

Games - Week of July 13th

Bible Point: God gives us what we need, so...trust God!

Bible Story: God provides manna and quail. (Exodus 16)

Key Verse: “For your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!”
(Matthew 6:8)



About thirty days had passed since the Israelites left Egypt. Apparently the food they had brought with them had run out, and they began grumbling. All they could think of was the food back in Egypt—even if that food had come at the price of captivity! In spite of the Israelites’ complaining, God responded by providing bread and meat—manna and quail. When the manna appeared the first morning, the Hebrews’ question “What is it?” apparently caught on as its name, because manna means “What is it?”

Though some have suggested various possibilities for what manna was, nothing we know of today is a good match for the description given in Exodus 16:31: “It was white like coriander seed, and it tasted like honey wafers.” This

miraculous fare (which fed the Israelites for 40 years!) would spoil overnight...except on the Sabbath. The day before the Sabbath, God’s people could collect as much as they needed to get them through the next day. God heard his people and responded with incredible and unexplainable surprises.

Can you still see God’s blessings in your life today? From the air we breathe to the food we eat, God’s gifts surround us. Yet, like the Israelites, we typically call out in panic or anger. Even when we don’t see God provide for our immediate “wants,” remember that God not only provides for our physical needs but also selflessly provided the ultimate sacrifice in his Son, Jesus. Just as the Israelites didn’t get what they expected, we may be surprised by God’s provision. Try to understand how our friendship with God deepens as we see the ways he responds to our needs.

Gather the following supplies:

- Spray bottles filled with water and set to “stream”
- Cotton balls

Game: Camel Spit

1. Hide a spray bottle, set to “stream,” behind your back.
2. **Say:** *One of my favorite animals here in the wilderness is camels. One thing you may not know is that when camels feel threatened or afraid... (spray a little water on participants) camels spit! That’s gross, but true! Let’s pretend we’re a bunch of camels in this game.*
3. Form a line so people are about 6 feet apart. (If participants spread their arms out, their fingertips should just touch the next person’s fingertips.)
4. Have each person put a cotton ball on his or her head and turn to the left so everyone is facing the same direction.
5. Hand a squirt bottle to the first person in line. The person should be facing the back of the next person in his or her line. (This way, no one gets squirted in the face.)
6. When you say “Go!” the “camel” will squirt the cotton ball off of the next person’s head. When the cotton ball falls, the camel will hand the spray bottle to that person, who will squirt the cotton ball off of the next person’s head. Continue until the last person has been sprayed.
7. **Say:** *In the Wilderness, we’re trusting that God will give us animals for food and animals that can help us work. God gives us what we need, so...trust God!*

