

A Field Trip as we continue God's Great Adventure - in Storytelling

An Okanagan Adventure - with a Metchosin connection

- The Grist Mill, Keremeos
- for pictures goto <http://www.bcheritage.ca/drawings/teachers/games/intro.html>

Grist is the process of getting grain ready to be ground by the mill. Before the mill was built, the land in the Similkameen valley was occupied by a number of First Nations. Next came fur trading and the gold rush. The Hudson's Bay Company built a post to carry on fur trade and supply the gold miners with all the equipment they needed. In 1872 a man by the name of Barrington Price, came to the area to set up a cattle ranch. He knew the Similkameen valley would be a good area for farming and would be able to support a Grist Mill. In 1877, Barrington Price opened for business!

The wheat fields at Keremeos are home to some of the oldest styles of wheat in the world. **Einkorn** and **Red Fife** are two well known types of wheat that have been preserved at the Keremeos site. Keeping seeds and growing wheat is important for the preservation of that type of wheat. Mixing wheat, such as Red Fife, with other brands is another way to ensure its survival.. It is important to maintain the different types of wheat for future generations of Canadians

The mill itself depends on water for power.. The water travelled along a wooden flume to the water wheel. With the help of gravity, the water falls on the wheel causing it to turn. When the wheel turns it provides a source of power to run the mill.

An important aspect of making flour that is often not mentioned is the machinery that takes the wheat and flour to their appropriate machines. Inside the Mill Augers and elevators move grain and flour from one machine to the next. This system of automation was developed in 1795 by a great American genius of invention, Oliver Evans. It became the industry standard, represented perfectly in the wooden augers and bucket elevator structures of the Grist Mill."

Milling and the industry associated with grain is one of the oldest and most prevalent in the world. All cultures have bread products at the centre of their diet, no less, the culture of ancient Israel.

TEXT

The whole congregation of the Israelites set out . . . and Israel came to the wilderness

- living between a memory and a promise

TEXT

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

- tension expressed in confusion, frustration, even anger
- Once again, lets dump on the leaders, Obama example
- huge role for leadership amidst a pilgrim band - hymntext

Who would true valour see,  
Let him come hither;

One here will constant be,  
Come wind, come weather  
There's no discouragement  
Shall make him once relent  
His first avowed intent  
To be a pilgrim.

Whoso beset him round  
With dismal stories  
Do but themselves confound;  
His strength the more is.  
No lion can him fright,  
He'll with a giant fight,  
He will have a right  
To be a pilgrim.

Hobgoblin nor foul fiend  
Can daunt his spirit,  
He knows he at the end  
Shall life inherit.  
Then fancies fly away,  
He'll fear not what men say,  
He'll labor night and day  
To be a pilgrim.

- pilgrimage and wilderness living is tough - get on with it!
- a characteristic pose for faith communities in the modern era
- to those who always say "settle down" I say "think again" we're meant to be mobile!

#### TEXT

Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to **rain bread from heaven** for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days."

- a Godly generosity despite revolt
- "rain bread from heaven" NOTE; vertical orientation
- Manna
  - is the name of a food that God provided for the Israelites during their travels in the
  - associated in one article as magic mushrooms
  - various natural food substances, usually associated with the locale and taste of the author
  - most concretely, Manna is from heaven

#### Later biblical references

- Providence and sustenance
  - Give us this day our daily bread, Lord's Prayer
  - Feeding miracles, loaves and fishes

Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and

blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; (Gospel according to Matthew)

- Communal

- we being many are one body

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. (1 Corinthians)

## TEXT

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. This is what the LORD has commanded:

‘Gather as much of it as each of you need, an omer to a person according to the number of persons, all providing for those in their own tents.’” The Israelites did so, some gathering more, some less. But when they measured it with an omer, those who gathered much had nothing over, and those who gathered little had no shortage; they gathered as much as each of them needed.

- the Omer (4 litres) as a specific measure
- **What is enough is what IS enough!** Not too much, not too little
- Once again, Sabbath

On the sixth day they gathered twice as much food, two omers apiece. 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 want to bake and boil what you want to boil, and all that is left over put aside to be kept until morning.’”

### **The optimal significance of sabbath rest**

- confidence in the generous provision of God
- the fact manna cannot be identified enhances the mystery of God’s provision, W5s of Journalism - Who? What? Where? When? and Why?
- end result of our industry depends on the generosity which provides our resources - a divine generosity
- generosity, Rowan Williams

**The beginning of all our stories, and the stories of the planets and protozoa and dinosaurs, is generosity.** None of this needed to be; God wanted it so, out of the impulse of love. God wanted the divine life to be shared and echoed. **God wanted to generate in time and change the sort of life that is his own---capable of love and freedom and relationship.** What he just is, he repeats in the processes of becoming. And for that reason, when God engages with the history of human beings, we should know that what we shall meet is generosity and faithfulness.