



2010 Continuing Lay Training Denomination-Wide Study

Leader's Guide

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PREPARING TO TEACH THIS STUDY

As you read *Manna* and this Leader’s Guide, make sure you take time to review the PowerPoint resource available at www.clt.nazarene.org.

Discussion questions have been provided by the author at the end of the *Manna* text. These questions will lead your group to explore their own spiritual journey as they learn to trust God for their *daily bread*.

Expectations of Leaders

Leaders need to have a strong commitment to the local church and its leadership. It is essential for group leaders to be in support of the staff and lay leadership of their church. This is especially true if some of the participants are new to the church or are unfamiliar with Christian principles. A tremendous amount of damage can be done if group leaders compromise the leadership of the church by criticism or indifference.

Preparing to Teach

Keep the following guidelines in mind as you make preparations to lead this study:

- Read *Manna* and the Leader’s Guide in its entirety to get an overview of the study.
- Go to www.clt.nazarene.org to preview the PowerPoint.
- Think of people in your group who will need to be contacted ahead of time in order to request them to read passages from the text or other assignment.
- If your group will meet in homes, be sure the home is scheduled at least one week ahead of time.
- If someone will be responsible for preparing refreshments or drinks, allow persons to sign-up for the week they would like to participate. (Keep the refreshments light and simple).
- Outline each lesson plan in your own words

or map it on paper to give yourself a sense of direction for each session.

- Pray for the direction of the Holy Spirit (1) in the way you prepare, (2) in what you say during the sessions, (3) in the way you respond to comments or questions by class members, and (4) in the way you give time for the Spirit to speak to participants’ hearts as each session progresses.

Engaging the Participants

Stress the importance of reading the assigned chapter and doing any other prescribed activities ahead of time, so that everyone is prepared and the discussion flows from the material the author has written.

Session at a Glance

- **Engage Interest:** ice breaker
- **Working Together:** group compares and discusses ideas and perceptions
- **Reflection:** participants apply what has been learned in the session
- **Looking Ahead and Closing:** reading assignment and prayer

A suggested timeline for the weekly meeting might look like:

5 minutes	Welcome/Refreshments
10 minutes	Engage Interest
30 minutes	Working Together
5 minutes	Reflection
5 minutes	Looking Ahead and Closing

Resources

You will find the PowerPoint available at the clt.nazarene.org web site useful in your study sessions. For a complete listing of products for pastors, church leaders, and interested lay people, visit www.clt.nazarene.org.

CONTINUING LAY TRAINING

Registration and Reporting

Welcome to Continuing Lay Training. Before you proceed, make sure you have properly registered this class with the Continuing Lay Training (CLT) office in Lenexa, Kansas. You may telephone your course registration by calling 888-243-2767 or e-mail your registration to clt@nazarene.org. Once registered, make sure you have a class report form.

When the course has been completed, return the class report form to the CLT office via email, mail, or fax (913-577-0872). The class report form can be downloaded from the CLT web site. Each participant will be awarded CLT credit for his or her participation.

Here is a brief checklist of instructions:

- Advertise the class and plan a special registration time.
- Register the class with the CLT office and make sure you have a class report form.
- Order textbooks directly from Nazarene Publishing House (e-mail: orders@nph.com; on-line: www.nph.com; toll-free: 800-877-0700) at least three weeks before the starting date. A 10 percent discount is available if you order more than five of the same book. Unused books may be returned for credit if done promptly, postage paid, and the books are in good condition.
- At the close of the class, report the class to the CLT office in Lenexa, Kansas. Keep a copy for your file.

Use one of the following methods for reporting.

- Paper—request a hardcopy of the class report form, fill it in, and return it to the CLT office.
- Electronic version—an electronic fill-in template can be sent to you via E-mail or you may download it from the CLT web site at www.clt.nazarene.org.

