



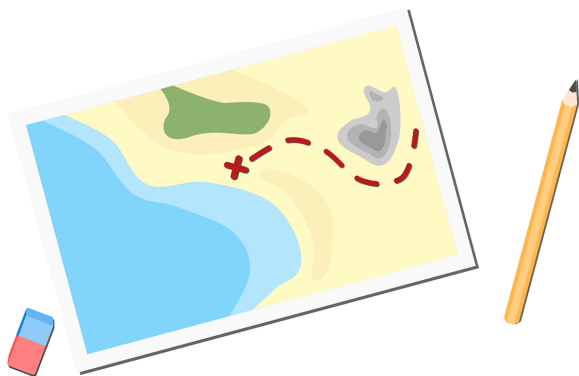
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# Living in Faith Together

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## March 2023

### Journeying Together



### **Theme and Scripture**

Like the Israelites in the wilderness, our lives are as much about the journey as the destination.

**Exodus 16:1-18; 17:1-17; 20:1-17**



Also available online at [www.hosannatogether.org/lift](http://www.hosannatogether.org/lift)

# LiFT with Children...

## Read this story together in a Bible:

### Spark Story Bible:

Manna, Quail, and Water - pages 90-93

The Ten Commandments - pages 92-99

### The Action Bible:

The Complaining Begins - pages 145-149/155-159

God's Commandments - pages 155/185

Quail Coming Out of Noses - pages 167-170/179-182

*The Action Bible was updated, so two different sets of page numbers are provided. Use what matches your Bible*

## Ask each other some questions:

- Would you like to eat quail? What do you think manna tastes like?
- How is God taking care of us today? What does God provide us? Is it just food and water? How (or through whom) does God deliver these things?
- Why do you think God gave the 10 Commandments? How do they make life *easier* and *happier*?

## Check out these videos:

- **Moses in the Wilderness**

<https://youtu.be/w1k533L-tW0>

- **Water, Manna, and Quail Message**

<https://youtu.be/cl90F57B6iw>



## Do a few activities that fit you:

- As a family, put a jigsaw puzzle together. The pieces are all different, but all are needed to make the picture complete. God wants us to live in a way that makes space for and honors each of us.
- Gather a friend or two (or a favorite toy or two) and pretend you are being led through the wilderness by God. God leads as fire by night and cloud by day. You can gather manna from the ground to eat each morning, and quails will come for you to eat each evening.
- Create your own scavenger hunt. Put a Bible sentence, picture from this story, or Commandment in each spot to discover.
- Work together to memorize the 10 Commandments.
- Play Commandment Charades. Write each commandment on a slip of paper. Take turns acting out a commandment for others to guess.

- From a deck of cards, pull out numbers 1-10. Take turns picking a card. State the commandment that corresponds to your number and give an example of following it.
- Look online for videos where the Hebrew people traveled. What does it look like today in places like Egypt, Israel, and Jordan? What would you need to plan for if you traveled to those areas today?
- Go for a hike. Look around and think about what God has provided. What do you see? Talk about how nature (the wilderness) can draw us closer to God.

***See the Pray Together and Keep Thinking on the back...***

## **LiFT with Teens or Adults...**

**Read and discuss:** Exodus 16:1-18 - Manna from Heaven

- What does this story tell us about God?
- What does God provide for *US* on a daily basis?

**Read and discuss:** Exodus 17:1-7 - Water from a Rock

- What does this story tell us about ourselves?
- What do you often complain about? How (and through whom) does God respond to your complaints?

**Read and discuss:** Exodus 20:1-17 - The 10 Commandments

- How does reading the Commandments in the Bible differ from the way you remember learning them?
- What are the Commandments *really* about? Why do we need them? How does following them improve our lives? What happens to our community when we *do not* live by them?

**Check out these videos:**

- **Bible Project - Exodus Part 1:**  
[https://youtu.be/jiH\\_aojNJM3E](https://youtu.be/jiH_aojNJM3E)
- **Bible Project - Exodus Part 2:**  
<https://youtu.be/oNpTha8OyyE>
- **Pastor Mike's Telling of Exodus**  
[www.hosannatogether.org/sacredstories](http://www.hosannatogether.org/sacredstories)



## Choose a few activities that fit you:

- Look through the activity options for kids.  
There are some that are suitable for any age.
- Read about someone who writes about nature, has trekked through the wilderness, or climbed a mountain. What hardships and successes have they encountered? What does being in nature teach *you* about God and life?
- Read Luther's explanation in the Small Catechism of the fourth petition of the Lord's Prayer: Give us this day our daily bread.

*What does this mean?* God certainly gives daily bread without our prayer, even to all the wicked; but we pray in this petition that He would lead us to acknowledge this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

*What is meant by daily bread?* Daily bread includes everything needed for this life, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, fields, cattle, money, goods, God-fearing spouse and children, faithful servants and rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, order, honor, true friends, good neighbors, and the like.

What does this mean *to you*?

## Pray Together--this or a prayer you make up:

Dear God, in the wilderness you gave the Israelites freedom, food and water, and taught them how to live together and in relationship with you. Please continue to guide us as you guided them. Help us to live as faithful followers. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Keep Thinking:

Listen to yourself this week. Whenever you catch yourself complaining, stop! And thank God for all your blessings.

### What is LiFT?

**L**iving **i**n **F**aith **T**ogether is a monthly series of conversations and activities to grow your connection with God and others. We encourage you to LiFT the second Sunday of each month, but you can choose *any* day. Just be intentional

### Who do I LiFT with?

Anyone and everyone! LiFT at home with kids, grandkids, or a spouse (or all of them!). Invite grown kids over or talk on the phone/online. Gather friends or neighbors over for a snack.