

**Story Time: Read the story to the children:**  
**Lesson 41: BREAD FROM HEAVEN**  
**Exodus 16:1-35**

On the fifteenth day of the second month after the Israelites had escaped from Egypt, they left Elim and started through the western edge of the Sinai Desert in the direction of Mount Sinai. There in the desert they started complaining to Moses and Aaron, "We wish the LORD had killed us in Egypt. When we lived there, we could at least sit down and eat all the bread and meat we wanted. But you have brought us out here into this desert, where we are going to starve."

The Lord told Moses, "I will send bread down from heaven just like rain. Every day the people can go out and pick up only enough to eat for that day. That's how I will see if they are going to obey me. But on the sixth day of each week they have to pick up and cook twice as much." (That way they wouldn't have to work by picking up the bread on the Sabbath day). Moses and Aaron told the people, "Tonight you will know that the Lord was the one who rescued you from Egypt. And in the morning you will see his glorious power, because He has heard you complaining against Him. Why should you complain to us? Who are we?" Then Moses said, "You will know it is the Lord when He gives you meat every night and more than enough bread every morning. He is really the one you are complaining about, not us--we are nobodies--but the Lord has heard your complaints." Moses turned to Aaron and said, "Bring the people together." Aaron was speaking to them, when everyone looked out toward the desert and they saw the bright glory of the Lord in a big cloud. The Lord told Moses, "I have heard my people complaining. Now tell them that every night they will have meat and every morning they will have more than enough bread. Then they will know that I am the Lord their God." Then, that night a lot of quails, which are small birds, came and landed everywhere in the camp, and the next morning the dew covered the ground. After the dew had dried up and gone away, the desert was covered with thin little flakes that looked like snow frost. The people had never seen anything like this, and they started asking each other, "What is it?" Moses answered them and said, "This is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat. And He orders you to gather a container of it for each person in your family--that should be more than enough." They all did just as they were told. Some gathered more and some gathered less, because some needed more, and some

needed less, and nothing was left over. Moses told them not to keep any of the bread overnight. Some of them disobeyed, but the next morning the bread that they kept was stinking and all full of icky worms, and Moses was angry with them for disobeying the Lord. Each morning everyone gathered just as much as they needed for that day, and in the heat of the day the rest melted away. However, on the sixth day of the week, everyone picked up enough to have two containers for each person instead of one. When the leaders reported this to Moses, he told them that the Lord had said, "Tomorrow is the Sabbath day, a sacred day of rest in honor of Me. So pick up all you want to bake or boil, and make sure you save enough for tomorrow." So the people obeyed, and the next morning the food smelled fine and had no worms. "You can eat the food," Moses said. "Today is the Sabbath day in honor of the Lord, and there won't be any of this food on the ground today. You will find it there for the first six days of the week, but not on the Sabbath day." A few of the Israelites did go out to look for some, but there wasn't any. Then the Lord said, "Moses, how long will you people keep disobeying my laws and teachings? Remember that I was the one who gave you the Sabbath day. That's why on the sixth day I gave you enough bread for two days. Everyone is supposed to stay home and rest on the Sabbath." And so they rested on the Sabbath. The Israelites called the bread manna. It was white and delicious like wafers made with sweet honey. Moses told the people that the Lord said, "Save one container of this manna, because I want future generations of people to see the food that I gave you during the time you were in the desert after I rescued you from Egypt." Then Moses told Aaron, "Put some manna in a jar and store it in the place of worship for future generations to see." Aaron followed the Lord's instructions and put the manna in front of the sacred chest for safekeeping. The Israelites ate manna for forty years, before they came to the border of the land called Canaan.