When reporting by paper or electronic version, the CLT office will send a notice of credit along with credit cards for each of the participants of the class. You are to fill in the name, unit number, book title, date, and name of the sponsoring group. Sign the credit cards before presenting to each participant in a public service.

For more information, please refer to the catalog, the web site, or contact the CLT office in Lenexa, Kansas.

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Session 1

Living on Manna: The Call to Daily Dependence

This session will include material from *Manna*, Chapter 1: Living on Manna: The Call to Daily Dependence (pp. 11-22) and questions from Chapter 1 (pp. 140-141).



Session Goal

To help participants recognize that God’s presence and provision for today is sufficient to trust Him with our journey.

Preparing to Lead

- Pray for wisdom, an open mind and heart, and guidance as you read through Chapter 1: Living on Manna: The Call to Daily Dependence (pp. 11-22) in preparation for leading this study.
- Review Chapter 1 questions (pp. 140-141). Choose the questions you will use in the session.
- Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
- If using the PowerPoint as part of your presentation, go to www.clt.nazarene.org and download the PowerPoint, *Manna*.
- Be prepared or ask someone to present the story of the author, “Learning Daily Dependence” (pp. 12-13).
- Be prepared or ask someone to share their personal journey of learning to “live on manna.”

Engage Interest

Choose **one** of the following options.

Option 1

Share or ask someone to share the story of the

author, “Learning Daily Dependence” (pp. 12-13).

Option 2

Be prepared or ask someone to share their personal journey of learning to “live on manna.”

Working Together

Say, Living on manna is a wonderful, yet frightening, journey on which we learn to trust God for our daily provision. It isn’t a journey we complete. It is a daily journey of praying again and again, “Give us today our daily bread.”

Lead participants in discussion of the questions for Chapter 1 (pp. 140-141).

Reflection

Challenge participants to spend some time during the next week in honest conversation with God about what it means to “live on manna.”

Looking Ahead and Closing

Ask the group to prepare for the next session by reading Chapter 2, The Question of Belief: Is God Really There? (pp. 23-34).

Close with prayer. Ask God to reveal those places in your relationship where He wants to transform your heart and deepen your dependency on His ability to provide.

Session 2

The Question of Belief: Is God Really There?

This session will include material from *Manna*, Chapter 2: The Question of Belief: Is God Really There? (pp. 23-34) and questions from Chapter 2 (pp. 143-144).

Session Goal

To help participants find the peace God offers when we learn to place our trust in His provision and refuse to allow worry and panic to rule our lives.

Preparing to Lead

- Pray for wisdom, an open mind and heart, and guidance as you read through Chapter 2: The Question of Belief: Is God Really There? in preparation for leading this study.
- Review Chapter 2 questions (pp. 143-144). Choose the questions you will use in the session.
- Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
- If using the PowerPoint as part of your presentation, go to www.clt.nazarene.org and download the PowerPoint, *Manna*.
- Be prepared or ask someone to present the illustration of Laura and Steve (pp. 27-29) OR the illustration of the parents of the author (pp.31-33).
- Be prepared or ask someone to share a personal illustration of a time God provided for needs (physical, emotional, or spiritual).

Engage Interest

Choose **one** of the following options.

Option 1

Share or ask someone to share the illustration of Laura and Steve (pp. 27-29) OR the illustra-

tion of the parents of the author (pp.31-33).

Option 2

Be prepared or ask someone to share a personal illustration of a time God provided for needs (physical, emotional, or spiritual).

Working Together

Say, If we are going to be able to live out Jesus' call to pray, "Give us today our daily bread," we must first settle the question of belief. Is God really there? More importantly, does He really care about me? To put it more plainly, "Who's got my back, God or me?"

Lead participants in discussion of the questions for Chapter 2 (pp. 143-144).

Reflection

Challenge participants to spend time this week thinking about issues and circumstances that cause them to worry or fret. Ask them to be open and honest with God about these concerns.

Looking Ahead and Closing

Ask the group to prepare for the next session by reading Chapter 3, The Question of Provision: What Keeps Me Safe? (pp. 35-56).

