

THE ONE WHO PROVIDES

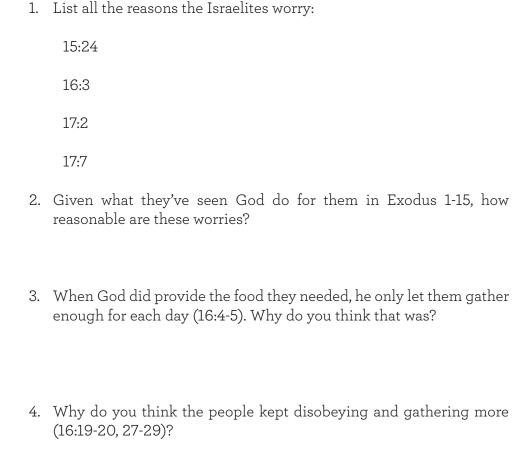
It's understandable that after crossing the sea on foot and seeing Egypt's army utterly destroyed, Israel finally trusted God (14:31). But it's one thing to trust God when he's just saved you. It's another thing to keep on trusting him through real hardships long after that. As we see in this part of Exodus, Israel found that a real challenge...

When do you find it hardest to trust that God's going to look after you?



KNOWING GOD FROM EXODUS

Read Exodus 15:22-17:7



- 5. God provided food and water when needed. But that's not all. In the rest of chapter 17 God rescues them when they're attacked. In chapter 18 Moses can't lead the people on his own so God provides elders to help him. So what do we learn about God's character from all this
 - taken together?

KNOWING GOD IN JESUS

This section of Israel's journey with God reveals something striking about him. He always provides his people with whatever they need, even when it looks like he won't. But he only gives what's needed, not what's wanted, so they'll keep on trusting him, not their stockpile of stuff. Of course, Jesus Christ is the full revelation of God. So we shouldn't be surprised that we see the same thing in Jesus. What might be surprising is how he provides for his followers...

Read John 6:1-14, 25-51 listening for its connections with the part of Exodus we've just read

- 6. What do the people really want from Jesus?
- 7. What does Jesus offer them instead?
- 8. Most of the people here think that's not providing what they need most. But what do you think?

FEEL THE WEIGHT

In Jesus, God has shown us that he's weighty enough to lean on always. But it can be hard to remember that...

- 9. What does it take for you (Something going wrong? Not enough sleep? Unanswered prayer? God feels distant?) to doubt that God will provide what you need?
- 10. In those times, it can be hard to feel the weight of what God's already provided for you in Jesus. But what difference would it make if you did?

What practical things could you do to help yourself remember?