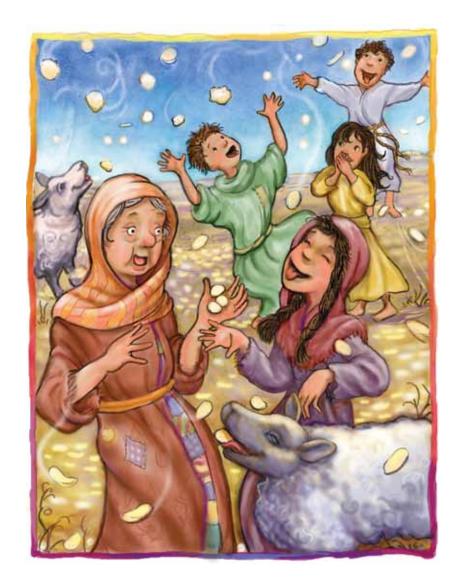


he Israelites rubbed their rumbling tummies. What would they eat out here in the desert? "We're going to starve!" they cried to Moses.

God had a plan to take care of his people. A layer of dew fell all around the camp, leaving flakes like frost on the ground. "What is this?" the people wondered.

"This is food from God," said Moses. "He will send it each day. Gather what you need for one day only. Don't keep any extra."

The white flakes tasted like wafers made with sweet honey. Mmmm! The people called the flakes *manna*. They could bake it or boil it.





Out in the fields, sleepy shepherds guarding their sheep suddenly opened their eyes and blinked!
Brilliant light shone all around! An angel said to the shepherds, "Don't be afraid. I have good news! Tonight in Bethlehem your Savior is born! You will find him wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

Then the whole sky filled up with angels praising God. "Glory to God and peace to those who please him!" they said.

The shepherds hurried into Bethlehem and found Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus, just as the angel told them.

14