

# ALLEY SG Guide – Nov 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup>

**Bible Story:** That's So Ravens (Widow of Zarephath) • 1 Kings 17:1-16

**Bottom Line:** Ask God for what you need to lend a hand.

**Memory Verse:** "Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven." *Matthew 5:16, NIV*

**Life App:** Service—lending a hand to help someone else.

**Basic Truth:** I can trust God no matter what.

*Before kids arrive, pray for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. In the spirit of today's Bottom Line, ask God to give you the words to say to your few as you encourage them to rely on Him when they serve. Pray that you would be able to assure them that when they feel like they don't have what they need to lend a hand, they can ask God to provide or to show them the way forward.*

## **Game On! (application activity / review the Bible story)**

**What You Need:** 2 bells (or "Bell" Activity Page) (Lockport has a bell. You may use real bells or bell cards at Orland), "Game On Cards Activity Page (2 sets per bin printed on cardstock)"

### **What You Do:**

- Divide the group into two teams.
- One team forms a line to your left with the kids facing you; the other team forms a line to your right facing you.
- Place a bell (or a bell card) in front of each team.
- Starting with the first kid in line for each team, ask a question from the "Game On" cards.
- If the kid knows the answer, he or she will ring the bell. The first team to ring the bell gets to answer first. If correct, the team gets a point. If incorrect, the other team may attempt to answer and earn a point. *(Note: This game is played Family Feud style, where only the person answering the question can answer it. The person's team cannot help him.)*
- If no one knows the answer, give hints until the question is answered but no one gets a point.
- *(Optional)* Give the winning team a prize.

### **What You Say:**

"The widow only had enough food for her and her son to have one last meal, and now she had to feed someone else too—Elijah. She was definitely low on resources and yet she trusted God help her lend a hand to this prophet who came to her home. There will be times when you see someone who needs a hand and you just aren't sure what to do. Maybe you don't think you have the time to help, or you are just really tired, or you plan to help next time. Maybe you don't think you are smart enough, strong enough, or old enough to lend a hand. That's when it is time to **[Bottom Line] ask God for what you need to lend a hand.** Just like the widow needed to trust God to give her resources to lend a hand to help Elijah, you need to trust God to give you what you need to lend a hand."

***[Make It Personal] (Share about a time when you wanted to lend a hand but you weren't sure what to do so you asked God for help. Maybe more people showed up to your house for dinner***

*than you were expecting and you didn't know if you would have enough food. Maybe you have a friend who is struggling with health issues and you don't know what to do to help her. It is OK if you are still waiting for God to show you how to lend a hand. The important part of your story to share with the kids is you trust God will show you what you can do; it may be God's timing is just different than yours but you trust Him no matter what.)*

### **Lean Walk** (application activity)

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

#### **What You Do:**

- Tell kids to pair up and instruct them to stand side by side with shoulders touching.
- While leaning on each other's shoulders, see how far the kids can move their feet sideways without falling over.
- Now ask them to walk together by working with each other so they don't fall while continuing to lean on each other.
- (Optional) Ask pairs to stand back to back, walking their feet in front of them to form an upside down "V" with their bodies. Then, as a team, instruct them to walk sideways.

#### **What You Say:**

"What made this difficult? What happened when you pulled away from each other or one of you walked faster than your partner? You really had to lean on each other to walk and trust each other for support. God wants you to lean on Him for support. He wants you to trust Him no matter what. When you are faced with a situation and you aren't sure you can help, trust Him and **[Bottom Line]** ask God for what you need to lend a hand.

"And we have a fantastic opportunity coming up for you to do just that! Some of you might not get an allowance or you might not have a ton of extra stuff or money that you can donate. BUT it doesn't take much and it doesn't always take money and stuff to lend a hand." *(Tell kids about the service project your church is doing this season. If your church is participating in the BiteBack campaign, ask help kids think about what it would feel like to be at risk for getting very sick just from a common mosquito bite. Tell them there are nets kids their age in countries like Uganda can put over their beds when they sleep so they don't get bitten at night. The nets let these kids get a good night's sleep, knowing they won't wake up and be very sick. Give kids a few details on how your church will collect money to buy mosquito nets. Help kids think through some ideas of what they can do to raise money, such as babysitting, helping neighbors, pooling their extra change with their friends so they can make a bigger impact, etc. You can also bring the conversation back around to this week's Bottom Line, but be careful not to let kids feel like they can just use "ask God" as an excuse for inaction!)*

#### **What You Say:**

"When you're faced with a situation where you want to help but don't know how or don't feel like you have the resources to lend a hand, remember the song or poem you wrote and remember Psalm 121. Kids your age might tend to feel like they don't have the power to do anything about someone else's need. But God wants to use you right here, right now. And the cool thing is that when God gives you an opportunity to serve someone else and you say, 'Yes,' He makes a way for you to have what you need to lend a hand!"

## **Shine On** (*memory verse activity*)

**What You Need:** Flashlight (one per bin), Bible, timer

**What You Do:**

- Ask kids to sit in a circle.
- Tell them to look up the memory verse and read it out loud together.
- Set a timer for 30 seconds.
- Hand the flashlight to one kid.
- When you say, “GO,” the kid with the flashlight, should say the first word of the memory verse and pass the flashlight to the kid sitting next to him.
- Now, the kid holding the flashlight will say the next word of the verse and pass the flashlight to the kid next to her.
- The flashlight moves around the circle with each kid saying the next word of the verse and passing the flashlight until the 30 seconds is up and you say, “STOP.”
- Whoever has the flashlight sits out the next round.
- Repeat this until one kid is left and is declared the winner.
- With each round, change the time of the game. There will be rounds the kids don’t finish the memory verse and rounds where they will say it more than once. To add an element of surprise, don’t let kids know how much time you are giving for each round.
- If someone forgets a word, the group can lend a hand and help him.

**What You Say:**

“There are times it is easy to let your light shine; it is obvious what to do to lend a hand to help someone else. Your mom gets home with a carload of groceries and it is easy to see she needs help carrying them into the house. But there are times it is not easy to let your light shine; you know someone needs help but you just don’t know where to start or how to lend a hand. It is those times you need to **[Bottom Line] ask God for what you need to lend a hand**. When you trust God and seek His help, you are praising Him and honoring Him.”

## **Pray**

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

- Remind kids we can trust God no matter what and review the Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line] Ask God for what you need to lend a hand**.
- Pray with kids praising God for His greatness, His love, His mercy, and His wisdom. Thank God for always being there and for being trustworthy no matter what. Ask for God’s guidance to show us what we need to help others.

## **PARENT CONNECTION AT PICK UP**

Tell parents the kids learned God is trustworthy and we can ask Him for what we need to help others. Encourage kids to share the Bible story they heard today and to explain to their parents how God helped the widow and her son serve Elijah.