

# Kids' Chronicle

## God feeds hungry people

BY JOE SARNICOLA

Lawanda waved goodbye to her friends as they left for home after her 10th birthday party. As she closed the door, she looked up at her mother and said, "I'm lucky to have friends, presents, and a cake for my party. I know God takes care of us. But there are so many hungry and lonely people in the world. Doesn't God care about them?"

"Of course he does," her mother answered. "God loves everyone. We don't always understand why some people do not have enough food or a place to live, but maybe God wants to see if we will love our neighbors and share what we have with them. That's what the apostles did, and everyone had enough for their needs." (Acts 4:32-37)

Lawanda thought for a moment about her mother's answer and then asked, "Did Moses ever go hungry?"

"Moses had all of the children of Israel to care for. There were times when they were so hungry they were angry with Moses, and even with God."

"Really?" asked Lawanda. "What happened?"

Moses and the Israelites were at the Red Sea's when they saw the Egyptian army, armed and on horseback, chasing after them.

"Moses, did you bring us out of Egypt to get killed?" he was asked. "Haven't enough of us died already? We would rather be slaves and alive than free and dead."

"Do not be afraid," said Moses. "If we believe in the Lord, he will defeat our enemies and rescue us."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Hold your cane over the water of the river



Illustration by Kathy Welsh

and your people will cross on dry land." Moses did as the Lord instructed and a strong wind came out of the sky and held the waters back. As the last Israelite crossed the river safely, Moses lowered his cane and the water rushed forward, washing away the Egyptian soldiers.

Lawanda interrupted her mother's story. "But what does that have to do with being hungry?"

"Let me finish and I'll tell you," her mother replied.

The Israelites traveled across a desert for three days. After running out of water, there was none to be found. Finally they came to an oasis, only to find the water unfit to drink.

Again the people complained to Moses. "Did you lead us across the Red Sea to have us die of thirst near a lake of polluted water?"

God told Moses to throw a special

piece of wood into the water. After Moses obeyed Him the water became pure and clean. Then the Lord said, "Tell the people of Israel I am the God who heals."

Several weeks later, the food began to run out. "There was always enough to eat in Egypt," one person said. "Are we going to starve here in the desert?"

Again Moses went to the Lord and delivered his answer to the Israelites. "God will send quails to eat in the evening, and in the morning he will provide a special food. Take only what you will eat for the day. Do not hoard food and do not be selfish. Anything extra you take will spoil and you will not be able to eat it."

As he promised, God sent flocks of quails for the people to eat in the evening and a dew-like substance called manna in the morning. The Israelites lived on this for the next 40 years.

"God really does love all of us, doesn't he?" asked Lawanda. "Even when we're stubborn and we complain like the Israelites."

"Yes, he does, dear," her mother answered.

Lawanda then stood up and ran into the kitchen.

"Where are you going?" her mother asked.

"To get some cans out of the cupboard. Maybe if I give to the church food pantry, God will multiply it so that everyone will have enough food to eat."

Read more about it: Exodus 16; 2 Kings 4.

## Q&A

1. What did God do when the Israelites complained about being hungry?

2. Why did the apostles have enough for their needs?

## Bible Trivia

What was the name of Moses' brother? Exodus 4

Send answers to: Catholic Courier Bible Trivia, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y., 14624. Please include your name, address and school name with your entry.

All entries must be received by August 11, 1994. A winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries submitted. The winner will be notified by mail and receive a gift.

Last month's winner was Becky Sutherland of Holy Trinity School in Webster. She knew that a dove landed on Jesus's shoulder when he was baptized.

## Bible Questions

Using your Bible, answer the following questions. Answers found on page 12.

1. To whom are we to be generous? Deuteronomy 15:11

2. What will happen if we give to others? Luke 6:38

3. Who should we love as much as ourselves? Matthew 22:39

4. What is better than gold and silver? Proverbs 16:16

5. How can we obey Christ's law? Galatians 6:2

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