

Lesson 8

God Provides for Israel

Theme: Faith—Trust in God as provider of our needs

Sunday Morning Lesson

Pre-Class Activity:

Bible Facts: High Five for Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Give each student an opportunity to say the Memory Verse for the class. When each one completes it, the students may show their approval as directed by the teacher. Help students who struggle with the memory work be successful. Give guests an opportunity to say the Memory Verse. Continue the display described in Lesson 4. See page 9 of this Guide for a sample display.

Prayer

Teaching Today's Lesson

1. For non-reading students, read Exodus 15:26. Have reading students find and mark Exodus 15:26 in the classroom Bibles.
2. Ask students to bring the Bibles and move to the Bible story area.
3. Establish the setting of the lesson by asking a student to point to the place on the time line when today's events took place.
4. Further establish the setting by asking a student to show the Israelites' route from Egypt to Canaan, specifically the Wilderness, on a map.
5. Introduce Lesson Graphics using "Gimme A Hand" Suitcase or "Hands-Up/Hang-It-Up."
6. Tell the story using the *God's Mighty Hand Lesson Graphics* and other props such as oyster crackers or frosted flakes for manna, roasted chicken for quail, a rock, and a stick. Talk about trusting God to take care of us.
7. Tell the story and teach the lesson emphasizing the following scenes and points, tailored to your age group:
 - Moses led the people into the Wilderness where there was not much food or water, but God provided.
 - God made bitter water sweet, so the people could drink it. He provided manna every



day so the people would have food to eat. He also provided quail so the people could have meat; and He provided water out of a rock so the people would have something to drink.

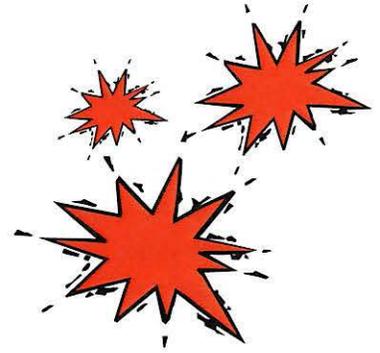
- God wanted the people to remember how He had taken care of them in the Wilderness. He had them take a jar of manna and put it near the Ark of the Covenant to help them remember.
8. Talk about how the children of Israel needed to see that all things come from God. They needed to trust Him. We need to trust Him too. Read Exodus 15:26.

**Things to Get or Do
for Sunday Morning**

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Lesson 8

God Provides for Israel



Theme: Faith—Trust in God as provider of our needs

Wednesday Night Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts: High Five for Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Repeat the Sunday Morning memory work activity for any students who were not present. Talk with all students about what the verse(s) tell us about God.

Prayer

Starter

Start the class with grumbling. Grumble about the weather, about what you had to wear, about having to teach, about having the same students week after week. Go on and on with a lot of grumbling. Grumble about the same things again. Keep grumbling until the students are feeling bad or have joined in the grumbling. Discuss how your grumbling made the students feel. Discuss how God must have felt when His people just kept grumbling.

Briefly Review the Lesson from Sunday Morning and Read Exodus 15:26.

Illustrations and Applications

-  1. **Objective: Demonstrate what to do with grumblings and blessings**
Make a sign attached to a trash can that reads, “Garbage Can for Grumbling.” Bring a big basket to class with a sign attached that reads, “Basket of Blessings.” On cards you pass out, have the students write on one card something they want to grumble about or that they do grumble about. On another card, ask them to write what they consider to be a blessing in their lives. Have each student read his or her grumbling, then wad it up and throw it in the *Garbage Can for Grumbling*. Have each student read his or her blessing, fold the card carefully, and put it in the *Basket of Blessings*. Explain how we should throw away grumbling and enjoy our blessings. Let students take their cards from the blessing basket home with them.
-  2. **Objective: Illustrate God’s feeding His people with manna and their obeying Him**
Spread new plastic on the floor and scatter popcorn all around it to represent manna.

Reenact an entire week with the students. Sunday, you put manna out and they go pick it up. They eat the manna and cannot hold any overnight. Monday, put manna out and they pick it up and eat it, and so on through Friday. Give the instructions about what must be done on Friday (Exodus 16:22-24). During the course of the week, you try to save some manna one day. Have a zip lock bag prepared that contains popcorn with fishing worms or artificial bait mixed in. Talk about what happened when someone kept the manna overnight. Discuss how God provided for His people, but that people must respect God and receive what He provides in the right way.

3. *Objective: Illustrate Israel's complaining about having no water and making application to our lives*

Let the students be Israel and say, "Moses, we want a drink. Moses, we want a drink." Have them "wander" around the room saying, "Moses, we want a drink." Next, explain that your class is in the Wilderness and gathered in a tent. Have the students sit quietly while you lead a prayer: "Lord, thank you so much for getting us out of Egypt. Thank you for being a powerful and loving God. Thank you for Moses, who is leading our nation. Dear Lord, we need your help. We have looked for water and can't find any. We know you are a powerful God. Please, Lord, help us find water to drink." Now change the scene to the students' dinner table. Describe the meal, and then have everyone grumble about the food. "Are we having meatloaf again? I hate meatloaf! Mom, can't we have pizza instead of broccoli? And on and on. Next, have the students come up with a better way to deal with what they don't like that shows respect and trust.

**Things to Get or Do
for Wednesday Night**

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