



Beautiful
BIBLE TREASURES
For Children

Lesson 31

Level A—Little Bible Treasures:

Amazing Food

Level B—Children's Bible Treasures:

Amazing Food

Level C—Story Time with Jesus:

Amazing Food

Level D—What Does it Actually Say?:

Amazing Food

Level E—Bible Bits: Books of the Bible—

1 & 2 Chronicles—Job/ Topic Treasures—God Gives Food

Amazing Food

The travelling team of Israelites needed food. When Moses prayed, God said He would send down food from Heaven.

The next morning when they woke up it was amazing to see that there was a special kind of bread all over the ground. The people gathered it up and ate it. It tasted very nice! They called it "manna."

Every morning there it was again. For many years this special miracle food from God was there for them to collect, no matter where they travelled to, or what kind of weather it was. They didn't need to plant and harvest crops, just collect this manna off the ground.

On one day every week they were able to collect twice as much, so they could rest the next day and have food to eat without having to work to gather it. Wasn't God kind and thoughtful?



Amazing Food

God sent the Israelites food, just as He said He would! The food from Heaven was called "manna" by those who noticed it in the morning. They'd never seen anything like it!

Every day this amazing food was all over the ground, and families could collect what they needed for the day. God gave one instruction to them, and that was to not worry about food for the next day.

God wanted them to have faith that He would send more again, and He wanted them to learn to obey what He said to do. They were not to save any for the next day.

Some people didn't obey the instructions God gave them, and found out the next day why they shouldn't have disobeyed.

The delicious manna that smelled good and tasted like honey when they collected it, the next day after being saved, had a very bad smell to it and was filled with bugs. Oh dear!



It would have been better to trust that God would send more food for them each new morning.

God wanted them to have a day to rest each week, a day where they didn't have to work. To make this day relaxing for them God gave them permission to gather extra manna the day before, and to save it for the next day.

They wouldn't have to work even to gather food for one day each week. For some amazing reason, that is the only day that it didn't go bad when it was saved overnight.

When the Israelites followed God's instructions, things worked out well and they had all they needed. God even told Moses to save some of that amazing manna in a special box, and to keep it for years to come. It didn't go bad for so very long!

This little saved sample of the manna reminded them of the miracles that God did for them, and how He cared for them and provided food for them during the many years they were travelling.

Activity

*Sprinkle some flour, or salt, or sand on a tray or table, just as the manna covered the ground. Use your fingers to draw smiley faces in it. The parent or teacher can "write" in the powdery layer with their finger, words related to the story. (Word examples: Food, bread, manna, obey, etc.)

Amazing Food



Since the travelling team couldn't plant crops and wait for them to grow while on the move going to a new country, God sent it to them. It was a lot easier to harvest food now! It was ready made, delicious and edible, right from Heaven. All the people had to do was to gather it off the ground each morning.

It was white, and looked like small seeds, and tasted sweet, like it had honey in it! They called it "manna." This manna could be eaten just like that, or baked, or cooked. They came up with many different ways to prepare this miracle bread from Heaven, and it always tasted great!

Well, there was one time it didn't—if it was left over from the day before. The manna was fresh on the day it was gathered, but the next day it would be smelly, and bad! That was part of their next lesson on obedience.

God was trying to teach them faith—that He would send more food, fresh each day, and they didn't have to worry whether there would be some again the next day. They also needed to learn obedience. If God said, "Only gather enough manna for today, and don't save any for the next day," they learned that He meant it.

Some people, however, just didn't listen and learn, until they discovered the results through consequences. The easy way is to "believe, remember, and do". The hard way is to go a different way than God is asking you to go, and then you find out why you shouldn't have, by experiencing things that you wish you didn't.

"What's that terrible smell?" some of them awoke saying. Someone had done exactly what Moses had told them, from the Lord, not to do. They'd saved some of the manna from the day before, and put it in their tent. Maybe they liked it so much and wanted to save some just in case God forgot to send down more to them the next day.

