

Alley Rundown—October 31st-November 1st, 2021

Today's Bible Story: Let's Work Together (One Body but Many Parts) • 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Today's Key Question: What makes a great team?

Today's Bottom Line: We can use our gifts together to make a greater difference.

Monthly Memory Verse: I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. (Psalm 139:14 NIV)

CG: Dude Perfect Filler Videos

ICE-BREAKER ACTIVITY: Blindfolded Candy Challenge

Supplies Needed: Starburst, Skittles, Tootsie Rolls, Sour Patch, Life Savers, Swedish Fish, Cups, Blindfolds, Notecards, Pens

"Hey, everyone! I'm so glad you're here! I hope you are all ready for a fun day ahead! That day starts with a challenge. I'm pretty sure that most of you are thinking about candy right about now. So how many of you would say you have a 'sweet tooth'?"

Pause for response.

"Okay. I see you. Me TOO! But how well do you know your candy? Could you pick out a kind just seeing it without the wrapper? Or tasting its flavor? Even it's all mixed up with other candies and flavors? What if you couldn't see it? That is our challenge today. We call it the *super* original Blindfolded Candy Challenge."

SLIDE: Blindfolded Candy Challenge

"I need four sweet tooth competitors!"

Choose four volunteers. Note: Be mindful of kids with allergies.

"We'll get you blindfolded. Then when I say go, you'll take one of these cups and pour all six pieces of candy into your mouth at once. Then it's up to you to figure out what six pieces of candy you have in your mouth, both the type of candy and its flavor. After that, take your blindfold off and write your answers on your note card. Yell 'Done' when you are finished. We will come and check how you did. The person with the most kinds AND flavors correct wins. Get it? Got it? AND GO!"

*Afterwards, declare a winner. Let winner pick out a pack of candy.
Optional: Play several rounds with the same or different contestants.*

"(After the game) I told you that game was sweet! Literally. Now let's get started with our talk today!"

“We’ve had such a great month talking about how we’re created in the image of God and how each of us gets to show God’s love to the world with our unique skills and personalities. We’ve spent a lot of time talking about what it means to discover what you’re meant to be so that you can make a difference. And I hope that you really will walk away from this month understanding just how significant each of you are. As we close out this month, though, I have a question for you: have you ever wished that you could do something that someone else could do but forgot about what you could actually do? Let me give you an example.”

Give a personal example similar to the example below about a time when you wished you could do what you were not able to do well. Maybe you wish you could play the guitar but you actually know how to play the piano really well. Maybe you wish you could speak really well in front of other people but you actually are very good in one-on-one conversations.

“I grew up in a very musical family. My dad sang and played several instruments. My mom sang at church in the choir—yeah, we had a choir at church back in the day. My sister sang in the school choir. I sang a little bit and took piano lessons—years and years and years of piano lessons to the point where I was pretty good. But as good as I was on the piano, I REALLY wanted to play the guitar—acoustic, electric, didn’t matter. I watched these people shred on the guitar, and I wanted nothing else than to be like them, record albums, and tour the world as a rock star. One Christmas my wish came true. I got a guitar. I picked it up, started figuring out where to put my fingers and strum the chords. I learned soon enough that playing the guitar is REALLY hard. And as I kept practicing thinking I’d get better and better, I soon learned . . . I am not at all coordinated enough to play the guitar like the rock stars I saw in music videos. I was so bummed and down on myself for weeks and weeks. I completely forgot about music and the fact that I could literally play anything I wanted to play on the piano. I kept focusing on the gift I wish I had instead of using the gift I did have that could already bring others and myself joy.”

“Have you ever found yourself in a situation like that? With talents that you wish you had while forgetting the ones that you do? It could be you’re a dancer who has wished you could be more of an actor or a soccer player who also wants to excel on the basketball court. Maybe you’re a good writer but you wish you could have the courage to speak in front of others. Most of us will face a time when we’ll play a comparison game with those around us. We’ll see someone else succeed and receive praise for something they do and we’ll want to be able to do the same. But is that really the best way to live? And when you do feel this way, how should we respond? What’s a step we can take to remember that God has created us for a purpose, just as we are? Those are some important questions to ask as we finish up our series on discovering more about our individuality. These are also questions that people have been asking for a really long time, even way back in the Bible, which is a great place to start when questions like this come our way. Let’s head there now with the help of this week’s Episode.”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 13:00)

“It is really easy just to focus on our own skills and talents, especially when we’re just worried about things like athletic ability, academics, and so on. But it is so important for us to remember that God uniquely gives us abilities not just to make us so amazing but to help His body, His church, work the best it possibly can. Just like a body of all legs would be pretty clumsy and severely limited, we need different skills and talents to be the body of Jesus in this world and serve others.

“For some of you just starting your relationship with Jesus, this may be a lot to take in and may even sound confusing. But don’t worry, as you grow, God’s Spirit will help you discover your gifts. After all, you might be thinking, ‘I have no idea what part I bring to the body.’ This is where God can use your leaders, parents, pastors, and friends to help you! They can start to help you identify the unique way that God has shaped you and what part you are in the body of Christ as you love God and serve others.”

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

SLIDE: Key Question

“What makes a great team? In other words, why is it important to have different roles and positions on a team? Think about the best teams you’ve seen or maybe even have been a part of. Why were they successful? What made them great? As you think about that, consider how thinking about teamwork helps us understand the picture of our gifts and the body of Christ. If you’re not sure, that’s ok. You’ll talk all about it in Small Group. Before we head out, let’s pray and thank God for giving us gifts that can make a difference in the world around us. 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 as we dismiss to Small Groups.

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