



WAYMAKER

GOD PROVIDES FOR HIS PROMISED PEOPLE



ROOTED
IPHC KIDS' CURRICULUM
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WAYMAKER

UNIT 9-WAYMAKER: GOD PROVIDES FOR HIS PROMISED PEOPLE

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WAYMAKER

MONTHLY PREPARATION GUIDE

UNIT 9-ELEMENTARY

In the *Waymaker* unit, we focus on how God provides a way for the Israelites—His chosen people. Each week, the kids will be learning about a remarkable way that God provided for His people. The verse the class will be memorizing is found in Philippians 4:19—“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.” Be sure to stress that God always provides. Join in with the children as they discover God’s provision.

WEEK 1

LESSON MATERIALS: Puzzle Piece (1 per class), Insect Stickers (1 sheet per game), Plague Props (Optional), *Plagues Worksheet* (1 per child), Pencils (1 per child), Markers or Crayons

WEEK 2

LESSON MATERIALS: Puzzle Piece (1 per class), “Yes” and “No” Signs (1 set per child), Tape (1 roll per class), Blue and Brown Construction Paper (1 sheet of each color per child), Glue Sticks, Pencils (1 per child), Scissors, Markers or Crayons

WEEK 3

LESSON MATERIALS: Puzzle Piece (1 per class), Popsicle Sticks or Toothpicks (50 per group of 4-5 kids), *Quail and Manna Worksheet* (1 per child), Faux Feathers (7-10 per child), Glue, Googly Eyes (1 per child), Markers or Crayons

WEEK 4

LESSON MATERIALS: Puzzle Piece (1 per class), Blue Ribbon (5 6” strips per child), Palm-Sized Rocks (1 per child), Liquid Glue or Hot Glue

GOD SENDS THE 10 PLAGUES

BIBLE PASSAGE

Exodus 7-12 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

God always provides.

FOCUS VERSE

“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 4:19 (NIV)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Insect Stickers | Plague Props (Optional) | *Plagues* Worksheet | Pencils |
| Markers or Crayons |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- If you could eat at any restaurant, which one would you choose?
- What is your favorite thing about church?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Say, “Worshiping the Lord is a way of honoring God while also training our hearts to love Him. Worship helps us grow closer to God.” We recommend playing to song “Waymaker” by Sinach if you are looking for a song that goes well with this unit. *Allstars Kids Club* has also put together a kid-friendly lyrics video that is available on YouTube.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Pray that God would use today’s lesson to speak to His children.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “God, thank You for loving us. Please help us understand the story You have for us today so we can be better followers of You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “Last month, we learned about some of the first sins on the earth. Who remembers what the word “sin” means? Right! A sin is anything (act, word, deed, or thought) that disobeys God. Sin ruined God’s perfect creation. Do you remember when we talked about Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Noah and the Great Flood, and the Tower of Babel? Well, this month, we are fast-forwarding hundreds of years after the Tower of Babel to the time of a man named Moses. Who has heard of Moses? Well, in Moses’ day, God’s people were being treated very badly, but we are going to talk about how God provided for His people by rescuing them and making a way where there was no way. This unit is called *Waymaker*.” Put up the first puzzle piece.

TRANSITION: Say, “Who wants to play a game? It will help us understand our story for today.”

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Insect Stickers (1 sheet per game) |

Say, “Raise your hand if you have ever played tag? Great! This game is like tag, but we are going to call it *Plague Tag*. Who knows what the word ‘plague’ means? A plague is a bad thing, like a disaster, that causes many people to suffer and hurt. There was a time in the Bible when God sent a plague of millions of insects to some evil people. Can you imagine? Before we read about it, let’s play *Plague Tag*.”



IF YOU CANNOT FIND INSECT STICKERS, YOU CAN ADAPT THE GAME TO BE ABOUT ANY OF THE PLAGUES GOD SENDS TO THE EGYPTIANS: FROGS, DARKNESS, FLIES, ANIMALS, HAIL, ETC.

GAME GOAL: To tag everyone with the stickers until all players have “the plague.”

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Choose one person to be the “plague” (tagger) and give that child one sheet of stickers. Everyone else will run away from the “plague.” At the same time, the tagger will attempt to tag and place a sticker on the other children.
2. If a child is tagged with the plague sticker, the child must immediately fall down and stay there until the end of the game. The game ends when everyone has been tagged.
3. Replay as time allows, switching taggers after each game.

CHALLENGE: If the game is too easy, choose a secret “rescuer” who can tag people to allow them to get back into the game. If you choose this option, you may need to play for an allotted amount of time rather than playing until everyone has been tagged.

TRANSITION: Say, “Great job playing *Plague Tag*! The story we will be hearing is about a time when God used plagues (or bad events) to rescue and provide for His people. That sounds strange, right? Let’s listen.”

LEARN — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Plague Props (Optional) |



SOME GREAT OPTIONS FOR PROPS INCLUDE SMALL TOY FIGURES, DIFFERENT KINDS OF CANDIES REPRESENTING THE PLAGUES, OR PICTURES OF EACH PLAGUE.

