



The Biscuit MIRACLE

"Father in Heaven, we
have no food for supper.
Please help us."

By Julia A. Anderson

A true story from the USA.

The freezing wind howled, and snow swirled around the handcart. Jane pulled her thin blanket tighter around her shoulders. Her feet felt numb, but she kept walking. They were on their way to Salt Lake City, Utah.

Jane and her family had learned about The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in England. When the prophet asked Church members to come to Utah, her family saved every bit of money they could to make the journey. They sailed across the ocean. Now they were traveling by handcart across the plains. They had walked for several months, and they were running out of food.

Tears slid down Jane's cheeks. "I'm so hungry," she told her older brother Thomas. "I don't think I can walk another step!"

Thomas cut a piece of loose rawhide from the wheel of the cart. "Here, chew on this," he said. "It will be OK."

"Thank you," Jane whispered as she chewed on the tough leathery piece.

Soon it was time to camp for the night. Some of the men left to hunt for buffalo. Jane hoped they would find some. Her stomach felt so empty. While they waited, Jane and her family huddled around a small fire, tired, hungry, and cold.

"Let's say a prayer," Jane said.

The family knelt together, and Mother prayed. "Father in Heaven, we have no food for supper. Please help us."

Jane and her brothers and sisters sat quietly for a moment. Then Mother sat up straighter.

"What is it?" Thomas asked.

"I just remembered something." Mother hurried to the handcart and opened the family trunk. Then she pulled out a small metal box and opened it. Inside were two very hard biscuits. They were left over from their ocean voyage months before.

Jane felt excitement bubble up inside her. They *did* have food! "We can break them into smaller pieces to share," she said.

But when they tried, the biscuits were too hard to even break in half.

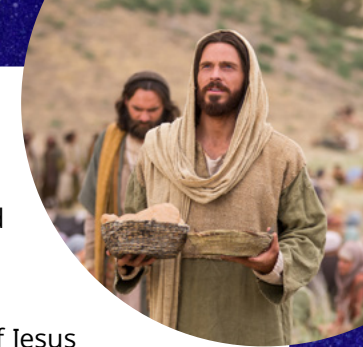
"Let's try this," Mother said. She put the biscuits in the Dutch oven and poured a little water on

them. Then she set the lid on and put the heavy pot over the coals.

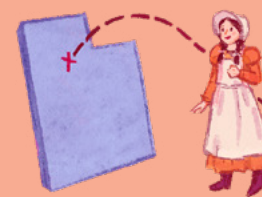
Jane and her family prayed again. She thought of the story of Jesus Christ in the scriptures, when He fed the five thousand with only a few loaves and fishes. She knew Heavenly Father could help them too.

After a little while, Mother slowly opened the pot. It was filled to the brim with food! There was plenty to feed their whole family.

Jane hugged her mother tightly. "It's a miracle!" ●



About Jane Rowley



She was eight years old when she traveled to Utah.



She traveled in the Willie handcart company and walked 1,300 miles (2,092 km) to get to Salt Lake City.



The prophet Brigham Young sent a rescue team to help them.