



Parent Connection



God Is Caring! Jehovah Jireh—Lord

Exodus 16:1-36

Key Verse:

My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.
Psalm 121:2

God Provides All You Need

Isn't it nice to have a God that cares not only about the big things, but the small things, too? Jehovah Jireh (the Lord Provides) knows exactly what you need. He made you and He knows how best to take care of you. God provides everything you need (Philippians 4:19), but not necessarily everything you want. There is a big difference between want and need.

Many people today think their lives are not complete unless they have the latest electronics, the trendiest clothes, the biggest house, and the nicest car. Even young children incorporate this mentality into their lives as they learn from the attitudes and actions of adults around them. You can help your children gain a healthy perspective by focusing primarily on needs and not wants. Help your children know that Jehovah Jireh will provide what they need, just as He provided for Moses.

God called Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. Although Moses made several excuses, God provided assurance that He would be with him. Over the following months and years, Moses faced many challenging days and situations. God always provided exactly what Moses needed, in accordance with His plan and timing. In Exodus 16, the children of Israel were once again doing what they quite often did—complaining. God kept His promise and provided food for them. Throughout all of Moses' days, God continued to meet the needs of the children of Israel, and He still meets needs today. Don't believe it? Just read Matthew 6:25-34.

You can help your child identify and appreciate everything God has provided for your family. Begin by thanking God for His provision.

For additional information on the names of God read *The Names of God* by Ken Hemphill (Broadman and Holman Publishers, 2001).

Act On It!

How has God provided for your family? Give each family member a sheet of paper and a pencil. Say: "How do you know that God cares for you? Write down as many ways as possible that you know God cares for you." Set a time limit of three minutes. After each person has completed his list, allow him to read it aloud.

Read Psalm 55:22. Ask each family member to share any prayer requests he has. As a family, pray for each person by name. Thank God that He is Jehovah—Jireh, the Lord who provides.

Display each family member's list in a prominent place where the whole family will see it and be reminded of how God cares for your family.