
- When you are feeling sad or grumpy, go to the jar, take out one of the pieces of paper to remind yourself to be thankful. (Once you have taken it out, you can't put the same piece of paper into the jar, you need to do a new one.
- Is the jar constantly being filled or being emptied?

My gratitude Jar

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6TYvJh5Cwww&ab_channel=LongStoryShortz