Say, "Today, we will be talking about Moses, the Egyptians, and God's special people—the Israelites. The Egyptians were not kind. They hurt the Israelites by making them their slaves for years. God saw how badly the Egyptians treated His people, so He called a man named Moses to tell the Egyptian Pharaoh (or king) a message. If Pharaoh did not let the Israelites go free, God would send terrible plagues (or problems) upon them. Time after time, Pharaoh refused to let God's people go. God sent the ten plagues and after the tenth plague, Pharaoh let the Israelites go. God had freed His people because **God always provides.**" Read the summarization of the plagues below (found in Exodus 7-12):

1. **BLOOD: All of the Egyptians' water was turned to blood (7:14-24).**
2. **FROGS: Frogs covered the land and even came into all the Egyptian houses (7:25-8:15).**
3. **GNATS: The dust turned to tiny flying bugs called gnats (8:16-19).**
4. **FLIES: Flies poured into Egypt, filled homes, and ruined the land (8:20-32).**
5. **ANIMALS: All of the Egyptians' animals became sick and died (9:1-7).**
6. **BOILS: The Egyptian people were covered in painful skin boils (9:8-12).**
7. **HAIL: The worst hailstorm of all time destroyed almost anything that was outside (9:13-35).**
8. **LOCUSTS/GRASSHOPPERS: Everything that did not get ruined from the hail was ruined and eaten by locusts (10:1-20).**
9. **DARKNESS: God covered the Egyptian's land with complete darkness. It was so dark that no Egyptian could see anything or move from their houses for three whole days (10:21-29).**
10. **FIRSTBORN: All of the first-born children in Egypt died (11:1-12:36).**

Say, "These plagues sound terrible! Even though it was painful and hard for the Egyptians, God was providing for the Israelites—His people! In fact, God had a special name in the Old Testament; the people called Him *Jehovah Jireh*, meaning 'The Lord Will Provide,' and **God always provides.**"

Ask, "How many plagues did God send to the Egyptians? God sent ten plagues to the Egyptians. After each plague, Pharaoh still did not let God's people go. Pharaoh's heart was hard. It was not until the last plague (the tenth plague) that God's people were finally set free. God, more than ever, proved that He always provides for His people. God did this because He loved them. Remember, **God always provides!**"

JOINING TO JESUS: "This story is not the only time God provided for His people. God provided His Son, Jesus, for us so we could be free—just like He sent plagues to the Egyptians so His people could be free."

TRANSITION: Say, "What great news! God makes a way, and **God always provides.** Do you believe it?"

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "What an interesting story. Let's talk more about it."

1. Who always provides for us?

Response: **God always provides.**

2. How did God provide for the Israelites?

Response: God sent plagues to the Egyptians to free His people from slavery.

3. What were some of the plagues that fell on Egypt?

Response: Blood, frogs, gnats, flies, animals, boils, hail, locusts, darkness, firstborn.

4. Why did God send the plagues?

Response: The Egyptians were mistreating the Israelites (God's special, chosen people), so God sent the plagues to provide a way out of Egypt for His people.

5. How has God provided for you?

Response: Answers will vary.

6. What does this story tell us about God?

Response: **God always provides**, God takes care of us, God is all-powerful, God is in control, God sees us, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great discussion! Let's work on a craft that will help us remember that **God always provides**, just like He did for the Israelites."

RESPOND — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Plagues* Worksheet (1 per child) | Pencils (1 per child) | Markers or Crayons |

Say, "Let's remember that **God always provides** by drawing God's provision through each of the ten plagues."

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. First, review each of the ten plagues with the kids. (Use the LEARN section to help review.)
2. In the boxes provided on the *Plagues* worksheet, have each child draw and color a picture or symbol representing each plague.

TRANSITION: Say, "Do not forget, **God always provides**. He loves you just as much as He loved the Israelites."

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "This month, we are learning a verse about God's provision. He gives us everything we will ever need because **God always provides**. I am going to read it first and show you the hand motions, and then we will do it together."

"And my God (point up to the sky) will meet all your needs (hold your hands out wide) according to the riches (rub your fingers together) of his glory in Christ Jesus (sign language sign for "Jesus")." Philippians 4:19 (NIV) (hold your hands like a book)

CHALLENGE: Recite the verse ten times together as a reminder that God sent ten plagues.

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, "Sometimes God provides for His people in strange ways. When God sent the ten plagues to the Egyptians, He was making a way for the Israelites to get out of slavery. Did you know that **God always provides** for us too? He never leaves us or forgets about us (Deuteronomy 31:8). He gives us food to eat, a roof over our heads, and air to breathe. **God always provides**. Sometimes we can feel like He does not give us what we need, but He always does. If you are wondering if God will really provide for you, ask Him to help you trust Him. God is so good at providing! Let's pray and thank God for always providing for us."

