

***Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School: Lessons for Preschool – Kindergarten***

**Lesson 2.11: THE LORD PROVIDES FOR THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL — Ex. 16:4**

**TEACHER PREPARATION**

Read over Exodus 15:22, 16:4, and 17:7.

**WORSHIP CIRCLE**

**STORY AND DISCUSSION**

**Introduction:**

Last time you learned about when Moses was a baby in the bulrushes. He grew up to be a servant of the Lord, and led the children of Israel out of Egypt so they could stop being slaves and escape from the bad Pharaoh. But then Pharaoh and his soldiers began to chase after them. They came to a big sea of water called the Red Sea, and do you know what the Lord did? He opened up the water of the Red Sea so that the children of Israel could walk across safely, but when the Pharaoh and his soldiers began to go across, the water came crashing down on them. So the Lord saved the children of Israel from the Egyptians.

**Story:**

After Moses and the children of Israel had crossed the Red Sea, they went on into the wilderness. They traveled for several days, and then began to feel very hungry, and wondered what they could eat. The Lord said to them “I will rain bread from heaven for you.” In the morning, the children of Israel looked and saw something covering the ground. There were many, many tiny, white round things all over the place. The children of Israel asked “What is it?” Moses told them “This is the bread which the Lord has given you to eat.” They called it “Manna”, because “Manna” means “What? - and they didn’t know *what* it was.

So every morning the children of Israel came out and gathered up the Manna so they could make it into bread. The Manna tasted very sweet and good. Each family was supposed to gather up only enough for them to eat that day. If they gathered too much, the Manna would start to smell bad, and worms would grow in it. But on the day before the Sabbath day, which was their worship day, they were supposed to gather up enough for two days, so that on the Sabbath day they could rest and worship instead.

So now the children of Israel had Manna to eat in the morning, and in the evenings the Lord sent many birds called quail for them to use for meat to eat. Now they had plenty of food. The Lord had given them what they needed.

Now Moses and the children of Israel traveled further on to another part of the wilderness. There was no water there, and they were thirsty. They said to Moses, “Give us water, that we may drink.” Moses asked the Lord what he should do.

The Lord told Moses to go to a certain rock, and take his rod (his stick) in his hand and hit the rock with it. When Moses did this, the Lord made water come pouring out of the rock, and the children of Israel could drink. The Lord had given them what they needed again.

### **Concluding Discussion:**

1. The Lord sure gave the children of Israel everything they needed, didn't He? Does the Lord give us everything we need? What does He give us?
2. Soon we will have a special day called Thanksgiving. Do you know what we'll do on Thanksgiving? (Have a special church service, and bring fruit to the Lord. Have a special big dinner with our family and/or friends.)
3. Do you know why we celebrate Thanksgiving? It's a day that we especially think about all the wonderful things that the Lord has given us, and say "Thank You!" to Him.

### **PROJECT**

#### **Ahead of time:**

1. Trim for each child a paper lunch bag so that it is about two or three inches high. Write on the side of each one "The Lord sent Manna for the children of Israel". Also, photocopy the picture of the family saying the blessing so there is one for each child.

#### **Doing the Project:**

1. Spread a bagful of cotton balls out on the floor in a corner of the room. Have the children spread some glue in their little paper baskets. Say to them "Now we will pretend that we are the children of Israel. We are in the wilderness, and we are hungry. But Moses has told us that the Lord will send us bread from heaven. When we wake up in the morning, we see something on the ground! (Point to the cotton balls.) What do we call it? (Manna) What does Manna mean? (What) Yes. We call it that because we don't know what it is. Now we must take our baskets and gather up the Manna, but *remember* - the Lord has said to gather only as much as we need, so gather only enough to cover the glue at the bottom of your basket."
2. When the children finish gathering Manna, let them work on the picture of the family saying the blessing. Tell them to draw on the table some foods they think they might eat at Thanksgiving dinner, or some of their favorite foods. Point out that the family in the picture is thanking the Lord for their food.

**Oh Give Thanks Unto The LORD,  
For He Is Good, For His Mercy is Forever.**

**Amen.**

