

# Unit 1: God Blesses Us!

## 4.5 Manna and Quail

Exodus 16:1-18

10/1 & 10/5

**Unit Verse:** “May the LORD bless you and protect you. May the LORD smile on you and be gracious to you. May the LORD show you his favor and give you his peace. Numbers 6:24-26

**The Point & Call Back:**  
GOD> blesses us!

### ***MAKING CONNECTIONS:***

We have another story of God’s provision: the story of manna, or bread from heaven. This story follows shortly after God has delivered the people of Israel out of Egyptian slavery and through the Red Sea. Now, the people have run out of food and have begun complaining loudly about their leader, Moses. They moan that it would have been better if they had died in Egypt rather than die of hunger in the desert. Despite their lack of trust in God, God lovingly provides for them the miraculous manna, bread from heaven.

### ***STORY SUMMARY: Manna and Quail***

The people of Israel experienced the miracles of the ten plagues, the institution of the Passover, and the parting of the Red Sea all in about one month. However, despite what seems to us as incredible evidence of God’s direct care and provision for the people, they still did not trust God or Moses. In their distrust, the people began to worry that they were going to die of hunger in the desert. Their worry led to complaints against Moses, but in doing so they indirectly complained against God. God was not happy about the people’s complaints. God did not respond with judgement, but with love and compassion by providing the people with quail and manna to eat. God’s loving gifts provide the focus for this lesson.

### ***THE POINT: God sends blessings even when people complain and grumble.***

It never seems to be enough. We often hear people grumble about wanting more than what they have. This was even happening in the time of the OT. The Israelites had been freed from slavery, had experienced miracles, and had a leader in Moses- yet they complained. In the midst of these complaints, God proves God’s love by providing them with food and water.

(S&T)

Hope Youth Volunteers,

Can you relate to the feeling of wanting more? I know I can. This story is a good example of how even when we grumble and complain about wanting more, God looks on us with love and compassion. God loves you and is walking with you in your wrestling and your wants. As an act of worship, consider ways that God has provided. Then turn to Him in prayer and thank Him for the ways and places you see Him working in your life.

As I am typing this, I am reflecting on all of you youth volunteers who have taken the call to share the love of Jesus with the youth of Hope! Thank you for your obedience, drive and passion for loving and serving the Lord and His kids. And thank you for being a bridge builder! You make a difference in the lives of our youth, and we are praying that this year relationships are formed between God and his children as well as you yourself.

Blessings,

The Hope Youth Team