SAMPLE PRAYER: *"God, thank You for being so kind to us. You have promised to be our Waymaker, our Provider, and our Jehovah Jireh. Thank You for loving us so well! In Jesus' name, Amen!"*

RELEASE —

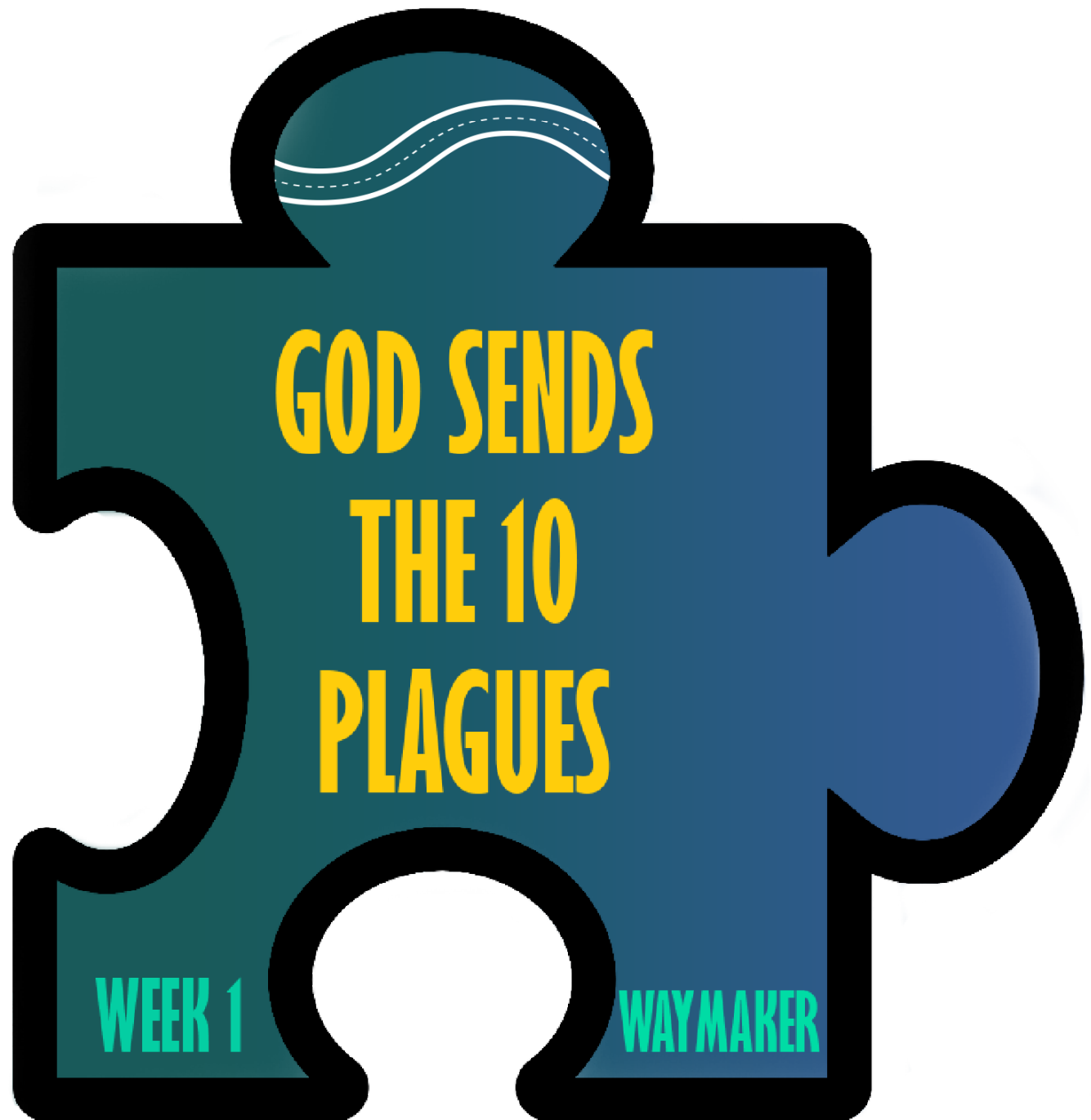
If there is extra time, replay *Plague Tag*, review the plagues, allow the children to ask questions about the lesson, etc. When parents arrive, give them a copy of the monthly Parent Guide (downloadable).

PARENT GUIDE GOALS:

1. It provides engaging questions and activities for families to continue discipleship at home.
2. It reviews what the children are learning each week.

PLAGUES

1. BLOOD	2. FROGS
3. GNATS	4. FLIES
5. ANIMALS	6. BOILS
7. HAIL	8. LOCUSTS/GRASSHOPPERS
9. DARKNESS	10. DEATH OF FIRSTBORN



GOD PARTS THE RED SEA

BIBLE PASSAGE

Exodus 14:16-17, 21-23, 26-29 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

God always provides.

FOCUS VERSE

“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 4:19 (NIV)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | “Yes” and “No” Signs | Tape | Blue and Brown Construction Paper | Glue Sticks |
Pencils | Scissors | Markers or Crayons |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- What is your favorite sea creature?
- What do you like to do most in the water (swim, go boating, fish, etc.)?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Offer your children the freedom to worship as they choose. Any kind of worship is acceptable as long as it is biblical, God-honoring, and does not distract others.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Pray before starting the lesson.

