# Faith That Works - Part 3 The Monotony of Manna

"And the people of Israel also began to complain. "Oh, for some meat!" they exclaimed. "We remember the fish we used to eat for free in Egypt. And we had all the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, But now our appetites are gone. <u>All we ever see is this manna!</u>"

Numbers 11:4b-6 NLT

That evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor. When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, "WHAT IS IT?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread the Lord has given you to eat.

Exodus 16:13-15 NIV

The people of Israel called the bread manna. It was white like coriander seed and tasted like wafers made with honey. Exodus 16:31 NIV

So the people of Israel ate manna for forty years until they arrived at the land where they would settle. They ate manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan. Exodus 16:35 NLT

#### Israel's discontent and disdain seen in Numbers 11:6

- "All we ever see is this manna!" (NLT)
- "There is nothing at all to eat but this manna day after day." (TEV)
- "Nothing tastes good out here; all we get is manna, manna, manna." (MSG)

### The Manna Became Monotonous!

- "They forgot his works." (Psalm 106:13 NKJV)
- "They complained in their tents..." Psalm 106:25 (NKJV)
- "Your murmurings are not against us, but against the Lord!" (Exodus 16:8 NET)

#### MANNA... What was it REALLY all about?

## 1. It's all about trusting.

"<u>Trust in the Lord</u> with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJV)

## 2. It's all about testing.

Then the Lord said to Moses, "I will rain down bread from heaven for you.

The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will <u>test them</u> and see whether they will <u>follow my instructions</u>.

Exodus 16:4 NIV

## 3. It's all about teaching.

Moses said to them, "<u>Don't keep any of it to eat the next day</u>." But some of the people did not listen to Moses and kept part of it to eat the next morning. It became full of worms and began to stink, so Moses was angry with those people.

Exodus 16:19-20 NCV

## 4. It's all about timing.

On the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers each. And when all the leaders of the congregation came and told Moses, he said to them, "This is what the Lord has commanded: 'Tomorrow is a day of solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to the Lord; bake what you will bake and boil what you will boil, and all that is left over lay aside to be kept till the morning." So they laid it aside till the morning, as Moses commanded them, and it did not stink, and there were no worms in it.

Exodus 16:22-24 ESV

When you do things God's way <u>it lasts</u>, but when you do things your way <u>it stinks</u>!

# **Conclusion:**

NEVER LET THE **MONOTONOUS** DISTRACT YOU FROM THE **MIRACULOUS!**