

## Unit 3: Harvest

**Faith Focus:** God provides for our needs.

*The LORD bless you and protect you. (Numbers 6:24)*

### SESSION 10

## GROW IN FAITH

### God Provides When You Need It Most— Exodus 15:22–17:7

The Israelites were free from slavery after more than 400 years. After celebrating, they started a long journey out of Egypt and across the Reed Sea and found themselves in the wilderness. Neither food nor water was abundant in this desert. The people became anxious and began to complain and wish they had never left Egypt. God responded by sending quail in the evening and manna in the morning. God provided just what they needed and no more. Each person, regardless of how much manna was collected, ended up with the right amount. Any leftovers went bad.

This story may evoke thoughts and emotions around scarcity or even ungratefulness. Many people might not know abundance, and not everyone values sharing. Both are important ways to look at the story to gain better understanding.

- Explore the relationship between God and God’s people.
- Discuss some ways the world has both abundance and scarcity.

## SUPPLIES

scissors

colored pencils

basket

sticky notes

crayons

plastic bowl

spoon

measuring cups

measuring spoons

flour

salt

cream of tartar

vegetable oil

water

electric kettle

food coloring (optional)

TV and DVD player or  
streaming device

## SESSION OUTLINE

### COME TOGETHER

Prepare to Learn

Faith Focus—God Provides  
for Our Needs

Gratitude Basket (Reflection)

### FAITH CONNECTIONS

Read the Story

Big Faith Video

Faith Response

### FUN WITH FAITH

Make Your Own Dough  
(Cooking)

Manna and Quail Story Order  
(Sequencing)

I’ve Got the Manna  
(Game)

### SHARE YOUR FAITH

Big Faith Idea—Faith in God

# COME TOGETHER

## Prepare to Learn

*Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack, Activity Sheets, Activity Stickers*

*Prepare Ahead: Set up your area with supplies and activity pages needed for today's session. Display the Unit 3 Bible Verse Poster (Class Pack—pp. 9 & 16) and Unit 3 Faith Focus Poster (Class Pack—pp. 5 & 20) to use later in the session.*

- As children arrive, invite them to join you in a circle.
- Give each child a copy of the "Fall Sticker Page" (Activity Sheets—p. 29) and their own set of Activity Stickers. Have children place the manna sticker on the Session 10 space.

**SAY:** Everyone has needs. We need food and water to help us grow. We need exercise to help us get strong. Sometimes we need comfort and care from a good friend. Today's story will remind us that God cares about our needs. God provides for us.

## Faith Focus—God Provides for Our Needs

*Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack*

*Prepare Ahead: Display the Unit 3 Faith Focus Poster (Class Pack—pp. 5 & 20).*

- Show children the Unit 3 Faith Focus Poster.

**SAY:** Our faith focus for today is "God provides for our needs." God cares about us. God wants us to have everything we need.

**ASK:** Have you ever needed something? Who helped you? Have you ever helped someone else?

- Give children time and space to share their ideas.

## Gratitude Basket

*Supplies: Activity Sheets, scissors, colored pencils, basket*

*Prepare Ahead: Tear out "Gratitude Basket" (Session 10 Activity Sheet) for each child.*

**SAY:** In today's story, God provides the Israelites manna, or bread from heaven. The people were in the desert and very hungry. The people were very grateful to God for the manna. Let's take time to think about what we are grateful for today.

- Invite the children to follow the instructions to write things they are grateful for and cut out the manna.

- Have a basket in the center of the group for the children to place their gratitude manna into.

**SAY:** Later, we will pray together for what we are grateful for.

## FAITH CONNECTIONS

### Read the Story

*Supplies: CEB kids' Bible or CEB Bible storybook*

- Invite the children to join you in a circle.
- Read Exodus 15:22–17:7 in a CEB kids' Bible or your favorite CEB Bible storybook. The story is very long, so the storybook Bible may be preferable in this case.

**ASK:** What did God provide for Moses and the Israelites in the desert? How did the people respond?

### Big Faith Video

*Supplies: Big Faith DVD, TV, DVD player or streaming device*

- Watch the Session 10 video on the Big Faith DVD or via your Amplify Media subscription.
- Give children time to respond to the questions on the screen. Discuss the questions as partner pairs, in small groups, or all together.