SAMPLE PRAYER: *“God, we are so glad we get to spend time with You. Teach us something brand-new about Yourself. We want to know You better and better every day. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”*

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |



REMINDE THE KIDS ABOUT WHY WE USE PUZZLE PIECES. SAY, “WE HANG UP PUZZLE PIECES EACH WEEK TO SHOW THAT ALL THE STORIES IN THE BIBLE CONNECT. THE BIBLE IS ONE BIG STORY ABOUT JESUS.”

BACKGROUND: Say, "This month's series is called *Waymaker*. It is all about how **God always provides**. Last week, we talked about how God sent ten plagues on the Egyptians to provide His people with a way out of slavery. Today, we have another fantastic story about the Israelites. This one happened right after God provided a way for His people to escape Egypt. Let's listen to how **God always provides**. Who wants to put up this month's second puzzle piece?"

TRANSITION: Say, "You know what time it is... It is time for a game!"

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | "Yes" and "No" Signs (1 set per class) | Tape (1 roll per class) |

Say, "This game is called *Split*. Listen carefully to my questions, so you know when to 'split.'"

GAME GOAL: To have each child answer a series of "yes" or "no" questions by "splitting" themselves to one side of the room or the other.

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Post the "Yes" and "No" signs to opposite walls in the room.
2. Line everyone up in a straight line (front to back) in between the "Yes" and "No" signs.
3. Explain that you will ask a question, and then say, "SPLIT." The kids will answer the question by "splitting" to either the "Yes" side of the room or the "No" side.
4. Ask questions, one-at-a-time. Bring everyone back to the centerline before moving on to a new question. Possible Questions:
 - Would you swim in shark-infested waters?
 - Have you ever eaten a popsicle for breakfast?
 - Do you have a birthday in January?
 - Would you like to be a video game character?
 - Do you like playing in the sand?
 - Are you ____ years old?
 - Do you like winter?
 - Have you ever slept on the ground instead of your bed?
 - Would you ride the tallest rollercoaster in the world?
 - Are you happy today?
 - Do you like to stay up late?
 - Have you ever eaten food off the floor?

CHALLENGE: If the game is moving too quickly, have two or three children explain their answers after each question.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great job playing Split! Did you know that the story we will be hearing is also about splitting too? Let's learn about it."

LEARN — 15 MINUTES

Say, "Today, we are talking about a time when God parted (or split) the Red Sea. The Israelites have just been set free from the Egyptians, but there are two big problems: 1. All of God's people ran into a huge sea with nowhere to go, and 2. the Egyptians have changed their minds about letting the Israelites go and want them back! The Israelites need to get to the other side of the sea quickly but have no boats. Listen for how God provides a way for His people." Read Exodus 14:16-17, 21-23, 26-29 (ICB).

[God told Moses,] ¹⁶ Raise your walking stick and hold it over the sea. The sea will split. Then the people can cross the sea on dry land. ¹⁷ I have made the Egyptians stubborn so they will chase the Israel-ites. ²¹ Moses held his hand over the sea. All that night the Lord drove back the sea with a strong east wind. And so he made the sea become dry ground. The water was split. ²² And the Israelites went through the sea on dry land. A wall of water was on both sides. ²³ Then all the [Egyptian] king's horses, chariots and chariot drivers followed them into the sea.

²⁶ Then the Lord told Moses, "Hold your hand over the sea. Then the water will come back over the Egyptians, their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷ So Moses raised his hand over the sea... ²⁸ The water became deep again. It covered the chariots and chariot drivers. So all the king's army that had followed the Israelites into the sea was covered. ²⁹ But the people of Israel crossed the sea on dry land. There was a wall of water on their right and on their left.

Say, "God provided for the Israelites! What a wonderful miracle! **God always provides** for His people."

Ask, "How did God provide for the Israelites? God provided for the Israelites when He split the Red Sea wide open so His people could get away from their enemy—the Egyptians! God really is *Jehovah Jireh*—'The Lord Will Provide.' Only God could solve a problem like the one the Israelites faced in today's story. He gives us exactly what we need when we need it because **God always provides**. Provision is who God is!"

JOINING TO JESUS: "God was with the Israelites at the Red Sea, and He is still with us today. God sent Jesus to earth to be the God who is with us and the God who would never leave us (Matthew 1:23). This is a promise from God."

TRANSITION: Say, "What great news! Remember, **God always provides.**"

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "What a miraculous and wonderful story. Let's talk more about it."

1. Who always provides?

Response: **God always provides** for His people.

2. What word would you use to describe how you would have felt as one of the Israelites? Why?

Response: Answers will vary.

3. Who did God use to part the Red Sea?

Response: God used Moses to part the Red Sea and lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

4. Who was chasing the Israelites?

Response: The Egyptians were chasing the Israelites.

5. Why is this story so incredible?

Response: God provided a way for His people to escape when there was no way. God blew a wind across the Red Sea to split it so His people could walk across on dry ground. God provided for thousands of people at just the right time.

6. What does this story tell us about God?

Response: **God always provides**, God is always on time, God takes care of us, God is powerful, God is in control of the wind and waves, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great discussion! Let's work on a craft that will help us remember the splitting of the Red Sea and that **God always provides** for His people."

