

God Provides Manna

Theme God provides for His children.

Scripture- Exodus 16:12

Object- Popcorn, Bible

Video Connection: Saddleback Kids <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ogfVBP35U-U>

Songs- "Let My People Go" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZmeguN_5nJU

"I Am Bound for the Promise Land" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PDCTpjJsZbU>

"God Is So Good" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eBmi42a_kpc

"How Great Is Our God" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_QhQZGVjrPs

"What a Mighty God We Serve" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SDyD8poRNwA>

Lesson

Do you like to eat? What's your favorite thing to eat? (Allow kids to share.)

What if every morning you could open the front door and walk out into the yard and pick up your favorite food? All of it you could eat! That would be great, wouldn't it?

We read in the Bible about a time when something almost exactly like that happened. God's people, the Israelites, had been held as prisoners in Egypt for many years. When they were finally freed and left Egypt, they were looking for the land that God had promised them. After they had been wandering around lost in the desert for a couple of months, the people started to grumble and complain against their leaders, Moses and his brother, Aaron. (Invite kids to complain and grumble.)

"We had it better when we were in Egypt," they complained. "At least we had plenty to eat. God, You have brought us out here in the desert to starve us to death!"

God heard the people complaining and told Moses that in the evening He would send birds called quail to cover the camp so that the people would have meat to eat. Not only that, but in the morning, after the dew was gone, there would be manna on the ground for everyone to eat. (Instruct those with popcorn to throw it in the air.) All they had to do was go out, pick it up, and eat it.

Why did God do this for those grumblers and complainers? (Pause for responses.) He did it so that they would know that He loved them and that He would take care of them. God hadn't brought them out of Egypt to let them starve in the desert! God was going to see to it that they made it to the land which He had promised them.

Have kids pick up all the popcorn around them as though it's manna.

Sometimes you and I grumble and complain, don't we? When do you complain? (Pause for responses.) We forget that God loves us and that He provides us with everything that we need. Instead of grumbling and complaining, we can say, "Thank You, God" and let's do that right now!

Pray: Dear God, sometimes we grumble and complain. When we do, help us remember that every good thing we have comes from You. In Jesus' name, amen.

Group Activities

BIBLE BREAD: The teacher can have pictures of hidden breads around the designated area, that will have portions of the Bible verse on them. Encourage children to place the parts of the verse in order and also to try to put the parts in the shape of a loaf of bread. OR the teacher can have a very large outline of a loaf of bread for the children to put their pictures into.

JOURNEY WALK: If the weather permits, take the children on a JOURNEY WALK that goes up and down and over and under obstacles along the way. Tell children to grumble and complain and then at the end of the JOURNEY, let children talk about the hard walk and what the Israelites went through with very little to eat and drink. Give children a SNACK at the end of the WALK --- mini loaves of bread or muffins could be served, or MONKEY BREAD!!!!

BREAD TREAT: As children line up and are ready to leave the classroom, the teacher could have a MINI loaf of bread (tins can be purchased at any retail or \$ store and using a partial loaf of frozen bread for each tin, from the grocery store makes this treat very simple), for each child who could answer a question or recite the Bible verse, etc.

GATHERING MANNA RELAY: Divide children into teams and let them see which team can find all the "manna" pasta that has been spread all over the floor and get the most manna in their team bowls in the allotted time that the teacher gives them.



10 While Aaron was speaking to the whole Israelite community, they looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of the Lord appearing in the cloud.

11 The Lord said to Moses, **12** "I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, 'At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God.'"

13 That evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. **14** When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor. **15** When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was.

Moses said to them, "It is the bread the Lord has given you to eat. **16** This is what the Lord has commanded: 'Everyone is to gather as much as they need. Take an omer^[a] for each person you have in your tent.'"

17 The Israelites did as they were told; some gathered much, some little. **18** And when they measured it by the omer, the one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little. Everyone had gathered just as much as they needed.

19 Then Moses said to them, "No one is to keep any of it until morning."

20 However, some of them paid no attention to Moses; they kept part of it until morning, but it was full of maggots and began to smell. So Moses was angry with them.

