

Alley Rundown - June 22-23, 2019

Bible Story: Right Here Waiting (Simeon at the Temple) • *Luke 2:22-35*

Bottom Line: When you need to wait, ask God for patience.

Key Question: What do you do when you have to wait?

Memory Verse: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Galatians 5:22-23a, NIV

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Summer Jam PROMO Video

“Summer Jam is coming up, and we don’t want anyone to miss it! Be sure you sign up at the Summer Jam booths outside today, if you haven’t already!”

Begin Rundown...

Supplies Needed: Giant Roaster Marshmallows (2 per student)

“What’s up everybody? Question for you. What is your favorite sweet treat? It could be something wrapped, something baked, something frozen . . . you get the idea. Something sweet that your taste buds just can’t live without (*allow several responses*).”

“Wow. Some of you have great taste. One of my favorites would easily be a marshmallow. By show of hands, how many people in this room like marshmallows? (*Pause for response*) For those of you raising your hands, you’re in for a treat today. For those of you NOT raising your hands, I’m pretty sure you haven’t REALLY considered how fantastic marshmallows are.”

Pull out a bag of marshmallows to pique the interest of the kids.

“Seriously! They’re absolutely delectable by themselves! A jet-puffed sugary treat, the perfect size to get your sugar fix and appease that sweet tooth. They’re soft and fluffy and light and practically melt in your mouth! They’re good for any season, too—s’mores around the campfire in the fall, Rice Krispy Treats on the beach in the summer, popcorn balls at Christmas time . . . sticky and gooey and just absolutely delicious. Is anybody else’s mouthwatering besides mine?”

“Well, I’ve got a surprise for all of you in the room today: I’ve brought marshmallows for EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU. That’s right! Each of you gets the opportunity to partake in one of my favorite sweet treats on this glorious day! I’ll pass them out in just a second, but there is a catch—I’m going to give everyone ONE marshmallow right now, and you’re free to eat it if you’d like. Dive right into that sweet, sugary goodness like there’s no tomorrow!”

“HOWEVER . . . if you can hold off on eating your marshmallow and wait ‘til the end of our talk today. . . I will give you a SECOND marshmallow, right before Small Groups. That’s right! You’re absolutely, 100% free to chow down as soon as I give you your marshmallow, BUT if you can hold off and show us your mallow at the end, we’ll DOUBLE your takeaway. Sound good? (*Pause for response*)”

Get Small Group Leaders to pass out marshmallows to all kids interested. Be sure to keep one for yourself.

“Everyone have a marshmallow? Great! Let’s keep going. So, one thing I’ve learned over the years is that waiting is not easy! Waiting for your birthday to arrive seems to take forever! Christmas is the slowest holiday to arrive every year! The last few weeks of school before summer arrives move at a snail’s pace. You know what I mean?!”

“Even as you sit in this room, you are having to wait. Normally, waiting for your Small Group time isn’t too painful, BUT today might be different because of the marshmallows. I’m the one that posed the challenge, and even still, I’m salivating thinking about biting into this pillowy, marshmallow goodness!”

“Waiting is a normal and extremely common practice in life, but we tend to be TERRIBLE at it! We get frustrated when we have to wait in traffic, anxious when we’re waiting those last few days before the baseball tournament, angsty when we’re only one week away from vacation, downright frantic when we’re waiting for the clock to tick down those last few minutes to recess . . . there’s so much WAITING in the day-to-day that you’d think we’d be used to it by now, but we’re NOT! Waiting is the worst. I wonder if we can even get better at it?”

“Great question. Did you know that many people written about in the Bible had to wait? They waited to get to the place God promised them. Others waited to have a child or be rescued. And everyone was waiting for the Savior of the world, Jesus, to come. And that’s actually what our episode is about today. Let’s take a look!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 11:11)

“Simeon must have been a phenomenally patient person. For God to tell you that you’ll get to experience something truly unbelievable but not know when could have been incredibly nerve-racking. However, Simeon didn’t seem to lose faith or even his patience. He trusted the promise would be fulfilled and continued his devotion to God. Though some of the words God had given him were difficult, every moment of his patient waiting had paid off.”

“Let’s be honest. Patience can be hard for us. Whether it’s a toy, a video game, or a frozen pizza, we want everything right now. So many times, right now is not possible. It can take minutes, hours, days, or even years. But patience is actually a Fruit of the Spirit, like we’ve seen already this summer through love, joy, and peace. Patience is something that we can find with the help of God’s Holy Spirit.”

“But even though we receive this through the Holy Spirit, like any fruit has to grow before it’s good to eat, patience needs time to grow in you. In fact, sometimes just talking to God is all you need to help you slow down and wait.”

“Speaking of waiting, some of you managed to patiently wait and not eat your marshmallow the entire large group. Thanks for your patience. Like Simeon, you will be rewarded as you leave this room with . . . another marshmallow. Before that happens, here’s a question to think about . . .”

CG: Key Question Slide

“What do you do when you have to wait? Are you one to get upset and start messing around? Or do you wait with patience? Really think about it and be honest with yourself. In Small Group, you’ll get a chance to talk more about it and come up with some ideas to help you wait. One of the best things you can do when feel like you can’t wait is to pray and ask God for help. How about we do that now! Let’s pray together, take up our offering, and spend some time in worship.”

Lead group in a prayer related to what they just heard then, take offering, lead the Worship Experience, and dismiss to small group.

OFFERING TIME:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

CG: Kenyan Facts 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 some fun facts about Kenya where *(campus child)* lives! 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 (Acts 20:35)

Invite students to place their offering in the bin at this time

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

Supplies Needed: Note Cards, Pens, “Prayer Request” and “Praise Report” Bags

NOTE: This week, students will fill out prayer requests (“Please Jesus”) and praise reports (“Thank You Jesus”)

Dismiss to Small Groups.