Would God forget? No! There was an abundance of fresh new manna, all around the next day! The old stuff that was saved stank, and had worms in it. It was a very unpleasant way to wake up, and showed that they didn't have faith in God's care. They probably felt rather embarrassed, but they learned through it that it's better to obey what God said to do.

It wasn't, however, just something that always happened with the manna. It didn't always go bad. God specifically let it go bad the next day as His gentle way of trying to get them to listen, believe and obey Him. Why was it important to learn that? They were soon to start living in a new country, and if they wanted it to be a good one, there was only one way to do that—to do things God's way, as people had been learning ever since the Garden of Eden.

There's the right way, and the wrong way. God knows what is best, what is right, what is fair, what is loving, what is going to bring about good things in people's lives, and what will work out for the best in the end. God already knows what will happen, right from the start. It pays to do it His way—as these travellers found out, time and again.



The next instruction, regarding this amazing "bread from Heaven", was to collect and save extra for the next day. Yes, you heard that right. They were supposed to get double the amount of manna on the sixth day of

the week, so that on the seventh day of the week, their rest day, they could have a nice day and not have to do that collecting job.

Wasn't that thoughtful? See, the God of Heaven, the God of the whole Earth, wasn't at all like the Pharaoh they'd been forced to work for. God wanted them to save a day each week for rest, just like He set the example of when first creating the world. His solution to making a country peaceful and to have the people doing what they should was not to make them work harder and harder—like it was in Egypt.

God wanted them to realise that it was very important that they take time daily with Him. He wanted them to take time to stop, to listen, to enjoy, to praise, to pray, and to be refreshed. He also asked them to do something new, to help them form new habits for good health and happiness.



God asked them to take a full day each week to rest and relax. To help make it easier for them, and to help them remember to do it each week, He allowed them to gather twice as much food the day before their rest day. Then the food would remain fresh and good—but just on that day!

This wasn't just amazing food, it was an amazing God! He knew what each one was doing, when they were doing it, on what day of the week they were doing it, how many people were in their family, how much food each one had, and what they were thinking and saying. He knew it all!

He brought things into their lives day by day, with each new part of their journey, all with the same purpose that He still does things in your

life even today: To teach each person about His love, His care, and that following His words and His way is really the best thing to do.

Moses had faith in God's words, and depended on His instructions to get them out of each tight spot. He simply did as God said! When God said to take a portion of the manna—manna that usually went bad after being kept for one day—and told him to save it for years to come, so they'd remember what it looked like many years later, Moses obeyed.

As surprising as it sounds, it didn't go bad. It wasn't the bread that was so amazing, but the God who made it and was giving out the instructions.

Let's Talk About It

*If you could only have one type of food each day for a long while, what wholesome food would you choose? Have you ever been really hungry, without food to eat for a few days, or have you always had at least something to eat?

*Do you ever forget that Jesus knows everything about you, and everything you've thought or done, and that He still loves you? How does knowing this make you feel?



Activity

*Cross out the phrases that do not belong on this list. Or verbally answer "true" or "false" after each phrase is read.

Prayer and obeying Jesus:

- Makes Jesus happy
- Are to be done once a week
- Help to bring to you the things you need
- Help to make things better for you
- Are to be done when you aren't too busy
- Might help once in a while
- Are very important
- Require faith and trust
- Make you stronger in spirit
- Won't change much
- Will bring you many rewards and good things



Amazing Food



Connect and Communicate

*Think of something you wish there is in Heaven, something you are hoping for. Talk about what the word "overcome" means, and read the verses in Revelation about what will be given to those who "overcome".

(See Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 12, 21.)

Study Fun

Mark: The specific instructions that Moses gave them from the Lord.

Look up: What "hoar frost" and "coriander seed" are.

List: All the number- and time-related words mentioned in these verses.

Exodus

16:14 And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground.

16:15 And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the Lord hath given you to eat.



16:19 And Moses said, Let no man leave of it till the morning.

16:20 Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto Moses; but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and stank: and Moses was wroth with them.

16:21 And they gathered it every morning, every man according to his eating: and when the sun waxed hot, it melted.