21 Each morning everyone gathered as much as they needed, and when the sun grew hot, it melted away. **22** On the sixth day, they gathered twice as much—two omers^[b] for each person—and the leaders of the community came and reported this to Moses. **23** He said to them, "This is what the Lord commanded: 'Tomorrow is to be a day of sabbath rest, a holy sabbath to the Lord. So bake what you want to bake and boil what you want to boil. Save whatever is left and keep it until morning.'"

24 So they saved it until morning, as Moses commanded, and it did not stink or get maggots in it. **25** "Eat it today," Moses said, "because today is a sabbath to the Lord. You will not find any of it on the ground today. **26** Six days you are to gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will not be any."

27 Nevertheless, some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather it, but they found none. **28** Then the Lord said to Moses, "How long will you^[c] refuse to keep my commands and my instructions? **29** Bear in mind that the Lord has given you the Sabbath; that is why on the sixth day he gives you bread for two days. Everyone is to stay where they are on the seventh day; no one is to go out." **30** So the people rested on the seventh day.

31 The people of Israel called the bread manna.^[d] It was white like coriander seed and tasted like wafers made with honey. **32** Moses said, "This is what the Lord has commanded: 'Take an omer of manna and keep it for the generations to come, so they can see the bread I gave you to eat in the wilderness when I brought you out of Egypt.'"

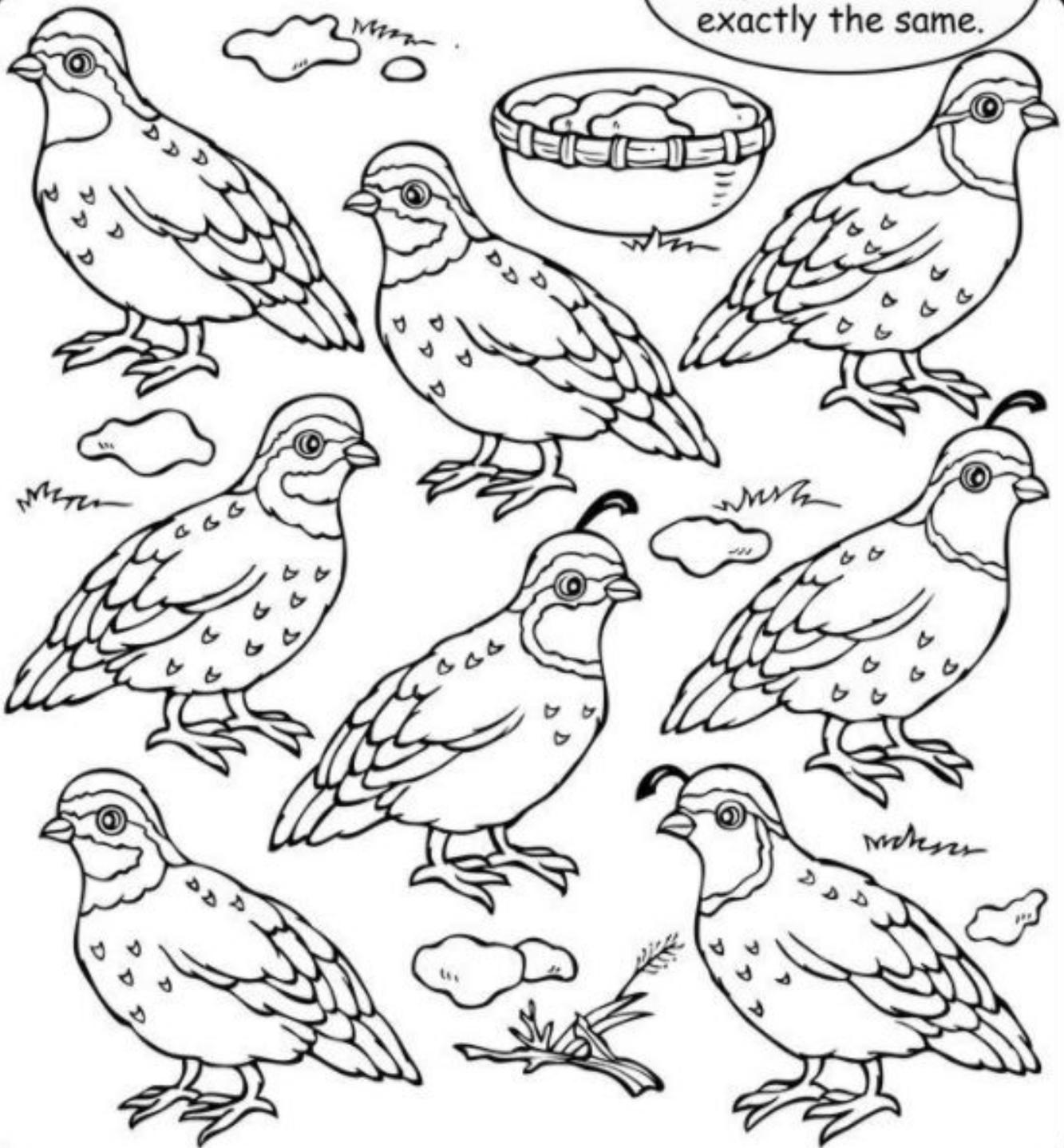
33 So Moses said to Aaron, "Take a jar and put an omer of manna in it. Then place it before the Lord to be kept for the generations to come."

