



# Bible Passages for Reflection and Discussion

## Exodus 16:13-21

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. This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Everyone is to gather as much as they need. Take an omer\* for each person you have in your tent.'"

The Israelites did as they were told; some gathered much, some little. And when they measured it by the omer\*, the one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little. Everyone had gathered just as much as they needed.

Then Moses said to them, "No one is to keep any of it until morning."

However, some of them paid no attention to Moses; they kept part of it until morning, but it was full of maggots and began to smell. So Moses was angry with them.

Each morning everyone gathered as much as they needed, and when the sun grew hot, it melted away.

\* a measurement of about 2 litres

## Some reflections from this passage

- God intervenes, with compassion, to help feed the hungry
- We are taught about the dignity of being able to work to produce and gather food for ourselves
- We should be content with enough; those who gather more

are left with nothing extra

- Those who gather just enough are not lacking anything
- The remainder that the world's good is for all.

**If any one of you has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in you?  
1 John 3:17**

## Matthew 25:35-40

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,

I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,

I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me,

I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?'"

When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?"

When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?"

"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did for me.'"

## Some reflections from this passage:

- The call to respond to our neighbour's need and to share with others
- The importance of the preferential option for the poor. The special care Jesus himself showed to the "least" - the poor and suffering among his people
- A reminder of the world of Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador: "Aspire not to have more, but to BE more".

## Also:

### Mark 12:44

The widow who gave all she owned

### Acts 20:35

The blessings of giving and protecting the vulnerable

### 2 Corinthians 8:9

The example of Jesus' ultimate gift

### Matthew 14:20

The feeding of the multitude

### Leviticus 19:9-11

Leave a portion of your harvest to the poor

### Luke 10:25-37

The parable of the Good Samaritan