Close with prayer. Ask God to reveal those areas in your life you need to surrender to Him. Pray that you will learn to express your absolute dependence on His ability to provide one day at a time.

Session 3

The Question of Provision: What Keeps Me Safe?

This session will include material from *Manna*, Chapter 3: The Question of Provision: What Keeps Me Safe? (pp. 35-56) and questions from Chapter 3 (pp. 145-146).

Session Goal

To help participants recognize and understand no matter what the circumstances, timing, or outcome of difficult times, we are the “apple of His eye” and we can trust God to protect us.

Preparing to Lead

- Pray for wisdom, an open mind and heart, and guidance as you read through Chapter 3: The Question of Provision: What Keeps Me Safe? (pp. 35-56) in preparation for leading this study.
- Review Chapter 3 questions (pp. 145-146). Choose the questions you will use in the session.
- Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
- If using the PowerPoint as part of your presentation, go to www.clt.nazarene.org and download the PowerPoint, *Manna*.
- Be prepared or ask someone to present the illustration about the death of Kevin and Diana’s daughter (pp. 36-43).
- Be prepared or ask someone to share a personal illustration of a time when they had to trust God even when the journey did not turn out like they prayed it would.

Engage Interest

Choose **one** of the following options.

Option 1

Share or ask someone to present the illustration about the death of Kevin and Diana’s daughter (pp. 36-43).

Option 2

Share or ask someone to share a personal illustration of a time when they had to trust God even when the journey did not turn out like they prayed it would.

Working Together

Say, The question we must answer if we are going to embody Jesus’ call to live on manna, “Give us today our daily bread” is “What keeps me safe?” This is the question of provision. We must ask ourselves, “What sources of safety will I turn to when my spiritual journey gets tough?”

Lead participants in discussion of the questions for Chapter 3 (pp. 145-146).

Reflection

Challenge participants to meditate on 1 Corinthians 15:55-58 this week. Ask them to consider: Do I trust God to protect? Do I believe He has provided the ultimate protection—resurrection?

Looking Ahead and Closing

Ask the group to prepare for the next session by reading Chapter 4, The Question of Values: Is Enough for Today Enough for Me? (pp. 57-76).

Close with prayer. Thank God for His promises and provision and for Jesus our Manna. Ask God to help us as we learn to trust Him as our One and Only source of protection and provision.

Session 4

The Question of Values: Is Enough for Today Enough for Me?

This session will include material from *Manna*, Chapter 4, The Question of Values: Is Enough for Today Enough for Me? (pp. 57-76) and questions from Chapter 4 (pp. 148-149).

Session Goal

To help participants evaluate the level to which materialism is affecting their relationship with God.

Preparing to Lead

- Pray for wisdom, an open mind and heart, and guidance as you read through Chapter 4, The Question of Values: Is Enough for Today Enough for Me? (pp. 57-76) in preparation for leading this study.
- Review Chapter 4 questions (pp. 148-149). Choose the questions you will use in the session.
- Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
- If using the PowerPoint as part of your presentation, go to www.clt.nazarene.org and download the PowerPoint, *Manna*.
- Be prepared or ask someone to present the illustration from the author's experience, "Accumulation or Blessing?" (pp. 62-65).
- Be prepared or ask someone to share a personal illustration of a time when following God's call meant walking away from abundance.

Engage Interest

Choose **one** of the following options.

Option 1

Be prepared or ask someone to present the illustration from the author's experience, "Accumulation or Blessing?" (pp. 62-65).

Option 2

Be prepared or ask someone to share a personal illustration of a time when following God's call meant walking away from abundance.

Working Together

Say, If we are going to adopt Jesus' call to live on manna, we must address the question of values. Jesus is calling us to a value system where daily provision is enough for obedience. We must answer the question, "When is enough, enough?"

Lead participants in discussion of the questions for Chapter 4 (pp. 148-149).

