

ALLEY Rundown – June 17-19, 2023

Today's Bible Story: Walk Right In (Peter Goes to the House of Cornelius) • Acts 10

Today's Key Question: When have you changed your mind about someone?

Today's Bottom Line: God can change the way you see others.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see.* Hebrews 11:1 (NirV)

SUPPLIES: 3 small white boards and markers

SLIDE: Theme

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: “How is everyone? It’s so good to be with you all today in the Alley!

“You know how there are just some things in life that seem to go together? Peanut butter and jelly, hot summer days and popsicles, puppies and warm fuzzies?

“In contrast with things that go well together, there are things that might . . . well, *not*. Like gummy bears and pepperoni. Let’s hear from you—I’ll need three volunteers.

Leader brings up three volunteers and hands each a small white board and marker.

“Things that don’t mix—like oil and water. I’ll throw out a phrase, and I want each of you to fill in the blank with something that would *not* mix with that. We’ll let everyone else vote for the worst; or best, depending on your point of view. Let’s get started!

Play the game, having each volunteer turn around their white boards one at a time to reveal their answers. Take a Large Group vote on each phrase, choosing the best answer. If time permits, change out the volunteers each phrase as well.

SLIDE: Introduction Slide 1 (Peanut butter and _____)

SLIDE: Introduction Slide 2 (Brushing your teeth and _____)

SLIDE: Introduction Slide 3 (French fries and _____)

SLIDE: Introduction Slide 4 (An upset stomach and _____)

SLIDE: Introduction Slide 5 (Barbecue sauce and _____)

“Okay, that’s a trick phrase. Barbecue sauce goes with everything. There is nothing you could put here that doesn’t mix.

Communicator has each volunteer reveal their answer.

“You have proven me wrong. And I will never look at that sauce the same again, because that was disgusting.”

“Anyway! It’s one thing to mismatch foods and find things that don’t go well together, but what about when people don’t match well together? Like a study partner who has their own way of doing things or a sibling who doesn’t let you pick the music on the way to school. How do you get along with people you don’t mix with? Or those who you don’t agree with?”

“Great questions—definitely something we should think about! Well, when we have questions like this, one of the first places we should check out is the Bible. In the Bible, we find all sorts of wisdom from people who experienced God in their lives and were inspired to write down what they learned. And now, thousands of years later, we can have a relationship with God and learn the best way to live just by checking out what they wrote down. Let’s check out a story that deals with sharing God’s love and, more importantly . . . with *whom*.”

VIDEO: So and So Show

“God called Abraham to be a great nation. The main reason God formed that nation, the nation of Israel, was to reach the world. Not only would God bless Abraham, but God would also use Abraham to bless all the nations in the world. God’s dream has always been to have a relationship with all nations . . . all people. These events at Cornelius’ house may be some of the clearest examples we have of this, for sure. And here’s the thing . . . it was just getting started.

“After that moment at Cornelius’ house with Peter, everything wasn’t just automatically fixed between Jews and Gentiles. The truth was some of the Jewish people had a really hard time accepting the Gentiles—and vice versa. But despite their many differences, the one common bond they all now had was Jesus. And really, He’s enough.

“Just like Peter and Cornelius, God can change the way we see other people. He can make once strangers or even enemies now friends or even like family.

“Maybe you find yourself in a situation right now where you already have your mind made up about somebody. You’re really tempted to think the worst about them. But think about the last couple weeks and what we’ve learned here . . . Ananias and Saul . . . Peter and Cornelius. God can truly change the way you see other people!”

“Today, think about this:

SLIDE: Key Question

“When have you changed your mind about someone? Do you have a time that maybe you got it wrong? Or you simply had to change your thinking about someone?”

Let’s pray and ask God to help us see the people in our lives the way that God sees them! Let’s pray!”

SLIDE: Theme Background

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

OFFERING:

All summer, our offering money will go to families in Kenya. They are experiencing a food shortage because of an on-going drought. And the food that is available costs a LOT of money! As you can see in these pictures, this is an area in Kenya called Turkana that is very rural and the people who live there do not have much money for food.

SLIDES: Kenya 1-4

We are working with an organization called Missions of Hope. Our money will help them make food baskets to bring to families who live in Turkana. The food baskets will be such a blessing to the children and families in this community! If you have any offering you can bring it up now.

CG: Summer JAM Slide

"It's almost time for Summer Jam! It's coming up very soon and we're so excited to invite you to these 3 nights jam-packed with FUN and Adventure! You won't want to miss it. Tell whoever brought you that you need to visit the Summer Jam Tent after our time together today to sign up and get your t shirt!"

****AT YOUR COORDINATOR'S DIRECTION, YOU WILL EITHER DIVIDE INTO SMALL GROUPS OR DO ACTIVITIES TOGETHER.**