

Alley Rundown - February 10-11, 2018

Bible Story: We are Family (Ruth and Boaz) • *Ruth 1–2*

Bottom Line: Be kind to your family and friends.

Key Question: When is it hard to be kind?

Memory Verse: “Do to others as you want them to do to you.” *Luke 6:31 (NirV)*

WORSHIP EXPERIENCE NOTES: Children will pass a ball back and forth, sharing worship of God for times that God was kind to them. Not every kid has to participate. Briefly demonstrate by sharing a quick story of your own, by saying, “I worship God because He was kind to me when (fill in the blank)”. Hand the ball to the first kid who wants to start, and then have them throw, or hand, the ball to the next kid with their hand raised. If this takes longer than the set countdown on video, you are welcome to pause the video for time.

Supplies Needed: *Beach Ball*

Begin Rundown...

Supplies Needed: *Big Bag of Candy (One Per Service)*

Hey guys! I’ve got something for everybody today! Here’s some candy for all of you!”

Throw handfuls of candy out, telling everyone to pass it around and make sure everybody gets one.

“It’s easy when you have some candy to show kindness to others! But showing kindness isn’t always that easy, is it? I mean, you can’t walk around with bags of candy all the time, right?—though that would be pretty awesome.”

“It might not be about candy; rather, it could be something like this . . . imagine that you entered a contest and you get a call that you have won. Your prize? Two front row tickets to your favorite band’s concert! Amazing, right? You start thinking about all the friends who would do ANYTHING to go with you. If you play your cards right, this could work out pretty well for you! Popularity, Party invites, your name in lights at your school, etc. You know, just the basic stuff.”

“But then you remember your little brother. Your little brother who has the posters of this band all over his room. Your little brother who sings every single song at the top of his lungs. Your little brother who would do ANYTHING to go to the concert. Now, you could do this amazingly kind thing and take your brother, but it is going to cost you. But it would totally make his day!”

“I hope you’re picking up on the fact that sometimes . . . kindness can actually cost you. What do you think about that? Because it can. And what happens when we’re not so sure that we WANT it to cost us . . . I mean . . . we’re okay with a smile here or a helping hand there, but what happens when kindness is actually going to cost us something—maybe even more than front row seats at a concert?” *(allow response)*

“When it comes to a big question like that, we always say the first place we should check is the Bible. Let’s find out if God’s Word has anything to say about that. Our Bible truth today comes from a book early on in the Old Testament, Ruth. I have to catch you up to speed about a few

things to make sure you catch what is happening. First, there was a woman named Naomi. She had a husband and two sons. Second, there was a famine in their hometown of Bethlehem, and so they were forced to move to a whole other country, a place called Moab. And third, while they were there, her sons married women from Moab. But then both her husband and two sons died. When our story starts, Naomi is alone except for her two daughters-in-law, though she knows she probably will have to part with them soon, too. We'll join this week's episode right there..."

OFFERING:

Before we do, we want to give you all an opportunity to bring your offering to God. Here in The Alley, we give our offering to help support children in Kenya. Our offering goes to show kindness to them by buying clothes, and food, and other materials they may need. If you brought an offering today, you may bring it up when the video plays. If not, that's ok too. You can bring an offering next week. Watch this..."

CG: Offering Video (Runtime: 1:30)

CG: Week 2 Lesson Video (Runtime: 13:12)

"I love that story, and it got me thinking. Have you ever noticed that sometimes it is easier to show kindness to a complete stranger than to the people closest to us, like our family or friends? Like when you see a stranger drop her bag on the ground, you don't think twice about running over and helping her out. But when your little brother drops something, you might just laugh and say, 'Nice one.' Why is that?" *(allow response)*

"I think it is because it is easy to show kindness to strangers because those opportunities happen every so often. But with the people closest to us, we probably could find ways to show kindness every single day. And with all of those opportunities, we might start to feel like our kindness is costing us something. We might think to ourselves, 'If I show kindness now, they might expect kindness all of the time.' And that could get old quickly, right?"

"When that happens, it would be good for us to think about God's kindness towards us. God sent Jesus, a gift that cost Him everything! And because God showed kindness to us, we can show kindness towards others . . . even when it's hard! Before you go to your group today, let's take some time to worship God for His game changing kindness to us. Here's what we're doing this week..."

CG: Worship Experience Video (Runtime: 5:00)

(DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS)