

Alley Rundown - October 27-28, 2018

Bible Story: Don't Look Back (Israelites Long for Egypt) • Exodus 16:2-21; 17:1-7

Bottom Line: Don't miss out on what you have now.

Key Question: What is good in your life right now?

Memory Verse: "Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." (Luke 12:15 NIV)

ANNOUNCEMENT: Alley After Hours

CG: Alley After Hours JPEG

Promo: "Alley After Hours is coming up on November 2nd! It is a great time, with lots of fun, food, games, and even some prizes! Don't miss it, and don't forget to invite a friend that has never been here before! Cost is only \$5!"

CONNECT TIME: This time is intended to break the ice with your group, and lead into the Rundown.

1. Just For Fun

What You Need: Craft sticks (1 zip-lock bag of 300 craft sticks per campus)

What You Do:

- **Ask** each student to place a craft stick across the top of his or her hand.
- **Tell** them to flip the sticks up in the air then catch them in the same hand before they hit the floor.
- **Add** another craft stick each time your students make successful catches.
- **Continue** adding more and more sticks to see who can flip and catch the most at one time.

Wrap Up and Say:

"Food, clothes, house, shoes—most of us have all of those things. Some people have more. Some have less. It's easy to take it all for granted. We want and think we deserve more, but God knows how much we can handle without it all coming crashing down. I wonder—if God dropped our lunch out of the sky today, do you think we'd complain if it weren't our favorite food? Or would we be so in awe of what God did that it wouldn't matter what the food was?"

[Transition] Let's get started on our talk today, and hear about a time when God provided but people still complained."

Begin Rundown...

ALLEY CASH CALL: \$1 New Kids, \$1 Bible, \$1 Brought a First Time Guest, \$3 God Time Sheet

NOTE: Hand Out Alley Cash according to the above criteria.

"Hey everybody! So, I have a question for you today. Have you ever met someone whose theme song sounds a little something like this?"

CG: Debbie Downer Theme Song Video (Runtime: 17 seconds)

“Have you ever met someone like that? A Debbie/Danny Downer? (*Allow response*) New York, Rome, front row at a sporting event?! Those are AWESOME things, but all Danny/Debbie could see was what they felt was going wrong.”

“I guess it really is possible to miss the good things that are happening around us because we are so focused on what is not going so well. That doesn’t seem like a joyful way to live life, huh? But how can we change our attitudes? How can we start to focus on what’s good, even when things aren’t as great as we’d want them?”

“That’s a big question—one that if we get it right could completely change how we see the world around us. Let’s check out this week’s episode and see what we can do about this!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 11:15)

“You know, sometimes we can give the Israelites a pretty hard time for what happened in the desert. I don’t know about you, but I can get pretty hungry if I haven’t eaten in a while. But in these moments, it was less about their complaining and more about what they were forgetting. If God had been able to work an incredible plan to rescue them from their slavery in Egypt, wouldn’t God also be able to provide for them on the way to the land where He was taking them? But they were so focused on what they used to have that they were missing out on the chance to recognize what God was doing for them NOW.”

“Think about it. Maybe you’re upset because you don’t have your own room like your friends and have to share with your brother or sister. But what can we be thankful for now? You have a place to live! You have family around you!”

“Or maybe you’re frustrated that you aren’t playing as much as you think you should on your sports team. But you’re a part of a team! And you have the health and ability to play your sport. We can miss the good when we only see the bad. Before we head to Small Groups, let’s take up our offering, and worship God.”

OFFERING TIME:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

CG: Distance between Chicago and Nairobi JPEG

“Offering Time is important here in the Alley, because it gives you all an opportunity to worship God by giving your money generously. Here at (*your campus*), we give our offering to help support (*your campus child*) in Kenya. Our offering goes to show kindness to them by buying clothes, and food, and other materials they may need. We have a picture of the distance between Chicago and Nairobi! That’s seems like forever away, but when we give our offering, it’s like we are reaching right into Nairobi to help out. If you brought an offering today, you may place it in our Alley Offering Bin (*point children to location of bin*)

CG: Alley Offering Bin JPEG

...when the video plays. If not, that's ok too. You can bring an offering next week. The Bible tells us this about bringing our offerings to Him..."

CG: Offering Verse JPEG (Hebrews 13:16 NIV)

Dismiss to Small Group. Leaders hand out index cards and pens and give the kids a chance to write down a few things. Once groups are ready, a 3-minute countdown video can be played. After the 3 minutes, they can naturally continue Small Groups.

"We're going to do something a little different to close our talk here together and begin small groups. After we take up our offering, your small group leaders have index cards and pens to pass out. I want you to take a couple of moments to write down as many things as you can to answer this question."

CG: Key Question Slide

"What is good in your life right now? Even if it doesn't seem like you have anything good happening, really think about how God is caring for you and how Jesus saved you! Let's take a moment now."

NOTE: The above Small Group activity will be done in place of the weekly "Worship Experience", and will lead into Small Group time.

CG: Instrumental Worship Music Video (Runtime: 3:00)