RESPOND — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | 12" x 9" Blue and Brown Construction Paper (1 sheet per color per child) | Glue Sticks | Pencils (1 per child) | Scissors | Markers or Crayons |



BEFORE CLASS, PRECUT THE BROWN CONSTRUCTION PAPER INTO 6" BY 9" STRIPS.

Say, "We are going to make our own split sea as a reminder that **God always provides**. Let's learn how."

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Give each child a full piece of blue construction paper and lay it horizontally in front of each child. (This paper will represent the water.)
2. Hold the left and right edge of the blue construction paper (horizontally positioned) and then fold the edges together until they meet in the middle. (It should be folded to look similar to a tri-fold poster board. The middle section should be nine inches by six inches.)
3. Next, give each child a brown construction paper strip (cut to nine inches by six inches) to glue down to the inside middle of the tri-folded blue construction paper. (Once glued down, the brown strip should look like a path of dry ground passing through walls of water.)
4. If there is extra time, let the children draw people on the path like they are crossing the Red Sea.

TRANSITION: Say, "**God always provides** even though sometimes it looks like He will not. **God always provides** because He loves you!"

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "Last week we learned a new verse that reminds us that **God always provides** and gives us everything we need. Do you believe that? Let's review our verse together!" Read the verse and then practice it together with the actions.

"And my God (point up to the sky) will meet all your needs (hold your hands out wide) according to the riches (rub your fingers together) of his glory in Christ Jesus (sign language sign for "Jesus")." Philippians 4:19 (NIV) (hold your hands like a book)

CHALLENGE: Repetition is one of the best ways to make memory verses "stick." Try incorporating the memory verse throughout the lesson—not just the "MEMORIZE" block of time.

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, “**God always provides** for His people! He provided a way for the Israelites to escape by splitting the Red Sea so they could cross on dry ground! Our God is so good to provide for us and take care of all our needs. Can everyone say, ‘He is my *Jehovah Jireh*—My Provider’? Great job! Remember, **God always provides**. Let’s pray as we finish our lesson.”

SAMPLE PRAYER: *“God, thank You for being our Jehovah Jireh—our Provider! You know the best ways to take care of all of our needs. We trust You to take care of us in every way. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”*

RELEASE —

If there is extra time, do not feel like you need to continue teaching. It is OK to simply review what you have learned, build relationships, or play games.

YES

NO



GOD PROVIDES MANNA AND QUAIL

BIBLE PASSAGE

Exodus 16:2-4, 6-8, 13-14, 31, 35 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

God always provides.

FOCUS VERSE

“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 4:19 (NIV)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Popsicle Sticks or Toothpicks | *Quail and Manna* Worksheet | Faux Feathers | Glue
| Googly Eyes | Markers or Crayons |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- If you had to give away everything except for one thing, what would you keep? Why?
- Do you like to go exploring? Where have you explored?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Worship is meant to be both corporate and individual. At times we need to worship and pray in solitude (see Matthew 6:6), and there are other times when corporate worship is necessary (see Colossians 3:16). Encourage your entire class to participate by reminding them that worshipping God as a church family is a gift for God and us!

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Pray with your class before beginning the lesson.



KIDS LEARN TO PRAY BY SEEING IT MODELED AND BY PRACTICING IT THEMSELVES. INVITE (BUT DO NOT REQUIRE) ALL THE CHILDREN TO SAY A ONE-SENTENCE PRAYER FOR THE DAY.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “God, we are so grateful to be able to worship You and learn about You and Your Word. Teach us more about who You are and how You love us. Thank You for all my friends You brought here today. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES**MATERIALS:** | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “Who remembers what we are learning about this month? Right! We are learning that **God always provides**. He is our ‘Waymaker!’ In week one, we talked about how God used the ten plagues to save the Israelites from the Egyptians. Then, last week, we heard an unbelievable story about how God provided a safe escape for the Israelites by splitting the Red Sea. **God always provides!** Well, today, we get to hear another story about how God provided for His people. Let’s get to it!” Place the next puzzle piece on the wall.

TRANSITION: Say, “Who wants to play a game with me?”

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES**MATERIALS:** | Popsicle Sticks or Toothpicks (50 per group) |

Say, “Today’s game is *Pick-Up Sticks*. It is called *Pick-Up Sticks* because you have to ‘pick-up sticks.’ Haha! Did you know that the Israelites had to learn to pick up something extremely important? Their life depended on it! You will have to wait a little longer to find out what I mean, but for now, let’s play!”

GAME GOAL: To carefully pick up one stick at a time, without moving any of the other sticks, until they have all been picked up.

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Split your class up into groups of four to five students.
2. Have each group sit in a circle facing each other.
3. Then, drop a pile of 50 sticks in the middle of each group.
4. Tell the kids that they will go around the circle and ‘pick up sticks,’ one-by-one, without moving any of the other sticks. Once a stick is retrieved, the child should keep it for the remainder of the round.
5. If any of the sticks in the pile move, the person who moved the stick loses their next turn.
6. Continue until all sticks are picked up. Count how many sticks each person has. The child with the most sticks wins.



IF THE GAME IS FINISHED BEFORE THE TIME IS UP, PLAY ANOTHER ROUND.

