

Food from Heaven



by Dawn Reed
E. Ky. Columnist

I had been excited for weeks! Finally, FINALLY-after 62 months and 7,000 days of Corona-we were going to have children's church during our Sunday morning 10 a.m. service! And I was the teacher for the Four and Five Year Old Class! Pardon me while I do a little dance.

Everything would be different, but we could do it! We would have a story, make a craft, paint, and play a game, all while staying away from each other and not sharing ANYTHING! There would be sanitizing and cleaning throughout, but God would help us! Ideas were spinning through my mind. We would need extra activities because our snack time had been eliminated.

Our lesson was "Bread from Heaven" from Exodus 16, when God rained manna from heaven. It's a wonderful story of God's provision. My excitement grew as the day approached!

Naturally, on Sunday morning, all the kids were a little apprehensive; they'd just come out of home incarceration. What used to be familiar was now cloaked in masks and sanitizer! (I have to admit I was a little nervous, too.)

Each one of the kids was given a baggie of food pictures to color. A hamburger, French fries, broccoli, an ice cream cone, doughnuts, etc. were included. Their instructions were to only color the things they liked. They spread them out and got to work.

For story time, there was no going to the rug. They pushed their pics to the side and we had it right where they sat. The story of food raining down from heaven is a delicious one for children. We all named food we would want to fall out of the sky. Easton yelled, "Taco Bell!" All of us agreed.

When told that the Israelites grumbled and complained to Moses about being hungry, each one of our kids vowed that they had never done that even once. (I was skeptical.) "I'm soooo hungry!" I moaned loudly. Still they assured me they had never ever whined like that.

After the story, which Easton did not think was true at first, it was time to paint. Taylor, college student and helper extraordinaire, passed out coloring sheets of people picking up baskets of manna. While their masterpieces dried, we went back to the food pictures. They finished, then glued them to a large paper that read, "God gives me food to eat!"

Glancing at the clock, there was still time left. We played Food Bingo several times and suddenly Wyatt burst out, "WHEN ARE WE GOING TO HAVE

OUR SNACK?!" I was starving them with all the food pictures!

I reminded them that they would be leaving soon and we couldn't have snack because of STINKIN' CORONA! (I don't think I actually used the word 'stinkin' but it was implied.) Each one of them groaned and then we made little balls of manna with Playdough. We made worms, too, which were in the baskets of the Israelites who gathered too much!

We ended children's church with several games of Doggy Doggy Where's Your Bone and were getting started on Red Light/Green Light, which had absolutely no spiritual connection to manna.

Kids were picked up by parents who were socially distanced down the hall.

After the last one left, I had a little cry. (And maybe I will now, too.) It was precious and wonderful to have children back in church! I pictured Jesus saying, "The kids are back in My house!"

I'm soooo proud of the parents who brought their little one's! I'm already planning another lesson, but this one will NOT be food related!

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Labor in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Acts 20:35, "That so laboring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words, it is more ... to give than to receive." Righteous, Understanding, Blessed, Bountiful
3. Ecclesiastes 3:13 states, "And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all

his labor, it is the ... of God." Will, Gift, Guidance, Law

4. From Proverbs 14:23, "In all labor there is profit: but the ... of the lips tendeth only to penury"? Whispering, Closing, Talk, Howling

5. In Ephesians 4:28, "Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labor, working with his ..."? Brothers, Soul, Might, Hands

6. From Exodus 20:9, how many days shalt thou labor and do all thy work? Two, Four, Six, Seven

Answers on bottom of Page 9

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson



Robert G. Ingersoll is recognized as one of the most influential agnostics who ever lived. One night in New York he was dramatically and forcefully giving a lecture that explained his doubts about judgment and hell. When the gifted lecturer finished his address, a man who was very drunk stumbled his way to the front of the auditorium and said in slobbering terms, "I sure hope you are right, Brother Bob. I sure hope you are right because I'm counting on that!"

Few today want to think of God as a Judge. It is much more pleasant to think of Him as a loving, caring, compassionate and gracious Father - which He certainly is - than as a stern judge who

will "judge the world in righteousness." Many would apologize for considering their God in such terms, but this way of thinking is inconsistent with what God's Word teaches.

And there are many who want to fashion Him after their own likes and dislikes and endow Him the nature and character they would like Him to possess. They want to make Him consistent with their own wishful thinking so that they will be comfortable in their sins. Their god has the attributes of our God in that he is compassionate and loving but they refuse to accept the fact that His attributes also contain wrath and justice. This would mean that there would be no judgment and no punishment for sins. However, our God is a Holy God.

But our God, Who "is love," will one day judge "the world with righteousness and the people with truth." [Sower Ministries.org](http://SowerMinistries.org) 251

Wilt Thou Be Made Whole?

by BOB CASEY, preacher
Cornerstone Church of Christ
70 Bond Street at Camp Avenue in West Irvine

It is written in **John 5**, the story of a man who was seeking to help himself by getting into the Pool of Bethesda when the water was stirred up, reportedly by an angel, at certain times of the year. And whosoever stepped in first was healed of his infirmity.

Well, this certain man was there who had been evidently crippled for 38 years. Also, Jesus was there and saw him and knew of his long-time condition. Then, the Lord asked him, "Wilt thou be made whole?" Then he said, "Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me." But, then the Master intervened, saying, "Rise, take up thy bed, and walk." And immediately, the man took up his bed and walked. Why did this happen? Because the Master of this earth said so! Now, we can see the same kind of story related in Mark 2 when four friends brought a man in a similar circumstance, crippled and lying upon his bed as well. But this time, the Lord healed him because of the persistent faith of his four friends, saying, first, "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee."

Note that in these stories, these men have done something in their lives to enhance their conditions, with Christ saying to the first, "sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee," and to the second, "thy sins be forgiven thee." This infuriated the unbelieving Jews. They said, this is the Sabbath and not only that, he claims to have power to forgive sins." Then Jesus said, "Why reason ye these things in your hearts? ⁹Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy

sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) ¹¹I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house." Again, the cure was immediate. Again, the Jews were angered at this great display of his power. They would see it again many times.

Now, Friends, Jesus is not on the earth today as he was then because he is sitting at his father's right hand in Heaven. Acts 7:55 says so.

But, is his power, through obedience to his word still relevant to help folks today? Yes, when men are mentally crippled by their sins, the power is available to help them. Today, there are thousands out there who are crippled mentally and physically because of drugs and alcoholism, and other things as well. You need the power of Jesus to set you free. Yes, many of you are, or have been, trying to help yourselves, but many only relapse back into the old trend. Only Jesus can cleanse the mind and the body through obedience to his word. Nothing else will set you free. So, AA or clinics may offer some temporary help, but Jesus can clean up the whole man.

Are you willing to trust him by finally obeying him? If you will, the power is still available to help you. In Matthew 23:26, Jesus said to the Pharisee, "cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also." So, today, what men need is a cleanness of the heart. This can happen when people hear and obey Jesus by believing he can do it; then repentance and confession and, to seal the deal, yes, be baptized for the remission of your sins, and cleansing can and will take place. This is the only way to a clear heart. Yes, his power to save and heal is still available today.

If we can help, visit with us today.
Sincerely, Bob Casey, (1-859-369-4165), local

Stickeler's Puzzle



What is the probability of rolling a six when a die is tossed twice?

- A) 1/2
- B) 1/36
- C) 5/36
- D) 1/12
- E) 7/36

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Americanisms



"Accomplishing the impossible means only that the boss will add it to your regular duties."
— Doug Larson

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

MATTHEW 18:19-20

"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

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Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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Bible Word Search Answer on Page 9