Reflection

Challenge participants to read and meditate on Matthew 6:24 this week. Ask them to consider: Am I thirsty for stuff or for God? Is my thirst for accumulation and consumption leading me away from the true source of provision? Am I allowing materialism to hinder my relationship with God?

Looking Ahead and Closing

Ask the group to prepare for the next session by reading Chapter 5, The Question of Desire: Do I Want Entertainment or Transformation? (pp. 77-89).

Close with prayer. Ask God to help you be obedient to His Word and to maintain a proper relationship with Him. Pray that you will avoid the temptation to embrace the value system of the world and instead trust Him to "direct our paths."

Session 5

The Question of Desire: Do I Want Entertainment or Transformation?

This session will include material from *Manna*, Chapter 5, The Question of Desire: Do I Want Entertainment or Transformation? (pp. 77-89) and questions from Chapter 5 (p. 151).

Session Goal

To help participants understand they need to choose whether they want to be spectators of God's miraculous work or participants in it.

Preparing to Lead

- Pray for wisdom, an open mind and heart, and guidance as you read through Chapter 5, The Question of Desire: Do I Want Entertainment or Transformation? (pp. 77-89) in preparation for leading this study.
- Review Chapter 5 questions (p. 151). Choose the questions you will use in the session.
- Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
- If using the PowerPoint as part of your presentation, go to www.clt.nazarene.org and download the PowerPoint, *Manna*.
- Be prepared or ask someone to present the author's struggle while writing *Manna* (p. 89).
- Be prepared or ask someone to share a personal illustration of how a time of trial became a period of transformation.

Engage Interest

Choose **one** of the following options.

Option 1

Be prepared or ask someone to present the author's struggle while writing *Manna* (p. 89).

Option 2

Be prepared or ask someone to share a personal illustration of how a time of trial became a period of transformation.

Working Together

Say, If we are going to live under God's provision and enjoy His blessings, we need to determine what we are really after. Do we want to be entertained by God's miracles or transformed by them? We can be entertained while watching from a safe distance, but can only be transformed when we need God's intervention.

Lead participants in discussion of the questions for Chapter 5 (p. 151).

Reflection

Challenge participants to read and meditate on Hebrews 12:11 this week. Ask them to consider: Do I want entertainment, comfort, or transformation? Is my primary desire to be like Christ?

Looking Ahead and Closing

Ask the group to prepare for the next session by reading Chapter 6, God's Answer: The Sweetness of Provision (pp. 91-109).

Close with prayer. Ask God to help you set your focus on Christ, the Good Shepherd. Ask that He give you the courage, desire, and willingness to be transformed into the likeness of Christ.

Session 6

God's Answer: The Sweetness of Provision

This session will include material from *Manna*, Chapter 6, God's Answer: The Sweetness of Provision (pp. 91-109) and questions from Chapter 6 (pp. 153-154).

Session Goal

To help participants recognize that total dependency on God for daily provision teaches us that living on manna is a powerful force of transformation in our lives.

Preparing to Lead

- Pray for wisdom, an open mind and heart, and guidance as you read through Chapter 6, God's Answer: The Sweetness of Provision (pp. 91-109) in preparation for leading this study.
- Review Chapter 6 questions (pp. 153-154). Choose the questions you will use in the session.
- Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
- If using the PowerPoint as part of your presentation, go to www.clt.nazarene.org and download the PowerPoint, *Manna*.
- Be prepared or ask someone to present the story of the author's parents as they learned to trust God's ability to provide (pp. 97-99) OR the author's faithfulness to tithe (pp. 101-103).
- Be prepared or ask someone to share a personal account of a time when you experienced confidence, peace, and provision as you trusted God in a difficult or unknown situation.

Engage Interest

Choose **one** of the following options.

Option 1

Be prepared or ask someone to present the story of the author's parents as they learned to trust God's ability to provide (pp. 97-99) OR the author's faithfulness to tithe (pp. 101-103).

