

Alley Rundown - March 30-31, 2019

Bible Story: Basic Instruction (Greatest Commandment) • Matthew 22:34-40

Bottom Line: God made me to love others.

Key Question: How do others know you love them?

Memory Verse: “I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.” (Psalm 139:14, NIV)

CONNECT TIME: Either Or? *(No supplies needed)*

This time is meant to engage your students, or “break the ice”, and develop relationships within your time together.

“Hey, there! Great to be with you again this week for WEEK 5 of our series, “MADE”. Now, there are a lot of things that make you unique, and some of that is based on things you like or enjoy doing. I was wondering what you like to do. Let’s try something. I’ll call out two different choices. If you like the first choice, walk to the left side of the room. If you like the second choice, go to the right side. Don’t worry about what everyone else chooses. You go to the side of the room that best matches YOU. Get it?”

“Okay let’s start with this one . . . Mexican food (*point to the left*) or Italian food (*point to the right*)? Go!”

Continue this with as many rounds as you have time for:

- *The beach or the mountains*
- *Play sports or play video games*
- *Learn a new instrument or learn to dance*
- *Math or reading*
- *Marvel or DC*
- *Cats or Dogs*
- *Drive a car or fly a plane*

“That was fun. You all definitely know what you like and don’t like, but I have one last one. Ready? Love God or love people . . . Go!”

There will be some confusion.

“No, wait! I won’t make you choose that one. You know what? Let’s have a seat.”

Begin Rundown...

“Love God or love people. On the surface, you may think you’d know what to choose, but the more you think about it, is that actually something we have to choose? Do we have to choose to love God instead of loving people . . . or love people instead of loving God? What if by doing one we could actually do the other? I mean how do you choose?”

“Thankfully, we don’t have to. When Jesus began to travel around and teach 2000 years ago, many people were impressed by His teachings. He didn’t just repeat what others had said. Because Jesus was God’s Son, He taught as somebody with authority to create new teachings.

People were often amazed at the things He said. He said things they had never heard before or in a way they had never heard them.”

“Now while many people were drawn to Jesus, there were some who were very suspicious about Who He was and the things He was teaching. One such group was the Jewish religious leaders known as the Pharisees. The Pharisees were experts on God’s laws, known as the Law of Moses. They knew the laws inside and out and saw it as their job to protect them and keep them pure. They started out with really good intentions. But over time, their passion to protect God’s Word led them to create more and more laws in order to keep other followers of God from breaking any laws. That’s what this week’s episode is all about. Let’s take a look!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 11:10)

“You might remember that in the beginning of the month we discussed how we are made in God’s image, which means that we can reflect what God is like to the world. Well, one of the ways we do this is by loving others. One of Jesus’ closest followers, a guy named John, said this in a letter he wrote to other Jesus followers: *‘No one has ever seen God. But if we love one another, God lives in us. His love is made complete in us.’* (1 John 4:12 NIV)”

“In other words, we reflect God to the world when we love other people. So, the love for God is what gives us the ability to love others, but then the love for others is what shows people how much we love God. No wonder Jesus said they couldn’t be separated!”

“When you think about what it means to love God and love others, you don’t have to choose. First, you have to love God. Worship Him only and serve Him. Read His Word and obey what He says. Love God. But then if you truly love God, you will love the people God made.”

“Today as you go to groups, get really practical and think about this:

CG: Key Question Slide

“**How do others know you love them?** We’ll dive into this question a little more in Small Groups, but before we head there, watch this...”

CG: Worship Experience Video (Runtime: 5:00)

Supplies Needed: Pens, Note Cards

NOTE: Students will write letters to Mission of Hope children their campus sponsors in Nairobi, Kenya.

Dismiss to Small Groups