**41. BREAD FROM HEAVEN**  
**EXODUS 16:4-35**



# **41. BREAD FROM HEAVEN**

## **(EXODUS 16:4-35)**

### **MEMORY VERSE:**

“For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” JOHN 6:33

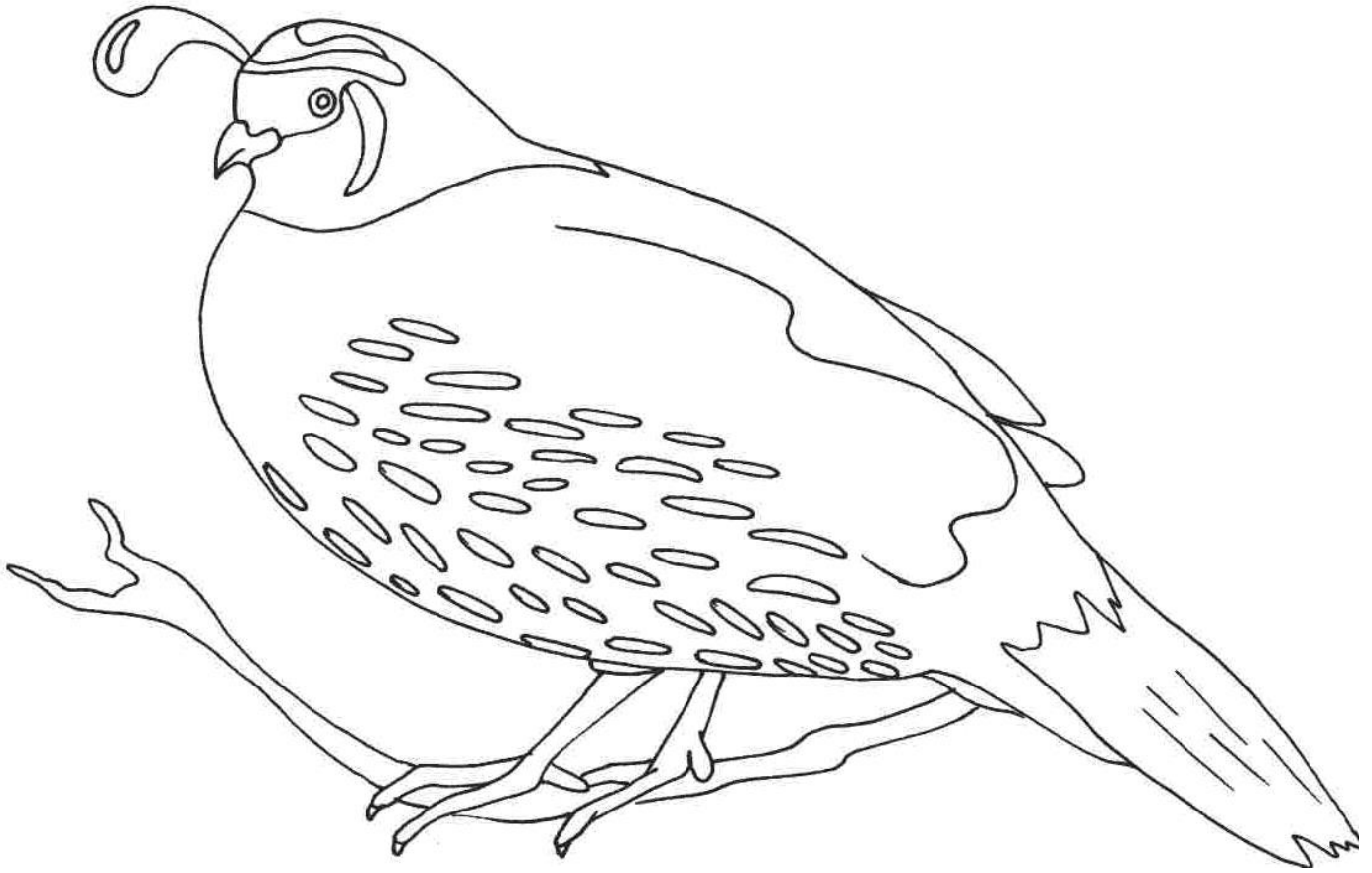
### **TRUE OR FALSE**

1. The Lord baked bread in ovens for the children of Israel.  
TRUE or FALSE
2. The bread from heaven looked like little thin flakes of snow frost on the ground. TRUE or FALSE
3. The Lord also sent quails, or small birds, for the Israelites every day.  
TRUE or FALSE
4. The bread from heaven was called mangos. TRUE or FALSE

### **ANSWER THE QUESTIONS**

1. Could the people pick up extra manna and save it overnight?
2. What happened if the people tried to save the manna until the next day?
3. Did the Lord feed the Israelites while they were in the desert? What did He send them for food?
4. Did the manna taste good to the people?
5. Could the people go out and gather more manna on the Sabbath day?
6. How did they have enough food to eat on the Sabbath if they couldn't go out and pick up more manna?
7. Why did the Lord tell the people to save a special jar of manna?

## COLOR THE QUAIL



This is a quail like the ones the Lord sent every night to the children of Israel

## **41. Craft / Activity**

### **Kooky Creations**

Use self-hardening clay or Sculpey to let the kids create something that they have never seen before! Today we learned in our lesson that if God chooses, He can make something brand new that no one has ever seen before in order to meet our needs. God did this for the children of Israel when they were hungry!

### **What's That?**

Make some pretend manna by crushing animal crackers or graham crackers to cornmeal size crumbs.

Give your students a taste in individual paper cups. Be sure to tell them that this is pretend manna. Talk about what the word "manna" means. (It literally means 'a whatness' or 'what is it?' – we'd call it a 'whatchamacallit' today because no one knows what it is!)

**PRAYER** Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for His wonderful provision. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.