16:22 And it came to pass, that on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread.

16:23 And he said unto them, This is that which the Lord hath said, To morrow is the rest of the holy sabbath unto the Lord: bake that which ye will bake to day, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning.

16:24 And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses bade: and it did not stink, neither was there any worm therein.

16:25 And Moses said, Eat that to day; for to day is a sabbath unto the Lord: to day ye shall not find it in the field.

16:26 Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the sabbath, in it there shall be none.

16:27 And it came to pass, that there went out some of the people on the seventh day for to gather, and they found none.

16:28 And the Lord said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws?



16:29 See, for that the Lord hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.

16:30 So the people rested on the seventh day.

16:31 And the house of Israel called the name thereof Manna: and it was like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.

16:32 And Moses said, This is the thing which the Lord commandeth, Fill an omer of it to be kept for your generations; that they may see the bread wherewith I have fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you forth from the land of Egypt.



16:33 And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the Lord, to be kept for your generations.

16:34 As the Lord commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept.

16:35 And the children of Israel did eat manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan.

Activity

* Make a snack to resemble the manna in some way, the way it is described in the Bible.



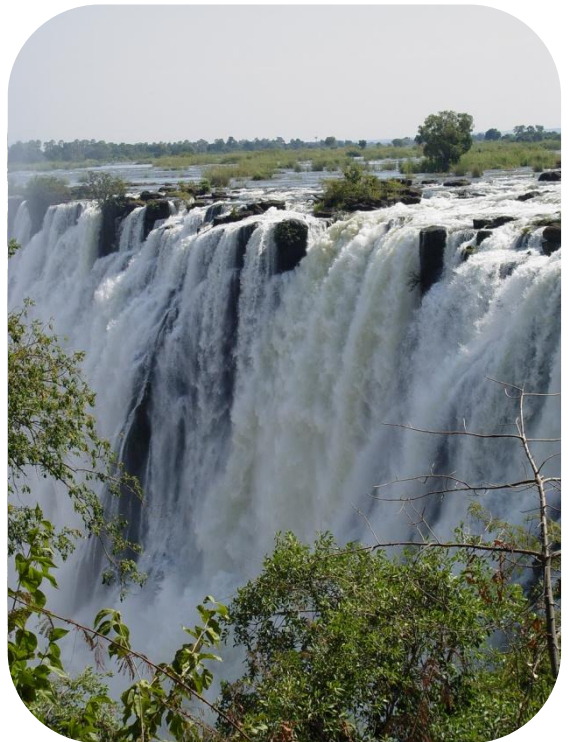
Fountain of Faith

Psalms 119:114

Thou art my hiding place
and my shield: I hope in thy
word.

Psalms 145:18-19

The Lord is nigh unto all
them that call upon him, to all
that call upon him in truth. He
will fulfil the desire of them
that fear him: he also will
hear their cry, and will save
them.



Books of the Bible: 1 Chronicles—Job

Praise

Psalms 7:17 I will praise the Lord according to his righteousness; and will sing praise to the name of the Lord most high.

*Take turns whispering to the person beside you, a phrase to say in praise to the Lord. The person that it's whispered to can then sing that phrase aloud in whatever style and made-up tune they want to, or they can sing it to an existing tune. The one who sang then whispers another praise phrase to the person beside them, who in turn sings it out, and on it goes.

1 & 2 Chronicles

The books of Chronicles contain the same stories as the books of Samuel and Kings, but the books of Chronicles also contain many official records and lists of people.

1 Chronicles contains the story of King David, and describes his plans for building the temple in Jerusalem. David gave careful instructions to the priests. He wanted everyone to serve God properly.

2 Chronicles contains the story of the kings of Israel. It discusses the 400 years after King David. 2 Chronicles also describes the great temple that Solomon built in Jerusalem. The temple was a very beautiful building,

and the priests and people came to the temple to pray. After Solomon passed away, his country divided into two countries.

