

God is: **THE PROVIDER!!**



The fourth attribute we will be learning about is: **God is the Provider!** What does it mean to be a provider? **TO PROVIDE** means to supply or meet one's needs. When we think about how **God PROVIDES**, we might consider the following story to see how God cared for His people while they continued in the desert after fleeing the Egyptians.

Scripture lesson: Water, Manna, and Quail

Our scripture lesson for today can be found in Exodus 15:22-27 and Exodus 16 in your NIV Bible, or pages 91-93 and 110-112 in the Egermeier Bible.

Memory verse: "Every good and perfect gift is from above . . ." James 1:17a

Thinking about it: Last week we talked about **God the Deliverer**, when He brought the Israelites out of Egypt and rescued them from Pharaoh and his soldiers by parting the Red Sea. God saved them from being recaptured or killed! Now, the Israelites—around **2 MILLION people**—found themselves in the vast desert with no lasting supplies of food or water. Even though they had just witnessed God miraculously deliver them, they wondered how their needs could possibly **be provided** to them. The people began to complain to Moses, saying, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt only to die! We had all the food we could eat when we lived there, even though we were slaves. What are we supposed to drink? What are we supposed to eat?" These WERE reasonable questions, considering the people were walking through a desert—a **DESERT!** Guess what? **GOD PROVIDED!** God heard their cries and **provided** for their needs! God addressed Moses and told him to find a piece of wood and directed him to throw it into a pool of water. The water, which had just been bitter and unsafe to drink, became sweet and fresh. God asked them to trust Him and follow His commands, and He would take care of their needs. After a time the Israelites complained again, fearing they would starve. So God spoke again with Moses, explaining that God would rain down bread from heaven for the Israelites, a substance called manna. When the Israelites

tired of manna He then caused quails to fly into the camp for them to catch and roast. God is so amazing! Even though the Israelites complained and struggled to trust Him, God continued **to provide** for their needs and care for them.

Video: **Saddleback Kids: Moses in the Wilderness**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ogfVBP35U-U>

Activity: Today we will be making a quail out of a small paper plate (or a circle of sturdy paper), a real feather for the tail, and sturdy paper for the wing and top for the head feather as well as the legs. Directions and a picture of the craft can be found at the website Danielle's Place:

<https://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-crafts-moses-manna.html#quailcrafts>

Questions:

- Why were the Israelites afraid?
- What did they say to Moses?
- How did God answer their cry for water?
- What did God ask of them?
- What did God provide for the Israelites when they were hungry?
- How did the Israelites respond to this?
- What happened when the Israelites didn't obey God's directions about gathering the manna?
- How do you see God providing for you and your family?
- How should we respond to God's provision?



Key Idea: God cares for and provides for His people!

Prayer: Dear God, we thank you so much for all You provide for us! You are the giver of all good things: our family and friends, our food and water and shelter, our clothing and all the blessings in our lives! Help us to remember to stop and thank you when we feel like complaining about things. Turn our hearts to You so that we might always see the ways You provide for us every day.

In Jesus name we pray, AMEN.