34 As the Lord commanded Moses, Aaron put the manna with the tablets of the covenant law, so that it might be preserved. **35** The Israelites ate manna forty years, until they came to a land that was settled; they ate manna until they reached the border of Canaan.

36 (An omer is one-tenth of an ephah.)

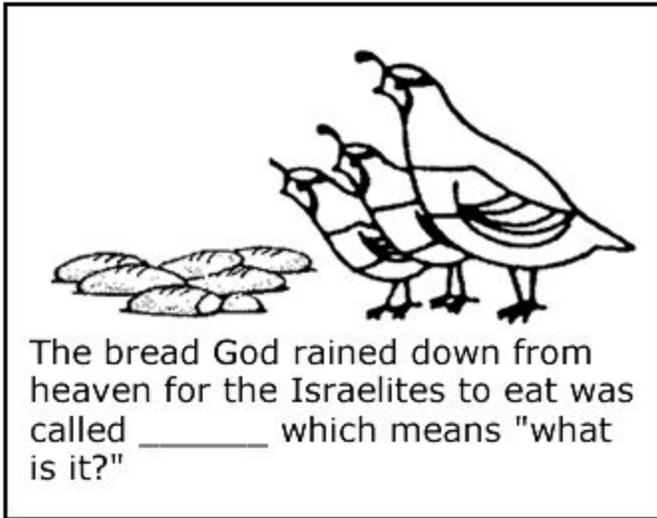
SPECIAL FOOD: MANNA & QUAIL

Find and circle
2 quails that look
exactly the same.



After the Israelites left Egypt, God sent quails for meat and gave them manna for bread to eat in the wilderness. The Israelites ate manna for forty years. God took care of them. (Exodus 16)

