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## **“Trusting God in the Wilderness”**

**Exodus 16:1-21**

**Memory Verse: John 6:35**

**Big Idea: God uses the wilderness to transform slaves into disciples.**

### **I. Life in the Wilderness Presents Tests and Challenges Designed by God to Expose Our Hearts (16:1-3)**

- A. Every test/challenge is an opportunity to trust God or to grumble to God.**
- B. Mark 7:14-23**
- C. John 15:5**
- D. Matthew 4:1-4**

### **II. Life in the Wilderness Demonstrates God’s Faithfulness in Order to Encourage Our Hearts (16:4-21)**

- A. “If I had not felt certain that every additional trial was ordered by infinite love and mercy, I could not have survived my accumulated suffering ” (Adoniram Judson).**
- B. God provides for his people supernaturally. (16:13-15)**
- C. God provides for his people sufficiently. (16:16-18)**
- QUESTION: If you are trusting God for eternal life, can you not also trust him for your daily bread?**
- D. God provides for his people daily. (16:19-21)**
  - 1. Israel learned discipline, humility, and dependence.**
  - 2. “Give us this day our daily bread” (Matthew 6:11).**

### **Conclusion**

- A. John 6:25-51**
- B. “Jesus was moving from the physical to the spiritual, from the temporal to the eternal, from the exodus to the cross. The manna in the wilderness was another type—something from the Old Testament that pointed to salvation in Christ. The manna taught Israel to depend on God for all their needs, but it had certain limitations. It was only bread; so it could only meet physical needs, and only for a little while. As Jesus pointed out, everyone who ate manna is now dead. Nevertheless, the bread taught people to look to God for their sustenance and salvation until he sent the true and living bread from Heaven. That bread came in the person and work of Jesus, who offered his body on the cross to give life to the world. The meaning of the manna is that all we need is Jesus” (Philip Graham Ryken).**
- C. The Gospel Definition**