TRANSITION: Say, “Great job playing *Pick-Up Sticks*! Let’s read our Bible story to find out what God gave the Israelites to pick up.”

LEARN — 15 MINUTES

TO KEEP THE KIDS FROM GETTING DISTRACTED DURING THE LESSON, BE SURE THERE IS NOTHING AROUND THE KIDS TO “PLAY” WITH. THE LESS DISTRACTORS, THE BETTER.

Say, "This week's story is called 'God Provides Manna and Quail.' Just days before this story, God provided for His people by sending plagues on the Egyptians and then by splitting the Red Sea so the Israelites could escape. Well, now God's people are on the other side of the Red Sea, and they are free, but they are not happy. They are angry because they are in a desert without any food! Let's read about how God provided for His hungry, hungry people." Read Exodus 16:2-4, 6-8, 13-14, 31, 35 (ICB).

² Then the whole Israelite community grumbled to Moses and Aaron in the desert.

³ The Israelites said to them, "It would have been better if the Lord had killed us in the land of Egypt. There we had meat to eat. We had all the food we wanted. But you have brought us into this desert. You will starve us to death here." ⁴ Then the Lord said to Moses, "I will cause food to fall like rain from the sky. This food will be for all of you. Every day the people must go out and gather what they need for that day.

⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites: "This evening you will know that the Lord is the one who brought you out of Egypt. ⁷ Tomorrow morning you will see the greatness of the Lord. He has heard you grumble against him... ⁸ And Moses said, "Each evening the Lord will give you meat to eat (quail). And every morning he will give you all the bread you want (manna).

¹³ That evening, quail came and covered the camp. And in the morning dew lay around the camp. ¹⁴ When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost were on the desert ground. ³¹ The people of Israel called the food manna. ³⁵ The Israelites ate manna for 40 years.

Say, "**God always provides.** He provided for His people when they were in the desert!"

Ask, "How did God provide for the Israelites in the desert? God provided food for the Israelites while they were in the desert because **God always provides!** Every single day, for forty years, God's people had food. They never went hungry. Remember God's special name: *Jehovah Jireh*? *Jehovah Jireh* means 'The Lord Will Provide.' God makes a way for us, even when things seem impossible because **God always provides.**"

JOINING TO JESUS: "Jesus says, 'I am the bread of life' (John 6:35). Like God sent manna (bread) from heaven, God sent Jesus from heaven to be our 'bread' or food. The bread from our story only kept the people's stomachs full for a day, but Jesus promises that if we come to Him, He will make our hearts and souls full forever" (John 6:35).

TRANSITION: Say, "What great news! Remember, **God always provides.**"

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "God is our Waymaker. Let's talk about our story together."

1. Who always provides for us?

Response: **God always provides.**

2. Why were the Israelites grumbling and angry at Moses and God?

Response: The Israelites blamed God and Moses for taking them out of Egypt, where they had food every day. The Israelites were not grateful that God saved them from Egypt and slavery. They did not trust God to provide for all their needs.

3. What did God provide for the people in the desert?

Response: God provided quail (every evening) and manna (every morning) in the desert.

4. How many years did God provide food for His people?

Response: God provided food for His people for 40 years.

5. Why is this story so amazing?

Response: God provided a way for the Israelites to have food in a place where there was no food. God made food for them every day for 40 years. God heard the Israelites grumbling and gave them what they needed, when they needed it.

6. What does this story tell us about God?

Response: **God always provides**, God takes care of our needs, God is powerful, God can provide food, God can do anything, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "Nice job listening to the story! Let's work on a craft that will help us remember that **God always provides** for His people just like He provided food for the Israelites in the desert."

RESPOND — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Quail and Manna* Worksheet (1 per child) | Faux Feathers (7-10 per child) | Glue | Googly Eyes (1 per child) | Markers or Crayons |

Say, "We are going to make quail and manna today to remind us that God always provides. He provided the Israelites with everything they needed, and He provides for us too. Let's see how to do it!"

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Give each child a *Quail and Manna* worksheet, feathers, a googly eye, and glue.
2. Next, have the kids draw circles representing "manna" in the pouch of the *Quail and Manna* worksheet.
3. Then, glue the feathers and a googly eye on the quail.
4. Finally, color in any remaining empty spaces.

TRANSITION: Say, "**God always provides!** He always meets all of our needs."

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "This month's verse is about God's provision and how He will meet all of our needs no matter how big or how small! Who remembers the verse we've been memorizing? Great! Is anyone willing to lead us in saying it together?" Say the verse.

"And my God (*point up to the sky*) **will meet all your needs** (*hold your hands out wide*) **according to the riches** (*rub your fingers together*) **of his glory in Christ Jesus** (*sign language sign for "Jesus"*)." **Philippians 4:19 (NIV)** (*hold your hands like a book*)



KIDS OFTEN HAVE GREAT MEMORIZATION STRATEGIES. ASK THEM HOW THEY REMEMBER THINGS BEST.

CHALLENGE: Ask your class to come up with a new way to remember this month's memory verse. If your group is large, have them work together in teams.

