

## Alley Rundown—January 30th, 2022

**Today's Bible Story:** Exile (Jesus Tempted in the Desert) • *Luke 4:1-13 (Supporting: Matthew 4:1-11)*

**Today's Key Question:** When is it hard to do the right thing?

**Today's Bottom Line:** Be ready to do the right thing.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life. (2 Peter 1:3a NIV)

**CG: Dude Perfect Filler Videos**

**CG: SuperStart! Video Promo and Slide**

"SuperStart! is coming up next month and you won't want to miss this yearly event. It's an overnight event just for you in Bloomington, IL, where you'll get to play games, eat pizza, make new friends, and hear an awesome message about how much Jesus loves you. Sign up today!"

"Hey, friends! Hope you're all doing great today! Today we continue our talks on Self-Control! Instead of eating the whole sleeve of Girl Scout cookies, choose control and stop at like four. If on your Mario Odyssey speed run you keep dying when trying to clip through the wall, maybe choose self-control instead of chucking your Joy Cons at the cat."

"Self-control is choosing to do what you should do even when you don't want to. It's all about making the wise choice. And speaking of that, I have some choices for you—and you'll vote with your feet. I'll read a scenario and you'll use your feet to walk to the side of the room which represents the choice you made. But, be wise about your choice because I may ask you to defend why you made it!"

*Use the following choices, assigning one side of the room or the other for the answers. At random, choose kids to answer why they picked what they picked. Optional: Feel free to tweak the following scenarios based on the kids who attend your environment.*

### Scenario 1

You're losing really badly at a board game with your younger brother. He gets up to get a snack and there's a way you can cheat without him ever knowing. Do you do it, yes or no?

### Scenario 2

Your aunt made her world-famous chocolate chip cookies and they're sitting on the counter. They're piled high, and you could take one or two and then rearrange the pile to make it look like none were taken. Do you take them, yes or no?

### Scenario 3

You're invited to a pool party with friends but can't swim and are secretly super scared of the water. You're not sure how your friends will react. Do you make up an excuse and stay home or do you risk it and go to be with your friends?

### Scenario 4

OK, let's try a silly one. An alien lands in your backyard, comes out of its spaceship, and offers you a choice. You can either become the most famous person in the world (by being the one who discovers aliens) or be given the knowledge to cure all diseases on planet earth but no one will know it's you. Which one do you choose?

### Scenario 5

You're out shopping with your family, and when you're on the way back out to your car, you notice that

the case of Coke that was on the bottom of the cart never got scanned. No one paid for it. Do you say anything or just keep it because, hey, free Coke?

#### Scenario 6

You're out with friends at the movie theater to see a movie you all have permission to see. On your way in, one of your friends suggests sneaking into a movie you know your mom wouldn't like you to watch. Do you follow your friends into the new movie or suggest you stick with the movie you all have permission to see?

"It's interesting when you have to defend your position, right? Sometimes the right choice is harder when no one will find out the wrong choice!"

"When faced with choices like these, how do you find the strength to choose? Or, like with frustrating video games or confusing math class or fickle friends, when you're faced with trying times that make you want to go kick a wall, how do you find the strength to control yourself? How do you know what to do? How do you find the wisdom to make the right choice?"

"What will help you know how to respond?"

"Great questions to think about! A lot of our choices are shaped by the adults in our lives, our friends, or our circumstances. And when it's left up to us, sometimes making the best choice that shows self-control isn't exactly the easiest thing in the world. We'll need some help figuring this out."

#### *Hold up the Bible.*

"We just so happen to have the best resource available on planet Earth—the Bible. This book is full of wisdom, stories, one-liners, knowledge, and all kinds of examples to help us. If we pay attention to what's in these pages, we can learn a thing or three. Let's dive in with the help of this week's Episode!"

#### **CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 17:00)**

"The devil's temptations of Jesus are similar to some of the ways he tempts us today. The first temptation had to do with food, right? We often experience this as the 'just do what feels right' temptation."

"There are things that we crave—not just some mac n' cheese but things that feel good, too—things that might not be the best things for you to do. It is why people get addicted to certain things like drugs or their phones. It's like they just can't stop themselves from satisfying that physical side of themselves."

"In the second temptation, the devil offered Jesus the kingdoms of the world if He would worship him. We don't face that exact temptation, but we are faced with the temptation to do whatever we can to be recognized, to get fame, to be popular."

"Everyone wants that, right? Sometimes you want to be liked by your friends, you want to be the first one picked when splitting up the teams, you want to be the one who gets chosen for the lead or the solo—and sometimes getting a laugh or getting the attention involves putting someone else down or cheating your way to get there."

"The third is when the devil asked Jesus to jump off a building and have His angels save Him. In a way, the devil was trying to get Jesus to test God's love for Him. For us, this temptation can look more like us questioning God's love for us. It's a simple answer, though. You don't have to prove anything. You don't have to put God to the test to see if God loves you. God loves you no matter what. Period. End of story."

"If you'll remember, Jesus quoted Scripture when the devil tempted Him. But the devil quoted Scripture sometimes, too. Jesus knew the Scriptures, yes. But more importantly, He knew God's heart behind the

Scriptures. So when the devil quoted Scripture in a way that went against God's heart, Jesus knew what God wanted and didn't fall for it."

"Jesus relied on His understanding of who God is and His knowledge of the Scriptures to resist the enemy's temptations. We can use our understanding of who God is and the truths in the Bible to help us make the wise choice, too!"

"As you head to Small Groups, think about this question:

**SLIDE: Key Question**

**"When is it hard to do the right thing?"** Think about some situations you might find yourself in where it's super tough to make a good decision. And not only that, where can you find the wisdom like Jesus did to have the right answers to those tough situations? You'll talk more about this in Small Group, but before you head out, let's pray. Let's thank God for sending Jesus and ask God to point us in the right direction to find wisdom in tough situations. 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