

# Alley Rundown - September 7-8, 2019

**Bible Story:** Bad Day (Joseph Sold by His Brothers) • *Genesis 37, 39:1-2*

**Bottom Line:** When you think you're alone, you can trust God is with you.

**Key Question:** What does it look like to trust God?

**Memory Verse:** Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding...  
(Proverbs 3:5 NIV)

## CONNECT TIME: "Lean on Me"

### What to Do:

- Have students pair up, sit down on the floor back-to-back, and lock arms.
- Instruct students to work together to be the first team to stand up, without letting go of their locked arms.
- Have students find a new partner each round, and play a few rounds as time allows.

### What to Say:

"Great job everyone! I hope you got a chance to move around the room and connect with some new people. The reason why we did that activity is to show that we need friends to lean on, and to help us back up when we feel down. God is that kind of friend, and we can trust Him no matter what. Let's get started on our talk today!"

*The following is an example of a personal story like one you can share from your own life. You could also use this as an "Imagine that" scenario to create a story.*

***"You might not know this, but when I was a kid, I was a boy scout. Any scouts in the room? Awesome! So, some of you know that boy scouts work to earn merit badges. I earned all sorts of merit badges for canoeing, learning how to read maps and get myself around, and even basket-weaving! But one year when I was at camp, I set out to earn one of the harder merit badges—wilderness survival. This merit badge involved starting campfires without matches, identifying dangerous plants in the woods, and—the most intense of them all—going out deep into the woods, building a shelter with what you can find, and sleeping in it for one whole night!"***

***"Now I will tell you, building the shelter was fun. But that night when I laid down to sleep in the shelter I made, it was quiet. I mean REALLY quiet. So quiet that I could hear every creak and crack of the branches above me and the leaves rustling and crunching around me. I hardly slept at all that night, letting my imagination run away, thinking every noise I heard was a bear coming to have a late-night snack. I was also alone. REALLY alone—in the middle of the woods with no one else around! I was scared and lonely. I couldn't wait for the night to be over. Thankfully, I ended up with that merit badge in the end!"***

"Has that ever happened to you? Have you ever felt alone . . . like . . . really alone? You don't even have to be physically alone, either. It could be that you're in a room full of people, but with whatever is happening in your life, you feel like there's no one who understands and you feel all alone. You don't need to raise your hands, but when you're feeling that lonely and alone, you may start to wonder if even God is still there. If you've ever felt like that, let me tell you something. You're not alone. Lots of people have felt that way about God before—including many people we read about in the Bible. Thankfully, their stories were recorded for us, and we get to learn from how they experienced God."

"You might remember from the last few weeks that God had made a promise to a man named Abraham. God said that He would bless Abraham and make a nation out of his family. Eventually Abraham had a son named Isaac, who then had a son named Jacob, who we talked about last week. In each generation, God continued to pass down His promise to build this family into a great nation and to give them a land to call their own. Jacob went on to have TWELVE sons—including one named Joseph. That is where our story begins today. Let's take a look at this week's episode to hear more."

**CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 12:30)**

“God was with Joseph at home. He was with Joseph in the well. And God was with Joseph in Egypt. And here’s something you may not realize—God is with you, too. But if you’re like me, you may have to remind yourself that God is with you. There’s something we can do. It’s something that Jesus did. A lot of times when Jesus was alone, He prayed. When He was sad or exhausted or if He just wanted to spend time with God, Jesus prayed.”

“So the next time you find yourself in a situation where you feel alone—like when you’re walking into a new school or trying out for a new team and you don’t know a single person. Pray and ask God to remind you that He is with you. Or maybe you are trying out for a sports team and you are really nervous because you don’t know anyone else. Pray and ask God to remind you that He is with you. If you are a follower of Jesus, you are never truly alone! Now that is a pretty amazing promise.

“Today as you go to groups, think about this question . . .”

**CG: Key Question Slide**

**“What does it look like to trust God?** Think about those times when you feel like you are most alone . . . how can you trust God in those moments? And don’t worry—if you’re having a hard time answering that question, you’ll talk more about it in Small Group. But let’s pray before we head out.”

*Lead group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, lead offering time and dismiss kids to Small Group.*

#### **OFFERING TIME:**

**Homer Glen: Victor**

**New Lenox: Daniel**

**Orland Park: Michael and Valerie**

**CG: Picture of Child**

**CG: Nairobi 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 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 offerings in bin)*

**NOTE: No Worship Experience this weekend due to Connect Time.**

*Dismiss to Small Groups.*