

Alley Rundown—November 7th-8th, 2021

Today's Bible Story: Be OK (Be Content/Paul in Prison) • *Philippians 4:11b-13*

Today's Key Question: When is it hardest to be content?

Monthly Memory Verse: Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." (Luke 12:15 NIV)

CG: Dude Perfect Filler Videos

"Welcome, everybody! It's great to have you here! Now, you could've rolled a number of directions when you left this morning, but all of you managed to roll up to the best place in town, *Parkview!* Thanks for joining us!"

"Before we get started, I need an obvious answer to an obvious question. All of you know we are in the month of November! What's the next holiday coming up on the calendar? (*Pause for response*)"

"To whoever said National Nachos Day, that would be correct but not the holiday I was looking for. The correct answer is Thanksgiving!"

"For a holiday known for lots of good food, it's pretty easy to guess that America will be eating a lot of Turkey. Turkana? Turkish Delight? Does anyone know what the plural of Turkey is?" (Allow response). If you guessed Turkeys...you're right! That leads me to a game we're going to play called "Moose, Meese, Moosen". Anyone and everyone can play. You just have to guess the correct plural word for each question. Here we go!"

GAME: Moose, Meese, Moosen (Slides on Computer)

NOTE: Lead the kids through the SLIDES on the Screen to each Question (11 Total) and really play it up. Let them shout it out, argue about the answer, etc. HAVE FUN!

Begin Rundown...

Supplies Needed: Floor Tape

NOTE: Before starting the Rundown, make a Large Square BOX on the Floor

"Great job, everybody. Sometimes in life, we always want the plural! We always want more. Today we are going to learn what it means to be content. You know, when I was little, I loved boxes! With a handful of markers and a bit of imagination, boxes could easily be turned into forts, castles, or really fast race cars. Does anybody in this room know what I'm talking about? (*Pause for response*) Days and days of fun have been found playing inside a box!"

Step inside box.

"However, this isn't a cardboard box like I was describing. It's just a box, by its simplest definition. Sometimes in life, you might find yourself in a moment where you FEEL like you are being put inside a box. When that happens, it's doesn't feel so great. Now, I'm not talking about a literal box, but these are the experiences when life isn't going your way and there is no escape. You want to leave. You don't want to remain trapped in the situations, but you can't find a way to get out. Often we don't see these moments approaching like parents getting divorced, moving to a new town, or breaking an arm."

Tell a personal story about a time life did not go your way.

"Has this ever happened to you? Have you ever felt like you were cramped and confined in a box? I have no doubt you felt this during the pandemic! When you wanted to play with your friends but couldn't you probably

felt trapped! When you longed to return to school, as odd as that may sound, you probably felt stuck. When the only thing you wanted was to give your grandmother a hug but couldn't, you might have felt like you were alone."

"In the moments when we are unable to get what we really want, how should we respond? How *do* you respond? This is not a question I can answer for you, but it's something for you to think about for yourself. With no way of getting what you want, how do you react inside the box? Dissatisfied? Angry? Frustrated? Annoyed? And if these aren't the best responses? What's the better way to respond?"

"How we respond in these difficult situations where we want more or aren't satisfied with what is going on is important. To help us discover a great option, let's check out this week's Episode!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 11:00)

"When we place our trust in Jesus, we no longer have to rely on ourselves! We can rely on God to give us the strength when we're not feeling content. Even when our lives are a complete disaster zone, Jesus can help us find contentment!"

"God loves you so much! When you find yourself in a box because something didn't go the way you wanted, talk to God about it. Ask Him to help you see your situation in a new way. Ask Him to give you contentment even in situations that seem impossible. Another option is to seek the advice of a Christian older than you who has walked a similar road. God is able to speak through others like your Small Group Leader who has faced hardships in the past and has learned from those experiences."

"God doesn't abandon us when we feel boxed in by the difficulties of life. God is still present! When we choose to rely on God, contentment isn't too far away. As you head to your small groups, think about this question:"

SLIDE: Key Question

"When is it hardest to be content? Is there a certain situation, a specific day, or a person in your life that causes you to feel like you're trapped in discontentment? We are excited you are here to talk this through with your Small Groups. Before we head out, let's pray and thank God for the love and contentment God helps us find."

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