Option 2

Be prepared or ask someone to share a personal account of a time when you experienced confidence, peace, and provision as you trusted God in a difficult or unknown situation.

Working Together

Say, When resources are just in time or just enough, when relationships require more effort than we feel we can give, when our energy levels could not possibly be drained any further, maintaining an attitude that accepts trials as good is difficult. Yet as we embrace trusting God at these times, we allow the Holy Spirit to transform our lives and give us "sweet" victory.

Lead participants in discussion of the questions for Chapter 6 questions (pp. 153-154).

Reflection

Ask participants to spend time this week evaluating and praying about the legacy of faith they are providing for family and friends. Ask them to consider: How do I handle adversity? How am I passing on my faith in God the Provider?

Looking Ahead and Closing

Ask the group to prepare for the next session by reading Chapter 7, Spiritual Transformation: Ready to Take the Land (pp. 111-133).

Close with prayer. Ask God to give you the courage and strength to trust Him when times are difficult and you can't see the answer to your problems. Pray for an attitude of peace and expectation rather than one of worry and accusation when challenging situations occur.

Session 7

Spiritual Transformation: Ready to Take the Land

This session will include material from *Manna*, Chapter 7, Spiritual Transformation: Ready to Take the Land (pp. 111-133) and questions from Chapter 7 (pp. 155-156).

Session Goal

To help participants understand we have a choice: we can either come through adversity with a greater faith or we can be cynical, bitter, and destroyed by the adversity.

Preparing to Lead

- Pray for wisdom, an open mind and heart, and guidance as you read through Chapter 7, Spiritual Transformation: Ready to Take the Land (pp. 111-133) in preparation for leading this study.
- Review Chapter 7 questions (pp. 155-156). Choose the questions you will use in the session.
- Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
- If using the PowerPoint as part of your presentation, go to www.clt.nazarene.org and download the PowerPoint, *Manna*.
- Be prepared or ask someone to present the story of the author's father (pp. 120-122).
- Be prepared or ask someone to share a personal account of staying faithful even when God lead you into a difficult or dangerous situation.

Engage Interest

Choose **one** of the following options.

Option 1

Be prepared or ask someone to present the story of the author's father (pp. 120-122).

Option 2

Be prepared or ask someone to share a personal account of staying faithful even when God lead you into a difficult or dangerous situation.

Working Together

Say, Those with great faith look to heaven and ask for God's help. Those who are spiritually destroyed look to heaven and accuse God of being untrustworthy. When we choose great faith, God is able to use us to transform our world.

Lead participants in discussion of the questions for Chapter 7 questions (pp. 155-156).

Reflection

Ask participants to think about Jesus' call to pray, "Give us today our daily bread." Ask them to consider: Do I believe and live like God is my provider? Have I asked God to transform my heart? Am I living on God's manna?

Closing

Close with prayer. Thank God for His daily provision. Ask Him to remove anything in your life that is not surrendered to His leadership. Ask God to increase your faith and keep you from the temptation to turn to other sources for daily manna.

CONTINUING LAY TRAINING

Thank you for participating in this CLT class study. Please review the checklist below. We hope you will continue to study and train for ministry in your local church by using Continuing Lay Training (CLT) materials.

Checklist

- ✓ Advertise the class and plan a special registration time.
- ✓ Register the class with the CLT office and make sure you have a class report form.
- ✓ Order textbooks directly from Nazarene Publishing House (e-mail: orders@nph.com; on-line: www.nph.com; toll-free: 800-877-0700) at least three weeks before the starting date. A 10 percent discount is available if you order more than five of the same book. Unused books may be returned for credit if done promptly, postage paid, and the books are in good condition.
- ✓ At the close of the class, report the class to the CLT office. Keep a copy for your file. Use one of the following methods for reporting.
 1. Request a hardcopy of the class report form, fill it in, and return it to the CLT office.
 2. An electronic fill-in template can be sent to you via E-mail.

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