

Abiding In Christ

Lesson 7

Abiding in Christ Day by Day

Participant Guide

Leader Guide Bible Studies

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Lesson 7
Exodus 16
Abiding in Christ Day by Day

Then the LORD said to Moses, “I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions. *Exodus 16:4*

Prayers

Introduction

Read Exodus 16, Manna and Quail

Ex 16:1 The whole Israelite community set out from Elim and came to the Desert of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had come out of Egypt.

Ex 16:2 In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron.

Ex 16:3 The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the LORD'S hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death.”

Ex 16:4 Then the LORD said to Moses, “I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions.

Ex 16:5 On the sixth day they are to prepare what they bring in, and that is to be twice as much as they gather on the other days.”

Ex 16:6 So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of Egypt, ⁷ and in the morning you will see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we, that you should grumble against us?”

Ex 16:8 Moses also said, “You will know that it was the LORD when he gives you meat to eat in the evening and all the bread you want in the morning, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we? You are not grumbling against us, but against the LORD.”

Ex 16:9 Then Moses told Aaron, “Say to the entire Israelite community, ‘Come before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.’ ”

Ex 16:10 While Aaron was speaking to the whole Israelite community, they looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of the LORD appearing in the cloud.

Ex 16:11 The LORD said to Moses,

Ex 16:12 “I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, ‘At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.’ ”

Ex 16:13 That evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.

Ex 16:14 When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor.

Ex 16:15 When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread the LORD has given you to eat.

Ex 16:16 This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Each one is to gather as much as he needs. Take an omer for each person you have in your tent.’ ”

Ex 16:17 The Israelites did as they were told; some gathered much, some little.

Ex 16:18 And when they measured it by the omer, he who gathered much did not have too much, and he who gathered little did not have too little. Each one gathered as much as he needed.

Ex 16:19 Then Moses said to them, “No one is to keep any of it until morning.”

Ex 16:20 However, some of them paid no attention to Moses; they kept part of it until morning, but it was full of maggots and began to smell. So Moses was angry with them.

Ex 16:21 Each morning everyone gathered as much as he needed, and when the sun grew hot, it melted away.

Discussion

1. In verses 16:1-3, why did God send manna (meaning, “What is it?”)?
2. What were God’s instructions about gathering manna, verse 16:16?
3. What did the people do, Exodus 16:17-18?
4. What was the result of following God’s instructions?
5. What were the consequences of not following God’s instructions, Exodus 16:20?
6. God could have provided for the Israelites in any manner. What was God’s purpose in providing for the Israelites through the daily gathering of manna?

Read Exodus 16:22, Instructions for the Sabbath

Ex 16:22 On the sixth day, they gathered twice as much—two omers for each person—and the leaders of the community came and reported this to Moses.

Ex 16:23 He said to them, “This is what the LORD commanded: ‘Tomorrow is to be a day of rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD. So bake what you want to bake and boil what you want to boil. Save whatever is left and keep it until morning.’ ”

Ex 16:24 So they saved it until morning, as Moses commanded, and it did not stink or get maggots in it.

Ex 16:25 “Eat it today,” Moses said, “because today is a Sabbath to the LORD. You will not find any of it on the ground today.

- d. God placed the Israelites in the wilderness so they would learn that he was their God. How do we learn to trust God?
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- 11. The Old Testament is rich in God's explicit instructions to accomplish his tasks. What are some other examples of following God's explicit instructions in faith?

 - 12. What are some of Christ's explicit commands he gives to his people in the New Testament – our time?

 - 13. Compare the Israelites who went into the desert to the generation who came out of the wilderness 40 years later. What was the result of a lifetime of obedience?

Closing Prayer