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

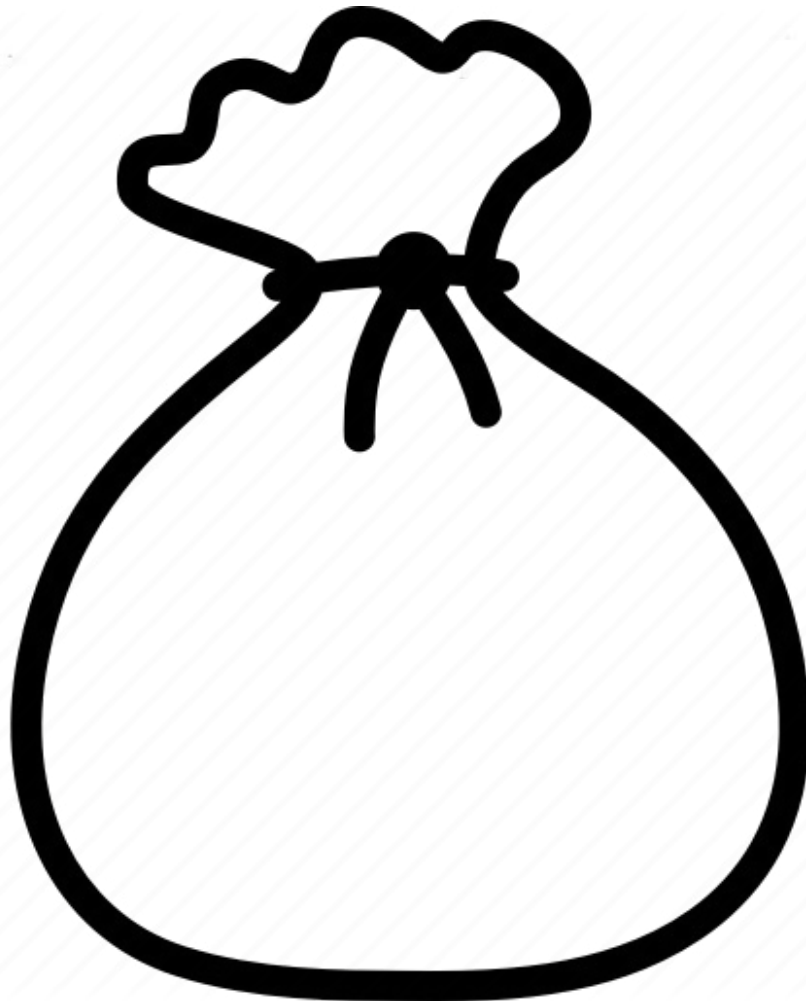
Say, "**God always provides** for His people, which means He provides for you too! One of the ways God can provide for you is by giving you food as He did for the Israelites. God always knows what we need before we ask, but sometimes, God wants us to talk to Him and ask Him for what we need. Let's practice that now."

SAMPLE PRAYER: *"God, we know that You give us everything we need when we need it. So today, we ask you for _____. You are our Provider, and we love You. In Jesus' name, Amen."*

RELEASE —

If there is extra time, review the story with the children, finish the craft from the RESPOND section, or replay *Pick-Up Sticks*.

Quail + Manna





GOD GIVES WATER FROM A ROCK

BIBLE PASSAGE

Exodus 17:1-6 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

God always provides.

FOCUS VERSE

“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 4:19 (NIV)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Blue Ribbon | Palm-Sized Rocks | Liquid Glue or Hot Glue |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- What is your favorite thing to drink on a hot day?
- What is your favorite thing to do in autumn?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Say, “Worship is more than singing. Worship includes thinking about God, praying, talking with other people about God, or just quietly sitting and listening to God. Let’s worship with our voices and our thoughts today. Let’s focus our minds on the Lord and listen to these words from Deuteronomy 10:21: ‘You should praise him. He is your God. He has done great and wonderful things for you. You have seen them with your own eyes.’”



ALLOW THE CHILDREN TO SAY A WORD OF PRAISE SILENTLY OR OUT LOUD.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Show your kids that prayer matters to you by consistently beginning each class with prayer.



IT IS IMPORTANT TO START AND END WITH PRAYER. IT HELPS THE CHILDREN UNDERSTAND THAT WE TRUST GOD WITH OUR LIVES, AND WITH THIS TIME.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “God, we love You. You amaze us with how great You are and how well You provide for us. Thank You for everything You have given us. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “Today is our last day in this series of lessons about how **God always provides** for us. Does anyone remember the title of this month’s unit? Right! *Waymaker!* God makes a way, no matter the situation, for all His people because He loves them. Let’s review what stories we have learned about this month.”

- Week 1: God Sends the Ten Plagues
- Week 2: God Parts the Red Sea
- Week 3: God Provides Manna and Quail

“We only have one more story to discuss, and it is a good one. Who would like to place the next puzzle piece up on the wall?”

TRANSITION: Say, “To help our brains start thinking about the lesson, we are going to play a game together. Who wants to try it?”

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

Say, “Who knows how to play *Rock, Paper, Scissors*? Great! We are going to have a *Rock, Paper, Scissors* competition. Raise your hand if you think you are going to win.”