**ASK:** What was your favorite part of the Bible story?

### Faith Response

*Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack, sticky notes, crayons*

*Prepare Ahead: Display the Unit 3 Bible Verse Poster (Class Pack—pp. 9 & 16), Unit 3 Faith Focus Poster (Class Pack—pp. 5 & 20), and Unit 3 Faith Response Poster (Class Pack—pp. 7 & 18) if you haven't already.*

- Invite children to wonder about the images on the posters.
- Encourage children to say the Bible verse with you.

**SAY:** God provided good water for the Israelites from a tree. Then God led the people to water so the people could camp nearby. The people still needed bread. God made bread rain down from heaven every day, except the seventh day, when people were instructed to rest. God gave the people meat, too. When it was time for the people to move on to a new place, the people complained that they did not have water anymore. The people forgot that God provided for their needs in incredible ways. God provided more water for the people.

**ASK:** Have you ever been hungry? How did you feel? What did you do? How did you feel once you had what you needed?

- Place the Faith Response Poster on the floor or a table and invite the children to gather around it.
- Give each child a sticky note and crayons.

**ASK:** What do you see on our poster?

**SAY:** This table reminds us that God provides for us. Our theme for this unit is Harvest. A harvest is the time when farmers collect all the crops from the fields and prepare those crops for people to eat. During the harvest, we remember that we have a lot to be grateful for and that we can help others.

- Encourage each child to write one thing he or she can do to help those in need and stick the note onto the poster.

## FUN WITH FAITH

### Make Your Own Dough

**Supplies:** plastic bowl, spoon, measuring cups, measuring spoons, flour, salt, cream of tartar, vegetable oil, water, electric kettle, food coloring (optional)

**SAY:** God provided manna and quail for the people in the desert. Today, we will make our own dough to play with to remind us of all the things God provides for us.

- Have the children gather around the bowl.
- Use an electric kettle to boil water. Hot water will make the dough combine more easily and have a smoother texture.
- You will need: 3 cups of flour,  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup table salt, 3 teaspoons cream of tartar,  $\frac{3}{4}$  tablespoon vegetable oil, and  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup boiling water. You can add food coloring if you choose.
- Have the children take turns adding ingredients and stirring the dough.
- Divide the dough and give each child a piece.
- Encourage the children to use the dough to make items that God provided to the Israelites during their time in the desert.

### Manna and Quail Story Order

**Supplies:** CEB kids' Bibles, colored pencils, scissors

**Prepare Ahead:** Make copies of "Manna and Quail Story Order" (Leader Guide—p. 70).

**SAY:** Our story showed us lots of ways that God provided for the people of Israel. Let's see if we can get them in order.

- Give each child a copy of “Manna and Quail Story Order” and encourage the children to color the illustrations.
- Have the children find the story in their CEB kids’ Bibles in Exodus 15:22–17:7.
- Invite the children to cut out the illustrations and put the cards in story order.

## I’ve Got the Manna

**Supplies:** manna cutout from “Gratitude Basket”

**SAY:** The Israelites had to seek out the manna every morning to eat for the day. We are going to search for our own manna.

- Choose one child to hide a piece of manna while the other children close their eyes.
- Have the children search for the manna around the room. If they have a hard time finding the manna, have the hider help them by saying “hot” when the children are close to the manna and “cold” if the children are far from it.
- Whoever finds the manna gets to hide the manna next. Play the game until everyone has had a turn.

## SHARE YOUR FAITH

### Big Faith Idea—Faith in God

**Supplies:** All-Ages Class Pack, basket of manna from “Gratitude Basket”

**Prepare Ahead:** Display the Fall Big Faith Idea Poster (Class Pack—pp. 4 & 21).

Photocopy the Unit 3 Family Faith Letter (Leader Guide—pp. 95–96) for each child.

- Show children the Big Faith Idea Poster.

**SAY:** We are very grateful for the ways God provides for us. When we remember what we are grateful for, we can also remember that God loves us.

- Have the children gather in a circle.
- Read the words written on the manna in the basket.

