



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 6: Provision Given  
Suggested Week of Use: January 5, 2025  
Core Passage: Exodus 16:11-19; 17:1-6

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### News Story Summary

In recent years, the term “food desert” has been used to describe areas in which residents do not have access to fresh, nutritious food. Many low-income citizens in downtown and urban areas rely on walking or public transportation. As a result, they do not have access to anything other than fast food and convenience stores near their homes. They are forced to spend more money on food with less nutritional value. So, the overall quality of life in these areas has decreased.

South Kansas City, Missouri, is one such area. But last month a new grocery store opened, offering fruit, vegetables, eggs, and protein-rich food at affordable prices. The store, called Farm Fresh Market, hopes to provide not only groceries, but also support for families, new jobs, and a gathering place for neighbors. One resident says, “It’s very frustrating to drive 20-25 minutes to get groceries. Having something right down the street is nice and convenient. I’m hoping to save money, and it’s definitely saving time.”

For more information on this story, search “South Kansas City Food Desert.” You can also find a helpful definition of “food desert” by entering the term in your search bar.

### Engage

Replace the “Who’s on First” activity on page 69 with a summary of the news story above. Use information you have gathered about “food deserts” to add context. Ask: *Approximately, how far do you drive to buy groceries? What would you do if you didn’t drive?* Encourage adults to think about the downtown area of your city or a nearby large city. Discuss the challenges residents might have in securing healthy food. Share: *In today’s passage, we’ll see that the Israelites were in a literal food desert, and some of them were ready to go back to Egypt. We’ll see how God proved who He is and what He can do by how He provided.*

### Challenge

Refer back to the story about food deserts and discuss ways your church could address such needs. Invite adults to refer back to Exodus 16:1. Ask: *What was the name of the desert the Israelites were traveling through?* (the Wilderness of Sin). Emphasize that this name refers to the Sinai Peninsula and not to disobedience to God, but it is a useful reminder that everyone is stuck in a “wilderness of sin.” Say: *We must rely on God to deliver us from it.* Close by sharing the gospel, using the Plan of Salvation on the inside front cover of the Leader Guide. As you pray, invite adults to praise God for His greatest provision, a way out of the “wilderness of sin.”