

## ALLEY Rundown – April 22-24, 2023

**Today's Bible Story:** Stand By Me (On the Road to Emmaus • *Luke 24:13-35*)

**Today's Key Question:** When has someone helped you understand something?

**Today's Bottom Line:** Put others first by helping them understand

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* Philippians 2:3, (NIV)

**SUPPLIES:** 5 white boards and markers per campus

**SLIDE:** Theme

“What’s up, everybody? It is SO good to see each of you today. It’s my hope that you had a fabulous week. I want each of you to turn to the person next to you and tell them the best part of your week. *(Allow response)* Sounds like there were some pretty exciting days last week, so how about we keep it going and kick off this next week with an exciting game?”

Since our theme this month is Community Garden, I want to test your knowledge of vintage yard tools. Quickly, circle in Small Groups. (No more than 5 groups)  
*(Pass out one white board and dry erase marker to each group)*

I’ll flash an image on the screen. Your group will quickly write down the purpose of the object. The one who is the closest to the correct answer will win a point. The Small Group with the most points will get bragging rights.

**SLIDE:** Vintage Yard Tools Slide 1 (*Spraying Nozzle*)

“Let’s turn our attention to the screen. Quietly talk with your group to guess the purpose of the object. If you have no idea, take a guess! *(Allow response)* Looks kind of like a small dustpan, but it isn’t! This is an antique fan-shaped spray nozzle. Its purpose is to spray water over a wider area by leveraging the fan shape! Let’s move on to the next shape.

**SLIDE:** Vintage Yard Tools Slide 2 (*Plant Mister*)

*Leader allows the groups to briefly talk and write down their guess. He/She awards a point after each round.*

“This odd tool is a plant mister and not a tea kettle. It was actually used to water indoor plants versus outdoor plants! Good guesses, everybody. How about this tool?”

*Leader allows the groups to briefly talk and write down their guess. He/she awards a point after each round.*

**SLIDE:** Vintage Yard Tools Slide 3 (*Potato Scoop*)

“This is no yard rake! Rather, it’s a potato scoop. I had no idea something like this existed. The dirt and rocks would pass through the grates while the potatoes would be brought to the surface of the ground! Let’s do another object.

*Leader allows the groups to briefly talk and write down their guess. He/she awards a point after each round.*

**SLIDE: Vintage Yard Tools Slide 4 (Berry Picker)**

“This odd-shaped box looks like a LEGO scoop, but it isn’t! Rather, it’s a metal berry picker! Its teeth pull berries like cranberries off vines with ease and speed! Okay, last one!”

*Leader allows the groups to briefly talk and write down their guess. He/she awards a point after each round.*

**SLIDE: Vintage Yard Tools Slide 5 (Apple Picker)**

“Although it looks like a crown for a tiny head, it’s actually an apple picker! Its purpose is to carefully pull apples off the tree without damaging the fruit.”

When I first saw these tools, I had no idea why people would use them. It was frustrating! I grew up around tools and helped my dad around the yard, but the shapes just didn’t make sense. So you know what I did? I went to my dad who was able to explain each of the objects in great detail. As he spoke, it started to make sense why the apple picker was shaped like a crown or why the berry picker needed the teeth.

“Has this ever happened to you? Have you ever experienced something that didn’t make sense? Maybe it left you confused when you started a unit on fractions in math class. Maybe the new football coach gave you some offensive schemes that weren’t clear. Or maybe your mom wanted your clothes folded a specific way that left your brain scrambled.

“In those situations when you didn’t have all the answers, what did you do? How did you respond to the challenge? Did you panic? Did you get really frustrated? Did you give up and quit trying?

“More than that, what might have been a better way to respond? These are great questions. And when we have questions like this, the best place to start is the Bible. Remember, the people who wrote the Bible had experiences with God and were inspired to write down those experiences so we could learn from them. Let’s check it out.”

**VIDEO: The So and So Show 12:33**

“I think it’s so cool Jesus cared so much about His friends that He wanted them to understand the big picture of what God was doing. And here’s the thing: our world is full of people who do not understand God. Maybe, God places those people in our lives so we can help them understand!

“What if your best friend’s parents are getting a divorce and your friend feels all alone? You can take the time to remind them God is present in the good times and bad times. Or maybe your sister has a

really bad softball game. You can offer that God can use even really hard things like a bad game to do something good!”

Over the course of your life, you’ve had countless people put you first by helping you understand. They taught you to tie your shoes, how to skip rocks, bake muffins, and do complicated math. As we get ready to head to small groups, we want you to think about this question:

**SLIDE: Key Question**

**“When has someone helped you understand something?** How did you benefit from their help? It could have been a Small Group Leader helping you understand God’s big story! Each of you bring these examples with you to your small groups, but before we head out, let’s pray together!”

*Leader leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard.*

**OFFERING TIME:**

Before we go to small groups, 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)**

*Head to small groups*