

# Lesson 50

## Manna in the Desert

### Opening Prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

You have give us a day of rest to remember You. Teach us to remember to say “Thank You” for all You have done.

In Jesus’ name. Amen.

### Memory Work:

#### Bible Verse:

Exodus 16:15 – When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?”

#### Catechism:

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

### Focus:

The Third Commandment tells us to take a day of rest to focus on God, remember His benefits and give thanks for His blessings. The world tells us to work, play, or anything else but remember God. Take some time to pause and remember the God who created us. He knows what we need, more than we do.

### Notes

‘Manna’ in sounds like the words for “What is it?” in Hebrew.

### Lesson: Exodus 16:1-35

The whole community of Israelites followed Moses. In the desert they complained about Moses and Aaron. The Israelites said to them, “If only the LORD had left us in Egypt! There we plenty to eat! You brought us out into the desert to let us all starve!”



The LORD said to Moses, “I’m going to send you food from heaven like rain. Each day the people should go out and gather only what they need for that day. On the sixth day it should be twice as much as they gather on other days so they will gather nothing on the seventh day called the Sabbath day or Day of Rest.”



So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “Tomorrow you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of Egypt.” Moses also said, “The LORD will give you all the food you want in the morning. The LORD has heard your complaining. You’re not complaining about us but about God.



In the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the dew was gone, the ground was covered with a thin layer of flakes like frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they asked each other, “What is this?” because they didn’t know what it was.

Moses said to them, “It’s the food the LORD has given you to eat. This is what the LORD has commanded: Each of you should gather only as much as you can eat.” Then Moses said to them, “No one may keep any of it until morning.”

But some of them didn’t listen to Moses. They kept some until morning, and it was full of worms and smelled bad. So Moses was angry with them.



On the sixth day Moses said to the people, “This is what the LORD said: Tomorrow is a day of rest—a holy day dedicated to the LORD. Bake what you want to bake, and boil what you want to boil. Save all that’s left over, and keep it until tomorrow so you have food to eat. No work should be done tomorrow.”



So they saved it until the next morning as Moses had commanded, but it didn’t smell or have worms in it. “Eat it today,” Moses said, “because today is a day of rest—a holy day dedicated to the LORD. You won’t find anything on the ground today. You can gather food on six days, but on the seventh day, the day of rest, you won’t find any.”

On the seventh day some people went out to gather food, but they didn’t find any. The LORD said to Moses, “How long will you refuse to do what I have told you to do? Remember: The LORD has given you this day of rest as a holy day. That’s why He gives you enough food on the sixth day for two days. On the seventh day stay in your place—no one is to go out. So the people never worked on the seventh day of the week.

The Israelites called the food Manna (which means: ‘What is it?’) It was like coriander seeds. It was white and tasted like wafers made with honey.



The Israelites ate manna for 40 years until they came to a place to settle. They ate manna until they came to the border of Canaan.

**Review:**

**Why did the people complain?** There was no food.

**What did God do to help them?** Sent “food from heaven like rain” or Manna.

**How much food should they collect each day?** Only what they could eat in one day.

**How many days per week did God send the food?** Six days per week.

**How much food were the people to collect on the sixth day?** Enough for two days.

**How did the food come?** In the night rain, or in the dew in the morning.

**Did everyone listen to God’s Word?** No. Some collected more than they could eat in one day.

**What happened to the leftovers?** It was filled with worms.

**Did that happen on the sixth day?** No. The food collected on the sixth day lasted two day.

**How long did the happen?** Every week for 40 years.

**Closing Prayer:**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Thank You for all You do to care for us. Teach us to remember, each day, how much You love us.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.