 LESSON 12 MAY 17, 2020

**God Provides Food in the Wilderness**

*Going Without*

- In the space below, list five items that are most essential to your survival.

1. ____________________________________________________
2. ____________________________________________________
3. ____________________________________________________
4. ____________________________________________________
5. ____________________________________________________

With your class, think and talk about what it would be like to live for a day without these five items.

- What sort of day would it be? _____________________________

- How would it feel to be without something you need or be unable to provide for yourself? _____________________________

EXODUS 16:2-15 (NRSV)

2 The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.

3 The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

4 Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.

5 On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.”

6 So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt,

7 and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?”
8 And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

9 Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’”

10 And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud.

11 The Lord spoke to Moses and said,

12 “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

13 In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.

14 When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground.

15 When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

KEY VERSE: “I’ve heard the complaints of the Israelites. Tell them, ‘At twilight you will eat meat. And in the morning you will have your fill of bread. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God.’” — Exodus 16:12 (CEB)

ANXIETY STORY TIME

- Use the space below to write a short story about a moment in your life when you felt the most worried or anxious.

_______________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________

- Write a short prayer asking for God’s grace and comfort during moments of anxiety or stress.

_______________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________
TASTE THE BREAD
Gather at least five different types or kinds of bread (such as sourdough, rolls, crackers, etc.) and present each type on a different plate. Have the class try them. Use the space below to make notes about the different kinds of bread you taste in regards to texture, taste, scent, and overall appeal. Also, describe what you liked/disliked about each type of bread.

Consider the following: Why do you think bread is so important in the Bible? What are some ways that bread sustains life? How can bread be a symbol of God’s grace in our lives?

BREAD FOR EVERYONE
There are several ways your class can work together to help provide food for others:

- Baking bread and delivering it to homebound members of your congregation
- Leading a church-wide food drive for a local food bank
- Volunteering to serve a meal to the local homeless population
- Other ideas: __________________________________________

Research these ideas and create a plan of action for an idea of your choosing.

PLAN OF ACTION:

_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________