

Alley Rundown - July 13-14, 2019

Bible Story: Faithfully (Peter Gets Out of Prison) • Acts 12:1-19

Bottom Line: Be faithful so others can count on you.

Key Question: How can you be someone people can count on?

Memory Verse: “being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” Philippians 1:6, *NIV*

CG: SummerJam Promo Video

“It’s not too late to get signed up for SummerJam! This is a week-long experience you won’t want to miss, so sign up today at our SummerJam Central tents today!”

Begin Rundown...

“Good to see you all! July is already off to a great start! And today is no different. Have any of you ever tried to do something that took a lot of practice to get the hang of? (*allow response*)

Share an age-appropriate example of something that you are found out you are good at, and something you are not so good at.

“There are a lot of things in life that you can pick up pretty quickly, while there are others that require you to show up again and again and again, trying to learn more and more each time. Eventually, you realize your shot is better, you can play those guitar chords, or you can do that artistic thing without even thinking about it.”

“Learning these skills can be fun! But they can also show us how important it is to be faithful in our lives. If we’re not faithful to practice our instrument, we’re not going to get any better. If we’re not faithful to train hard, we’re going to run out of energy during the game. But that’s faithfulness with things we’re trying to learn. What about people? What does it look like to be faithful to the people in our lives?”

“Interesting question! When we have questions, a good place to start looking for answers is the Bible. And the writers of Scripture included a lot of great stories and passages that talk about faithfulness, including this one recorded in the book of Acts. Acts is the fifth book of the New Testament. Luke—yep, the same LUKE who wrote the Book of Luke—wrote Acts to tell us what happened to followers of Jesus after the resurrection.”

“After Jesus resurrects and ascends back to Heaven. God sent the Holy Spirit, and the early followers of Jesus, what we call the church, grew in number daily. Now not everybody was happy to see the church growing, especially the religious leaders who had put Jesus to death, as well as the Roman leaders who were responsible for keeping peace in the empire. As more and more believers spread the good news about Jesus, there was more and more tension with these leaders.”

“And on one particular occasion, King Herod, son of Herod the Great, was out to cause trouble for the followers of Jesus. That’s what this week’s episode is all about. Let’s take a look!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 16:30)

“What a story, huh? When we started, we talked about being faithful to learn a difficult skill, like knitting or a musical instrument. And even though faithfulness is more than just learning a skill, we can certainly learn something from these things.”

“In order to learn to play guitar or to dribble a basketball with both of your hands, you have to show up and do it. Not just once . . . but again . . . and again . . . and again. Pretty soon you have become faithful to learning these skills, and because of that, you will see results.”

“In this story, we see faithfulness all over the place but not faithfulness to a skill—to something much bigger! Peter was faithful to the mission that God had for him, to the point that he was willing to go to prison for it. The

early church was faithful to pray for Peter all night long while he was in prison. And God was faithful to rescue Peter and to keep him safe in order to continue leading the church.”

“For the last several weeks now we’ve been looking at the different fruit of the Spirit, and faithfulness is a fruit that God demonstrates in our lives the more and more we learn to live like Jesus. We see it here in this story, and God wants to show it through our story as well!”

“Today, as you head to small groups, think about this.”

CG: Key Question Slide

“How can you be someone people can count on?” Think about it. Where might God be calling you to be faithful right now in an area where you might feel like giving up? Who can you love and ‘keep showing up for’ even when it is difficult? Maybe it’s a friend that is having a hard time or a family member that is feeling down and out. Peter knew just where to go when he needed someone. How can you be faithful like that for someone else?”

“If you’re having a hard time thinking of ideas, have no fear! You’ll talk more about it with your small group, and when you think of those ideas, you don’t do them alone, either. When we believe in Jesus, we get the Holy Spirit to help us when it gets hard to live like Jesus. How about we pray and ask God for help right now. Let’s pray.”

(Lead your students in a prayer according to what they have just heard, lead Offering, lead the Worship Experience, and then dismiss to Small Groups)

OFFERING TIME:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

CG: MOHI 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 Mission of Hope International in Nairobi where *(campus child)* goes to school! 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 offerings in bin)

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

NOTE: Students will stand and sing/dance along with the SummerJam song “Fireblazin” by Capital Kings.

Dismiss to Small Groups