Jumble



BDREA

2

QLUAI

5

PAMC

1

HAEVNE

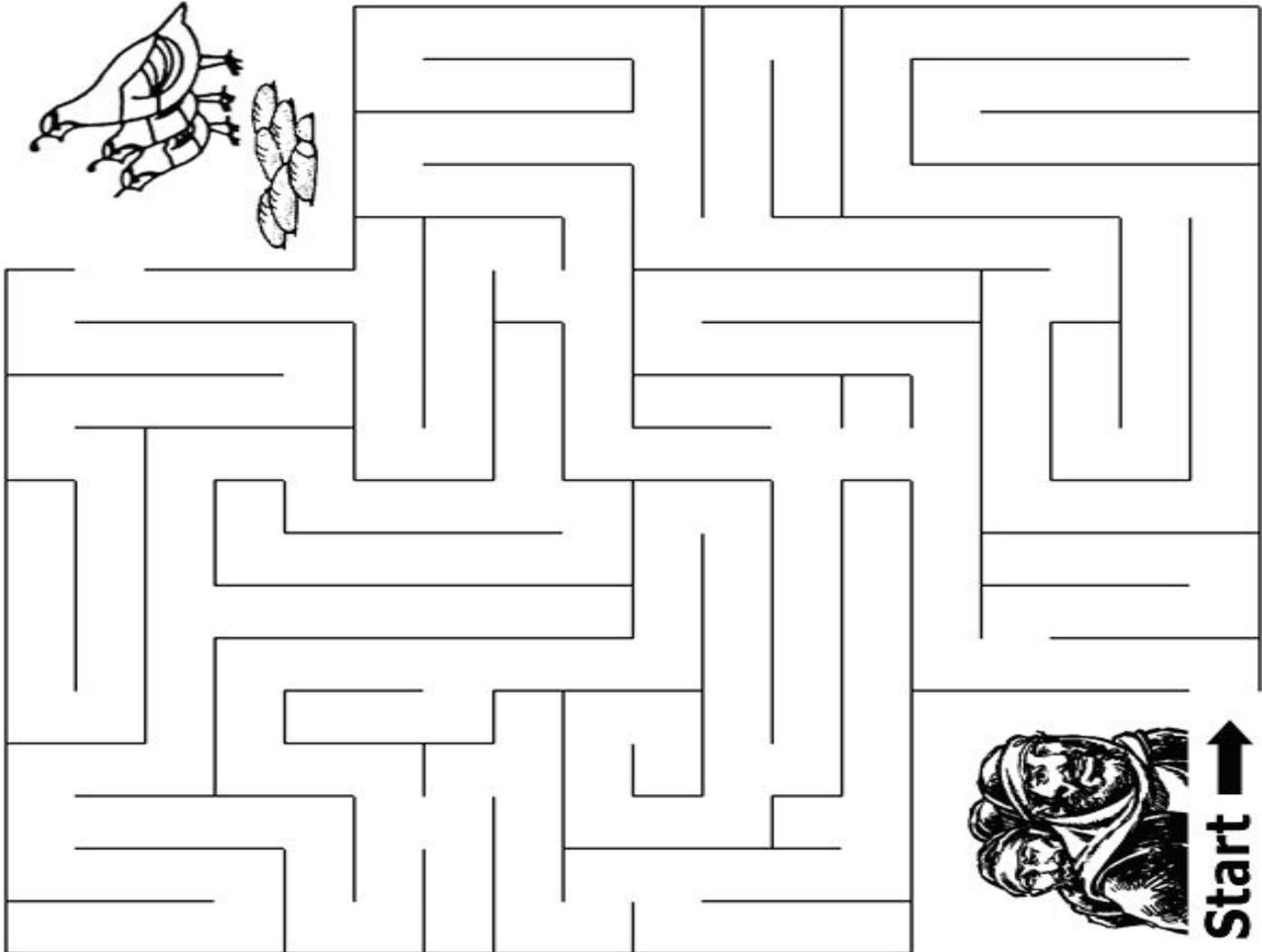
3

MROINGN

4

ANSWER:

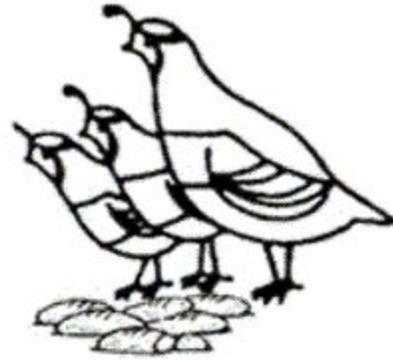
1 2 3 4 5



Dinner on the Ground

"I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, 'At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.' "

Exodus 16:12 (NIV)



N P C C R T Q U A I L H T C H
U T H B A N D A C A M P I P E
F D S E S O B D M E I T C B A
B M M O O W R D E O G A V E V
T S C F V R E H U A R Y R A E
Y W S K E I A A Z O T N P T N
D Q I H Z D D D A A T H I T L
S F T L D E S E R T N M O N D
T A J S I X W E Y O M O K F G
G H G D P G V E R G H S G I T
C Z R W C R H A P K E E W H I
P O W P A S A T Q N U S G C A
L Q S T X R G R U M B L E D Y
E P S I S W V E N O U G H E A
V I Q I S R A E L I T E S Y H

desert
grumbled
Moses
Aaron

Israelites
Egypt
meat
food

starve
death
LORD
heaven

gather
enough
bread
morning

twilight
quail
camp
eat