2 Chronicles describes the kings of both these countries and their works. Some of these kings were good kings, who served God, but did not love and follow God, nor obey His law. They did many unkind, ugly and wrong things. Many troubles came to these countries as a result of the people's and kings' wrong choices to turn away from God.

1 Chronicles 29:13 Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

2 Chronicles 20:21b Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever.

Ezra

The book of Ezra tells us that Cyrus, the king of Persia, allowed the Jews to return to their own land, since the King of Babylon had taken many people to Babylon some time before. Cyrus helped the Jews to start building a temple in Jerusalem, but the people who lived near them did not want the Jews back in the land. They opposed the Jews so that they did not continue to build the temple.

Many years later they were able to finish the building. Ezra was a teacher who taught the people from God's word. Often the people did not obey God's word, but Ezra continued to teach them. He told them how to live in a way that would please God.

Ezra 8:22b The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek him; but his power and his wrath is against all them that forsake him.

Nehemiah

Nehemiah was an important servant of the king of Persia. Nehemiah asked Hanani, his brother who was visiting from Judah, for news about Jerusalem. Hanani told Nehemiah that the walls of Jerusalem were only heaps of stones. Fire had burned the gates of the city.

This news made Nehemiah very sad. So Nehemiah asked the king to send him to Jerusalem to build the walls of the city again, and the king agreed. Nehemiah and the people built the walls of Jerusalem again. The people who lived near Jerusalem did not want the Jews to build the city again. They opposed the Jews and tried to stop the work, but God helped them and they finished the work in 52 days.

Nehemiah 8:10 The joy of the Lord is your strength.

Nehemiah 4:6 So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.

Esther

Esther and many other Jews lived in the land called Persia. Persia was a long way from their own land. The King of Persia was angry with the queen for publically disobeying his request and he sent her away. Then he searched for another wife who would be the new queen. He chose Esther.

One of the king's chief officials, called Haman, had tricked the king into making a decree that would harm the Jews. Esther's uncle Mordecai asked Esther to speak to the king to save the Jews. Although Esther was the queen, Mordecai was asking her to do a dangerous thing.

People could not go to see the king if he had not invited them. But Esther did what Mordecai asked. The king was pleased with her and listened to her, and made a new decree that saved the Jewish people.

Esther 4:14 Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

Job

Job was a good man and thought it was enough, but he found out he needed the goodness of God. Job lost all he had, and then became ill with painful sores. Job's friends supposed that he was ill because of some wrong thing he must have done, but Job was innocent.

Then, a wise man named Elihu explained the truth to Job and his friends. God talked with Job and He proved to them all that He is great and wise,

and He showed them that He cares, even when difficult things seem to be happening. God then wanted Job to pray for his friends.

In the end, God made Job successful again. God cares about people who suffer troubles, and will help them, although sometimes they must be patient.

Job 42:1-2 Then Job answered the Lord, and said, I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee.

Activity

*Draw a line to match the names that go together in some way, according to what is mentioned in the write-ups of these five books of the Bible.

Solomon

Mordecai

Ezra

Elihu

Nehemiah

Cyrus

Esther

David

Job

Hanani



Topic Treasures

—God Gives Food

Study Fun

Mark: The two verses that are prayers.

Look up: Or talk about the meanings of the words, or find pictures of: brook, raven, barrel, cruse, raiment.

List: All the words to do with food or eating.

1 Kings 17:15-16 And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days. And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord, which he spake by Elijah.

Matthew 14:19-20 And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full.

Matthew 6:25-26 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?



Psalm 37:25 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

Psalm 145:15 The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season.

Matthew 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread.

1 Kings 17:6 And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook.

John 21:5-6 Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No. And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.



Daily Diary

*Are there foods that you wish you could eat, but can't for some reason—either because they aren't good for you, or are not available or affordable, or because they don't agree with your body?

List some things that you'd really like, that are good for you to eat and that you wish you could have; and pray for the supply of them, in the Lord's time.

Take a moment to also pray for those who are really hungry right now, and are going without needed food: For the Lord to supply all that is needed—miraculously if need be.