

Alley Rundown - August 10-11, 2019

Bible Story: This Used to Be My Playground (The Fall) • *Genesis 3:1-24*

Key Question: What is at stake if you don't obey?

Bottom Line: Trust and obey even when you think your way is better.

Memory Verse: "And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love." 2 John 6 (NIV)

Supplies Needed: Blender (1 per Campus), Strawberries, Bananas, Vanilla Yogurt, Pickled Beets, Olives, Mustard, ½ Cup Measuring Cup (1 per Campus), 1 Cup Measuring Cup (1 per Campus), 1 Bottled Water (1 per Service), Spoon (1 per campus)

"Before we get started, I need a volunteer—someone who's really good at following directions. Do I have any takers? *(Pause for response.)*"

Select a volunteer and bring him or her to the front of your room. Should be someone who can easily follow instructions.

"Excellent, you'll be perfect! Now, you and I are about to make one of my all-time favorite drinks—a fruit smoothie! Anybody else a fan of smoothies? *(Pause for response.)* Exactly! Who DOESN'T like smoothies?! *(To kid volunteer)* Just remember: you'll need to follow my instructions EXACTLY to make the PERFECT smoothie. Got it? Okay, let's go!

Leader should be hands-off and just giving verbal cues for the kid volunteer. Do not come over to help except to help run the blender.

"As you look around the table in front of you, you'll see all of the ingredients you'll need to make a strawberry-banana smoothie. First, I'm going to need you to pick up the cup of strawberries right there. That's two cups of fresh, juicy strawberries for you! I need you to lift that cup, take the lid off of the blender, and dump all those strawberries into the blender. *(Pause for response.)*

"Great job. Next, take the banana, peel it, and put it into the blender along with the strawberries. *(Pause for response.)*

"Next, you'll take that half cup of vanilla yogurt and put it into the blender as well—if it doesn't all come out, you can use the spoon to get whatever's left, just make sure it all goes into the blender! *(Pause for response.)*

"Last, take a half cup of water and pour it into the blender as well. *(Pause for response.)*

Leader can help with the blender if assistance is required to ensure the safety of the kid volunteer.

"Perfect! Now, put the lid back on the blender and hold it down with one hand. With your other hand, press the 'blend' button on the base of the blender and hold it for about ten seconds. Everyone, count it down with me! *(lead the countdown)* And . . . presto! Friend, you and I have made a delicious strawberry banana smoothie that looks absolutely PERFECT! How about a round of applause for our volunteer everybody?"

Dismiss kid volunteer to his or her seat.

"Great job to *[Name of Kid Volunteer]*! You placed all of those ingredients into the blender with perfect proportions and gave us a perfect smoothie! Perfect blending time to give us the perfect consistency. Any smoothie lover would say...This is a perfect smoothie!

“The reason this smoothie looks so good is because of [Name of Kid Volunteer]’s willingness to follow my instructions to the letter. Plus, our volunteer only had good options to choose from, and that makes following instructions EASY.”

“I wish following instructions was always that easy! I feel like in life it is so much more difficult to listen and obey. We are asked to listen to our teachers, parents, coaches, small group leaders, tutors, babysitters, and so many others. Sometimes it’s easy, like the times your parents tell you to finish your ice cream sandwich before you head to bed. But if we are being honest, we would probably all admit it’s not always easy to do what is asked of us. At home, we are instructed to rake the yard or wash the car a certain way. At school, teachers ask us to solve complicated math problems or write essays with specific instructions. At basketball practice, we are told to run a complicated offensive play to get layup.

“So many times, we choose *not* to listen and obey because we think WE know what’s best. These are the moments we try to wash the truck without scrubbing and only using the water hose. These are the moments we don’t show our work in math or only write two paragraphs instead of five for our essays. These are the moments we look to shoot the three-pointer without running through the set play to get a layup. We THINK we know what’s best, but many times, it leaves us creating one big mess. That’s what this week’s episode is all about. Let’s take a look!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 13:10)

“Prior to the moment Adam and Eve sinned, everything was perfect. But in this moment, sin and disobedience entered into the world for the first time and everything changed.”

Walk to the perfect smoothie and pick up the drink.

“It’s as if Adam and Eve looked at this perfect delicious smoothie and added pickled beets to the drink.”

Add pickled beets.

“It’s like they looked at our flawless smoothie and plopped a couple olives to the liquid.”

Add a couple olives.

“It’s as if the duo squirted mustard into this amazing strawberry-banana mixture.”

Add mustard.

“You get the picture. What was perfect was perfect no more. Everything had changed. At this point, Adam and Eve were flooded with new and terrible thoughts. For the first time, they felt guilt and shame. And for the first time, they recognized they weren’t wearing any clothes! Using fig leaves, they sewed something to wear.”

“God had a plan, knew what was best, but His plan was ignored. Many times, growing up, I was guilty of not only ignoring God’s way, but also my teachers, parents, and so many others who had been in charge. They knew more than I did, but I opted not to trust them and do what they said. Maybe this is true about you as well. It’s hard for us to trust and obey your leaders because you believe your way is better. But more often than not, the people in charge of us know what they’re talking about. And following their lead is the wisest choice we can make.”

“Adam and Eve learned a great lesson. There are consequences for not trusting and obeying God. As we head to small groups, we want you to consider this question.”

CG: Key Question Slide

“What is at stake if you don’t obey? If you opt to choose a path different than your leader’s request, what could happen? That’s a big question, one that you’ll get to talk more about once you get to Small Group. But before you head there, let’s pray and thank God for not giving up on us and for making a way for us to have a relationship with Him.”

Lead group in a prayer related to what they just heard, lead offering and Worship Experience, then dismiss kids to Small Group.

OFFERING TIME:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

CG: Kenyan Facts

“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 facts about Nairobi 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 offerings in bin)

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

NOTE: Students will stand and “obey” directions given on the video.

Dismiss to Small Groups

NOTE: Wash the blender after every service!