



ONE DAY AT A TIME

BIG IDEA

I don't have to control tomorrow, because my Father is already there providing enough.

SCRIPTURE

Exodus chapter 16

What did you discover about God in this passage? What did you learn about mankind in this passage?

OPENER

What are you most thankful for this week? What are the challenges you are facing this week?

QUESTIONS

1. Exodus 16:2-3 says that the whole community grumbled about the things that they no longer had. What have you found yourself missing and grumbling about during this pandemic?
2. Why do you think the Jewish people did not follow God's direction to only collect one day's worth of manna at a time (except for the Sabbath)? Can you think of a time when you knew what God wanted you to do, yet you did not do it? What life lesson did you learn from that experience? How do you react when you are asked to have faith that God will provide for your needs each day instead of having all the answers and resources ahead of time?
3. God provided the Israelites with manna which probably wasn't what they had in mind when they asked for food. Have you ever asked God for something and He provided, but not in the way you expected? Explain.
4. Bread (food) sustains our bodies in this life. Jesus is the living bread that gives us eternal life. Matthew 4:4 says ...People do not live by bread alone, but by every **word** that comes from the mouth of God. From this verse, what do you believe Jesus is telling us about our priorities in relationship to "bread"? What is required of us to receive both from Him?
5. What future plans have you had to put on hold because of the pandemic? How do you feel about that?
6. Share an "I will..." statement with the group on how you plan to obey what you've learned this week.



TAKEAWAY

- Our emotions can warp our view of reality (perfect past, impossible future).
- Bring your feelings to God; Your Father is waiting for you come to Him.
- In this desert we are in, God wants us to experience Him like we never have before.
- Jesus is The Bread of Life for our eternal salvation and we can trust Him for our “daily bread”.
- “Daily bread” is total confidence that God will provide again tomorrow. Where you see no resources, He will provide one day at a time.

REFERENCES

Matthew 6:11, 6:33,34

Luke 12:22-32

John 6:33

2 Corinthians 5:7

Philippians 4:11-13

DIGGING DEEPER

- We as American Christians are often found using our strengths and our treasure planning for a future that is not guaranteed, while forgetting to trust and praise the Lord for our daily provision. We put a lot of our efforts into that future and as a result are often left without needed time for today and what Christ might have for us to do. (James 4:13-15)
 - What do we miss doing in the present, when our focus is on our future life in this world?
 - How do we get the right balance of working hard and planning without living in the future and losing our focus on doing God’s work today and trusting Him with our future?
- Exodus is a history lesson about the early days of the Jewish nation/people. It has been said that, “those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it”. Explain how Samuel, Judges, Kings and Chronicles bear this out. Are we that different today? Discuss.
- Read 1 Corinthians 15:45-50 and Ephesians 5:31-32. God reveals His plans and future work first in the “natural” world. God has embedded spiritual truth in the natural world. If we have “eyes to see” we will recognize these truths?
 - How is Manna an example of the natural world revealing a bigger spiritual truth?
 - How is marriage an example of the natural world revealing (and representing) a bigger spiritual truth?
 - How might COVID-19 be an example of the natural world revealing a bigger spiritual truth?