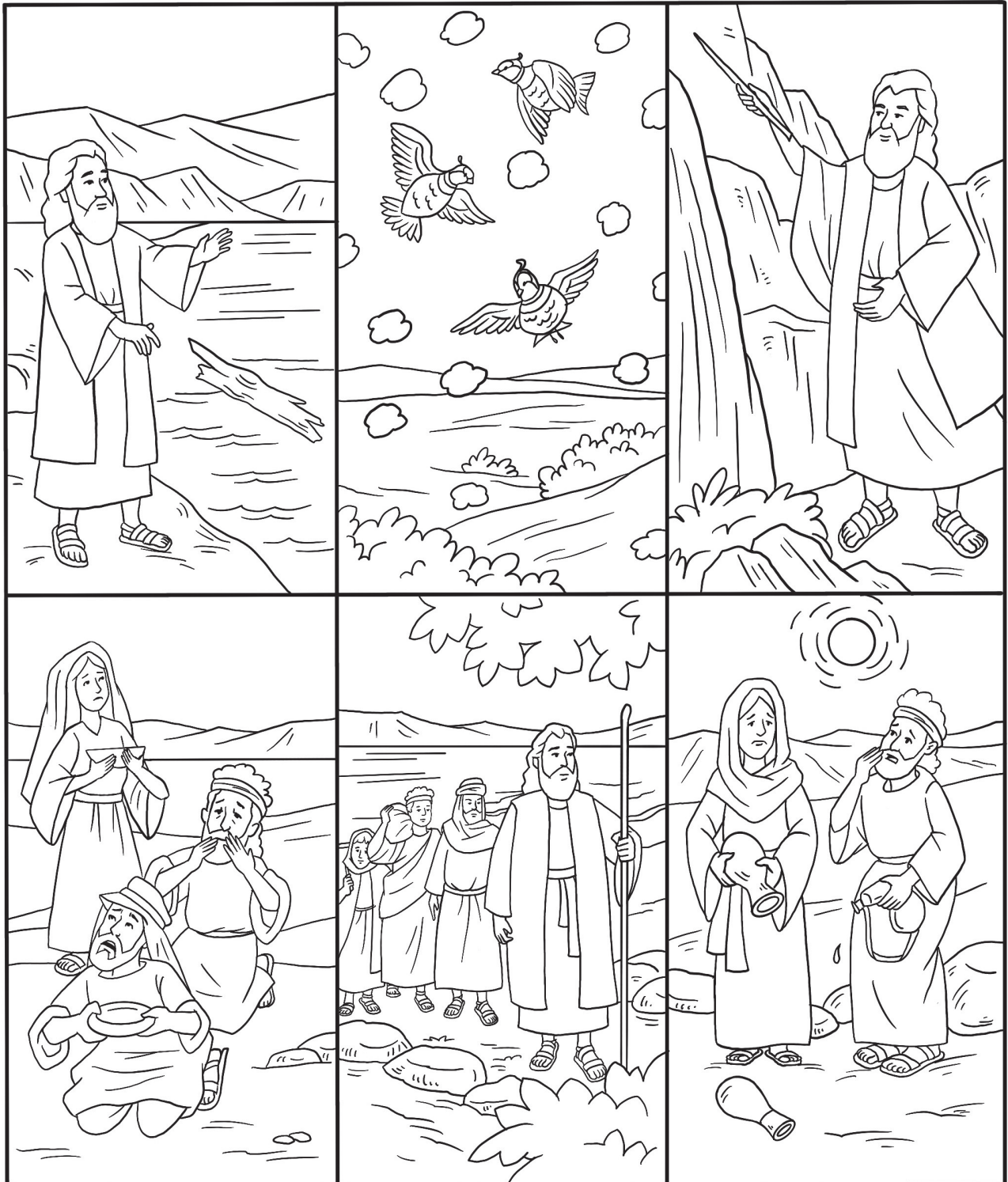
**PRAY:** Dear God, thank you for all the ways you provide for us. Help us learn about the different ways you can use us to provide for others. Amen.

- Send the Family Faith Letter home with each child.
- Send home any activities or items made during today’s session.

## REPRODUCIBLE SESSION 10

### Manna and Quail Story Order

Color the illustrations. Cut out each panel. Using Exodus 15:22–17:7, put the story in order.



Art: Carolyn Williams/Gwen Walters Artists' Representative