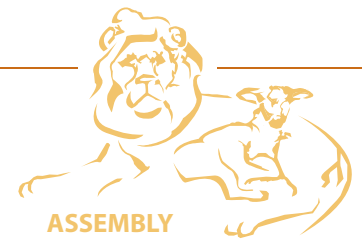


# GOD HAD MERCY ON ISRAEL

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: NUMBERS 11



*The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.*

## LESSON IDEAS

### REMEMBERING EGYPT

**Supplies:**

- bring in some of the foods the Israelites remembered from Egypt like onions, cucumbers, leeks and garlic
- a knife
- a cutting board

Note: Quantity of consumable supplies should be adjusted for the number of sessions you will be teaching.

Cut the different foods in half and have the children smell them. Explain that the people desired these flavorful foods more than they desired the Lord.

Teach them that in Matthew 4:4 Jesus said “Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

### WANTING THE TASTIER FOODS

**Supplies:**

- unsalted crackers
- goldfish crackers

Note: Quantity of consumable supplies should be adjusted for the number of sessions you will be teaching

Give everyone in the class an unsalted cracker. After they eat it, give half the class more unsalted crackers and half the class goldfish crackers to eat. Do not allow the class to trade.

After a few minutes, ask the children with the plain crackers if they would like goldfish. They will surely say yes. Then ask them why? Help them to understand it is because they remember how good goldfish crackers taste.

Let them know that it is okay to have desires for food but it is not okay to want anything more than the Lord. Relate their experience to that of Israel and the manna. Point out that Israel did not ask Moses to request of the Lord meat to eat. God had already provided them with so many things. They did not ask, they just complained.

## THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL COMPLAIN

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: NUMBERS 11

### Where Is Jesus?

*Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.*

In Colossians Paul tells us that it is God who has rescued us from the dominion of darkness through His son Jesus. We deserved death but instead we received rescue. All people, Old Testament or New, deserved death, but God rescued some by Jesus and His work on the cross

In our story in the book of Numbers, the people of Israel complained within days after leaving the presence of the Lord on Mount Sinai. Once again, in response to their sin, the anger of the Lord burned. God sent fire to the outskirts of the camp, which threatened to burn the camp.

The people cried out to Moses, their mediator between man and God. Moses prayed to God and the fire died down. Again, God was reminded of the coming Christ who would one day stand in the gap for God's people. It was Jesus who, during His crucifixion, cried, "Forgive them for they know not what they do." Through His death we have forgiveness. In Him we have redemption.