GAME GOAL: Students will pair off against each other to see who wins the *Rock, Paper, Scissors* competition.

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Randomly pair up your kids.
2. Explain the hand signals for *Rock, Paper, Scissors*: “rock” = fist, “paper” = flat hand, and “scissors” = number two.
3. Each pair will face off against each other. Then, the winners will face off against the other winners while the losers sit out. This process will continue until there is only one winner.
4. Replay the game as time allows.

TRANSITION: Say, “Great job playing *Rock, Paper, Scissors*! We played *Rock, Paper, Scissors* because we are talking about a really special rock in today’s story.”

LEARN — 15 MINUTES

Say, “Our story is called ‘God Gives Water from a Rock.’ Remember when the Israelites grumbled about not having food in the desert, and then God provided quail and manna? Well, God’s people also complained about not having anything to drink. If you had to guess, how do you think God is going to provide for His people? We will read Exodus 17:1-6 (ICB) now to find out.”

¹ They traveled from place to place as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim. But there was no water there for the people to drink. ² So they quarreled with Moses. They said, "Give us water to drink." ³ But the people were very thirsty for water. So they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt? Was it to kill us, our children and our farm animals with thirst?" ⁴ So Moses cried to the Lord, "What can I do with these people? They are almost ready to kill me with stones."

⁵ The Lord said to Moses, "Go ahead of the people of Israel. Carry with you the walking stick that you used to strike the Nile River. Now go! ⁶ I will stand in front of you on a rock at Mount Sinai. Hit that rock with the stick, and water will come out of it. Then the people can drink." Moses did these things.

Say, "God is our Waymaker, and our **God always provides**. He provided for His people, even when they grumbled and complained against Moses and God."

Ask, "How did God provide for the Israelites in this story? God provided water for the Israelites while they lived in Rephidim! *Jehovah Jireh*, or 'The Lord Will Provide,' is faithful to give each of us what we need because **God always provides**."

JOINING TO JESUS: "Jesus says, 'If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink' (John 7:37). The Israelites thirsted for water, but Jesus offers us something even better. He offers us the Holy Spirit, our living water (John 7:38-39)."

TRANSITION: Say, "**God always provides** a way to meet our needs."

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "God is our Waymaker. Let's talk about our story together."

1. Who always provides for us?

Response: **God always provides**.

2. Why were the Israelites grumbling and mad at Moses?

Response: The Israelites were frustrated because they were thirsty and needed water.

3. What did God provide for the people in the desert?

Response: God provided water from a rock.

4. What did God tell Moses to do to get water to the people?

Response: God told Moses to strike the rock for water to come out.

5. Why is this story so incredible?

Response: God provided a way for the Israelites where there was no way. God provided water for all the people. God heard the Israelites grumbling and gave them what they needed when they needed it even though they were complaining and not trusting Him.

6. What does this story tell us about God?

Response: **God always provides**, God takes care of our needs, God gives us living water in the form of the Holy Spirit, God is powerful, God can provide water when we thirst, God can do anything, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "Nice job talking about the story. Let's work on a craft that will help us remember that **God always provides** for His people like He provided water from a rock."

RESPOND — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Blue Ribbon (5 6" strips per child) | Palm-Sized Rocks (1 per child) | Liquid Glue or Hot Glue |

Say, "Today's story was about how God made a way by making water come out of a rock. We will be recreating this story with our own small rock. Who is ready to start?"

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Precut five blue ribbons per child. (Each ribbon needs to be six inches long.)
2. Give each child five ribbons, a rock, and some glue.
3. Instruct the children to glue each ribbon onto one side of their rock (to make it look like water is flowing from it).



IF YOU DECIDE TO USE HOT GLUE, ONLY LET THE ADULTS USE THE HOT GLUE GUN.

4. Once their craft is complete, have each child explain the story to the class or a partner using their own rock. (Let the crafts dry completely before picking them up.)

TRANSITION: Say, "**God always provides!** He made water come from a rock for the Israelites, and He makes a way for you too! Our God is *Jehovah Jireh!*"

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "I know some of you remember our memory verse for this month. If you know it, shout it out! **God always provides!**"

"And my God (*point up to the sky*) **will meet all your needs** (*hold your hands out wide*) **according to the riches** (*rub your fingers together*) **of his glory in Christ Jesus** (*sign language sign for "Jesus"*)." **Philippians 4:19 (NIV)** (*hold your hands like a book*)

CHALLENGE: Try putting the verse to a song if your students do not already know it.



THE TUNE OF THE SONG BINGO WORKS GREAT FOR THIS VERSE.

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, "God specializes in making a way for the people He loves. And there is more good news: **God always provides**. He will not let you down. Can someone tell me of a way that God has provided for you? Great! **God always provides**. Let's have someone pray for us."

SAMPLE PRAYER: *“God, You always provide for us. You are our Waymaker, our Provider, and our Good Father. Help us see where You have provided for us. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”*

RELEASE —

If there is extra time, you can review the unit, replay *Rock, Paper, Scissors*, or sing some of your favorite worship songs from this month.

