

Alley Rundown-March 14th-15th, 2020

Bible Story: Step by Step (Jesus Teaches on Forgiveness) • *Matthew 5:1-2, 23-24*

Key Question: What is keeping you from forgiving?

Bottom Line: Take the first step to forgive others.

Memory Verse: Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. (*Colossians 3:13 NIV*)

NOTE: You will lead the Worship Experience using the instructions at the end of this Rundown.

PROMO: Camp Manitoqua (4th Graders) and CIY Mix (5th Graders)

“Hey 4th Graders! This is your last year to attend Camp Manitoqua. You don’t want to miss this chance to make new friends, and connect with God. Take a look at this!

CG: Camp Manitoqua Video

And finally, for all you 5th Graders, this is your chance to go to CIY Mix! Take a look!

CG: CIY Mix Video

All the information you’ll need is on these postcards (*show postcards*). Make sure you grab one on your way out today!”

Begin Rundown...

“What’s up, everybody? So glad you all made it today to The Alley. Ok, I have a bit of a tough question for us today. Be honest with yourself. Don’t answer out loud. But how many of you have ever hurt someone? Maybe it was on purpose, or perhaps it was by accident. But if we’re honest, we have to admit that it’s true. Each one of us has probably had a moment when we’ve hurt someone.”

Tell a personal, age-appropriate story about a time you were hurt by someone else.

“When we hurt someone, the last thing we want to do is ask for forgiveness, right? What we really want is act like it never happened! Ignore the other person and hope for the best. But the best never happens, does it? Because when we hurt people, it breaks our relationships. This is just one example. Take a moment and think about some of the ways people can hurt others. It doesn’t have to be a real example from your life. Think about ways people hurt each other in movies or on TV shows.”

Call on kids and allow them to briefly share.

“Wow. Great examples. There are so many ways someone can hurt someone else and make them upset. This list could go on and on. When we hurt others and make them upset with us, it’s like we’re putting up a wall. And this wall means that our relationship with that person is broken. It can affect how we talk to others, play with others, make friends, and the list goes on.”

“When you’re the one who did the hurting, it is really, really difficult to admit that you’re wrong and make it right. But why is that? Why is it so hard to ask for forgiveness—especially when we so often hurt people we’d consider our friends or family? Why do we tolerate living with a wall of hurt between us instead of making peace with those people?”

“None of these questions are easy to answer, but this is exactly what we are going to explore today. Long ago, Jesus addressed this difficult subject of forgiveness to a big group of people. Let’s dig into this week’s episode and hear what Jesus said about this.”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 14:00)

“Here’s the thing. Throughout our lives, we’ll argue with people and even disagree with others. We’ll make others feel annoyed or frustrated. Sometimes we may even hurt them. And before you know it, you will have built a wall of hurt between you and the people you should be closest with. Sure, it might seem easy to move on without making peace. However, when we do this, we aren’t doing what Jesus is talking about in these verses. This is especially true when we go ahead and pray to God, study God’s Word, and worship God while acting like everything’s fine.”

“But we should not forget what Jesus said. *(Read directly from Matthew 5:23-24) ‘Suppose you are offering your gift at the altar. And you remember that your brother or sister has something against you. Leave your gift in front of the altar. First go and make peace with them. Then come back and offer your gift,’ (NIRV).* Jesus is saying we are NOT fine when we don’t apologize and make things right. Before we do anything else, we should make things right with that other person.”

“Asking forgiveness looks like going to your brother to point the damage to his gaming system and letting him know that you’ll pay to have the screen fixed and buy him a new controller. It looks like telling your best friend that you messed up and should have picked him sooner. Ask him to do something fun after school and let him pick the activity!”

“And, you know what? You may be the person who needs to offer forgiveness. Maybe you’re the one who’s hurt and carrying a grudge. Here’s what I’ve found. The longer you wait, the harder it can be to forgive. If that’s the case, think about this as you head to small groups.”

CG: Key Question Slide

“What is keeping you from forgiving?” What’s standing in the way of letting something go, so you can help rebuild a relationship not a wall between you and the other person? For others, you may need to think about who needs you to apologize. These might be tough questions for you to answer, but that’s why it’s good you have an awesome Small Group. You’ll talk more about this with them. Before we head there, let’s pray and thank God for forgiving us! Let’s pray.”

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

“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. If you brought an offering today, you may place it in our Alley Offering Bin (point children to location of bin). If not, that’s ok too. You can bring an offering next week.

CG: Alley Offering Bin JPEG

(Invite students to place their offerings in bin)

WORSHIP EXPERIENCE: Step Out Relay

What You Need: Step Out Cards (4 sets per Campus), 2 buckets (per Campus), white floor tape, 2 Cones (per Campus)

What You Do:

- **Divide** the group into two teams.
- Using white floor tape, **create** a start and a turn-around line (Cones) on opposite sides of your space.
- **Line** up teams at the start line.
- **Put** two sets of "Step Out Cards" in each bucket and **stand** at the start line with the bucket.
- **Explain** that kids will compete in a relay race. To **play**:
 - When you say "GO," a kid from each team draws a "Step Out Card," which will tell them how they must "step" for their leg of the relay.
 - Kids read their card, return it to the bucket, and then race to the turn-around line and back to their team, moving in the style indicated on the card they drew.
 - When kids return to their team, they tag the next kid in line.
 - Once tagged, the next kid draws a card, reads it, and races to the turn-around line and back.
 - Once everyone has raced, the team sits down.
 - The first team to sit down wins.