

## Alley Rundown—August 21st-23rd, 2021

**Today's Bible Story:** Foolish Heart (Rehoboam Listens to Fools) • 2 Chronicles 10  
(supporting: Proverbs 13:20)

**Today's Key Question:** Who is the wisest person you know?

**Today's Bottom Line:** Hang out with wise people.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. James 1:5 (NIV)

*CG: Dude Perfect Filler Videos*

### ICE-BREAKER ACTIVITY: Noodle Joust

**Supplies Needed: 6 Pool Noodles (per Campus) and 6 Pair of Safety Goggles (per Campus)**

“What’s up, everyone? I couldn’t be more pumped about your decision to join us today in The Alley! My name is *[your name]* and whether this is your first time or you’re a regular here, we think you’re in for a great time.”

“Let’s have a show of hands. How many of you love a good adventure? *(Pause for response.)* Awesome! Adventures come in all shapes and sizes. One could be found rafting down a raging river or simply buying eggs at the grocery store! You never know what might happen when you’re out and about. Think back on all of your adventures. Have you ever needed to joust a much more experienced swordsman? *(Pause for response.)* Such a shame. I was expecting more hands to go up. Regardless, would anybody like to test their skills against an expert sword slinger in a game we like to call NOODLE JOUST?” *(Pause for response.)*

*SLIDE: Noodle Joust Title*

“Before you volunteer and overcommit, you need to know you’ll be going against an expert swashbuckler. This person forges carbon steel blades during their lunch break. Pesky flies are eliminated with darts. This blade expert cuts the grass using a machete! If that isn’t enough, this sword master peels apples using an axe. Give a rowdy welcome to the stage a truly expert sword fighter, *[Name of unsuspecting Small Group Leader]*!”

*Bring up Small Group Leader and supply them with safety goggles and a pool noodle. Consider giving the Small Group Leader two pool noodles.*

“Anybody want to test their skill against this truly accomplished fighter? *(Pause for response.)*”

*Bring up two kid volunteers from the unsuspecting Small Group Leaders group and supply them with safety goggles and a pool noodle.*

“In our game, NOODLE JOUST, our two kid volunteers will team up to compete against our gifted buccaneer at the same time! To score a point, your noodle must touch your opponent’s body anywhere other than their head.

The first team, the amateurs or the ace ruffian, to score three points is the UNDISPUTED, UNDEFEATED NOODLE JOUST CHAMP! Any questions? *(Pause for response.)* Excellent! Then let the jousting begin!"

**SLIDE: Noodle Joust with Game Music**

*Get the jousters in position and start the game. The two kids will play together on the same team. If their team cumulatively gets three points, they win. After each point, stop the fight to tally the point and restart the joust. This should be a fun, lighthearted moment for a Small Group Leader to connect with a couple of their students.*

"WOW! WOW! WOW! This was a duel for the ages! It's safe to say none of us have ever seen this kind of swordsmanship displayed on this stage today! Great job to all three of our volunteers! However, we can't all be the UNDISPUTED, UNDEFEATED NOODLE JOUST CHAMP! Let's give our winner(s) a huge applause for this major accomplishment as they head back to their seats. *(Pause for response.)*"

"With that being said, let's get started with our talk today!"

"What's up, everybody? Welcome! Thanks for showing up today! Throughout the week, you have all sorts of voices or influencers speaking to you from all different directions. Take a moment and brainstorm some of those influences. I'd like to capture some of them on this on dry erase board. Everybody think of one place or person who influences your life. If you can think of someone specific or even more of a general category, raise your hand and I'll call on you to share. Make sense? Let's get to it."

*Call on students to share voices in their lives. The list could include their mom, dad, Small Group Leader, pastor, teacher, coach, YouTuber, Twitch Streamers, musicians, actors, athletes, politicians, cartoon characters, friends, family, etc.*

"What a list! Now let's think of something a bit more challenging. Think about the sort of things these different voices say. In other words, what's the message they share with you or their audience? For example, a coach may say 'Perfect practice makes perfect.' Or a YouTuber might say, what? Yep, 'Subscribe Now!' If you can think of a common phrase, raise your hand and again, I'll call on you to share."

*Call on students to share common phrases or messages these influencers say.*

"There are so many people in this world who we listen to! People from school, from our neighborhood, from our family, celebrities, Small Group Leaders, athletes, and more all speak into our lives! But let me ask you this: with so many voices coming at you, how do you know who to listen to? I mean, what happens when those voices disagree with each other or you? What then?"

“With so many opinions and beliefs, how do we know the correct voice? Who will point us in the correct direction? These are great questions to think about, especially at your age as the voices will only grow louder and louder. But where do we go find the answers?”

“Well, the first place we should look is the Bible. The Bible was written by people who experienced God first hand. God inspired them to write their stories and ideas to help people just like us follow God, too. They are definitely voices we should pay attention to.

“For the past two weeks, we’ve talked a bit about Solomon. As king of Israel, Solomon reigned for 40 years. During that time, he accomplished some amazing things, like building the temple for the Lord. Remember, God also gave Solomon wisdom, which Solomon shared with others. Much of this wisdom was penned in the book of Proverbs, including this one verse that actually talks about this idea of listening to the right voices. Let’s take a look with the help of this week’s Episode. Check it out.”

*CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 13:00)*

“Think back to how we started our conversation. We asked everybody to think of one place or person who influences your life. Like Rehoboam, I have to imagine some are wise and some are not wise. As you head to your small groups, we want you to consider this one question.”

**SLIDE: Key Question**

**“Who is the wisest person you know?”** Maybe it’s a family member, a teacher, or coach. Think through the people you know who are always giving you the best advice. In Small Group, you’ll talk more about how you can make sure you’re listening to what they have to say. Before you head to groups, let’s take a moment and thank God for putting wise people in our life and ask God to help us find people who will help us grow in our relationship with Him. Let’s pray.”

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

## **OFFERING:**

Here in Parkview Kids, we bring our offering each week to help support (your Campus Child) learn more about Jesus just like we do here in Parkview Kids. Here’s a picture of (your Campus Child)! If you brought your offering you can bring it up now.

Orland Park: Michael and Valeri, New Lenox: Daniel, Homer Glen: Victor

**Note: Activity 1 on Small Group sheet is done as a large group.**