

## Alley Rundown—October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Today's Bible Story:** When You Believe (Israel Goes Through the Red Sea) • Exodus 13:17-14:31

**Today's Key Question:** What feels out of control?

**Today's Bottom Line:** Hold on because God is still in control.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up.* Galatians 6:9 (NIRV)

### CG: Dude Perfect Filler Videos

“Hey, everyone! So good to see you all on this last week of October! You've shown some true grit this month! We've had a great month together talking about grit: refusing to give up when life gets hard. With God's help we can discover just how far we can go and maybe even see that the impossible might not actually be so impossible.

“As we get started together this morning, I'd love for you to chat about a question for a moment. It's a question about the impossible. Here it is:

“Have you ever found yourself in a situation that seemed pretty much impossible and you thought there was NO WAY you were going to get through? But then, somehow, you actually made it out on the other side? Turn to someone near you and chat about that for a moment.

*Give kids a chance to chat about this question for a few moments. After a couple of minutes, bring them back together and debrief some of the answers from the group.*

“Ok, let's hear from some of you! What were some of the impossible situations that ended up being not so impossible? *(Take some responses.)*

“Wow! Thanks for sharing all of those incredible moments. It's true from time to time that we'll not only face something challenging, but that challenging situation seems beyond our abilities. Maybe it's a super advanced piano piece your teacher gave you to learn. Maybe you are having the worst time learning a new skill in math. Maybe your mom asked you to clean your room, which you've neglected doing for the past few . . . months! Not that any of you wouldn't clean the room where you stay, of course.”

“Anyway . . . I don't know about you, but it can be super easy to want to give up when whatever we face seems impossible. I know that I've been there. And chances are, you've been there, too. In those moments, when everything seems impossible, we might just need some help to dig in and keep going. But of course, the obvious question becomes, 'HOW?' How in the world do we keep going and face situations that seem so massive, so beyond anything we've had to do before?

“First of all, let me tell you something. It's ok to feel this way sometimes. Life can be really hard, and we need to be honest with how we're feeling. You're not alone. All sorts of people throughout history have faced moments they didn't think they could get through, but with God's help, they did!

“Secondly, discovering an answer to these sorts of questions can really help you remember where your grit comes from in the first place. Thankfully, we have many of these stories of grit told throughout the Bible. Remember, the people who God inspired to write the different parts of the Bible all experienced God first hand and wrote about those experiences so others could learn more about God and themselves. And I can’t WAIT for us to talk about what happened in today’s story.”

“So last week, we ended with yet ANOTHER cliffhanger. Anyone remember the name of the two guys we’ve been talking about this month? (*Allow for responses*) Right! Joseph and Moses. Joseph was the great-grandson of Abraham, the man God called to leave everything and become God’s chosen people. Joseph lived an EPIC life which ultimately rescued his family from a devastating famine. But after many of years of living in Egypt, Joseph’s family, the Israelites, found themselves in an impossible situation. They were oppressed and enslaved in Egypt. But God saw them and had compassion on them and made a way to rescue them through the other guy we’ve been talking about, Moses.

“As great a Moses and his brother, Aaron, were, Pharaoh wouldn’t listen and made life even more terrible for the Israelites. But God, in his compassion and concern, sent Moses and brought the people out with a strong arm and mighty acts. In the end, Pharaoh gave up and told Moses and the Israelites to leave.

“Now, we know where they are leaving . . . but does anyone remember where they are headed?

*Allow for responses.*

“That’s right . . . the promised land, a land called Canaan. It turned out to be quite a journey. Let’s check out more with the help of this week’s Episode.”

**CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 15:00)**

“You know, there were definitely a lot of moments in that story that felt out of control. Even handing you all a piece of paper to wave around was a bit out of control, right? But seriously, that story was intense. Backed up against the Red Sea with an army in hot pursuit, it sure didn’t look good for the Israelites. They had very little control at that point. They couldn’t run. They couldn’t hide. They couldn’t swim. They couldn’t fight. But God reminded them over and over again of something important: God was always with them, a cloud by day and a fire by night. Blocking the view of the Egyptians. Parting the waters of the sea to reveal a path where there was not previously one. It was God who was in control, and God would be the One to save them. All they had to do was trust God and then take that first step.

“Have you ever been backed up against the Red Sea before? OK, of course, I don’t mean the actual Red Sea, but have you ever had an obstacle that was so big, so scary, you just couldn’t ever imagine a way through? Maybe there is trouble at home and you think, ‘How will I ever get through this?’ Or you have something happening at school, and it is scary. Maybe it feels like it is coming from all sides and there seems to be no way around. When you feel stuck or like you have no control, remember: God knows what you are facing. God can give you the strength you need to get through it. God can even rescue you from it. You can always trust God no matter what!”

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

**SLIDE: Key Question**

**“What feels out of control?”** This could be a pretty big question for some of you. But it’s important to name some of these moments to help us realize just how much God can help us. So think about it: where do you most feel stuck? What do your Red Sea moment look like? Maybe you’re on the other side and could share how God came through for you in the past. You’ll have a chance to talk about all of this and more with your Small Group.

Before you go, I want to remind you about Alley After Hours on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>.

**SLIDE: Alley After Hours**

Don’t forget, time is running out to register for this fun night **ONLY** for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders! Bring your friends and some cash for candy and slushies. Along with the jumpy’s, a glow room, prizes and other cool stuff, we’ll end with a battle between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders to decide which leader is going to get slimed. You won’t want to miss it.

**OFFERING TIME:**

All this month, we have been bringing our money to support Vida Nueva Ministries in Piedras Negras, Mexico. Your offering helps people just like you to have the resources they need to experience a new life with Jesus! Here is a picture of our friends Eli and Mandy Garcia and their family...

**SLIDE: Eli and Mandy**

They are our friends and Parkview Global heroes that tell people about Jesus down in Mexico. So, if you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now while this video plays!

**CG: Vida Nueva Ministries Video (Runtime: 2:00)**

Before you head to groups, let’s pray and thank God for showing up and helping us find the grit we need to get through even the most difficult situations. Let’s pray.”

*Dismiss students to their small groups after offering and prayer.*