

Alley Rundown - October 26-27, 2019

Bible Story: The Stand (Twelve Men Check Out the Land of Canaan) • *Numbers 13-14*

Bottom Line: You can do what you should, even when others are afraid.

Key Question: How can you be brave, even when others are afraid?

Memory Verse: Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1:9 NIV)

“Hey, everyone! Has anybody ever been nervous about something they had coming up? Maybe it was a game, or a play, or some other kind of performance? (*Pause for response.*) Those are all great examples, and that reminds of one time when I was really nervous...”

Share an age-appropriate example of a time that you felt nervous for an upcoming performance, game, interview, etc.

“Truth be told, I was really nervous. However, I wanted to be brave. If we came onto our stage scared, no matter what our stage is, it’s easy for that fear to rub off on others. When everyone around you is scared, it’s hard to be the only one trying to be brave. It’s easier to agree and affirm everyone’s fears and doubts. Nobody wants to be the odd man out who disagrees, especially when faced with a scary situation. I realize few in this room have experienced a situation like mine. However, some of you have had to go toe-to-toe against a giant basketball team. Maybe you’ve been in the movie theater with your friends when the power went out. Maybe your teacher springs a pop-quiz on your class and everyone starts freaking out!”

“All those circumstances can be scary. It’s understandable that people around you would have been worried or nervous. But what would it look like if you decided to be the one who’s brave and encourages others to be brave as well? What could happen if you do that? Risky? Maybe. But it might be worth it to be the one who stands up to the crowd. Let me show you what I mean. Or better yet, let’s dig into the Bible and discover some people who faced a moment just like this.”

“All month, we’ve been learning more about a guy named Moses. When he was 80 years old, Moses was living the quiet life as a shepherd, but God had a different plan for him. God called Moses to return to Egypt to help Him free all the Israelites from slavery. After terrible plagues, a scary trip through the Red Sea, and a dry, hot trek across the desert, Moses and the Israelites had finally reached the edge of the land God had promised them, the land of Canaan.”

“To have endured centuries of slavery, one could only imagine their excitement as they sat on the doorstep of the lush and abundant promised land! Before they could cross into the property, God instructed Moses to send twelve spies to the land. That’s what this week’s episode is all about. Let’s take a look!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 15:00)

“What a story! The Israelites have already seen God come through and rescue them in a HUGE way! In Egypt, they saw and experienced the plagues God sent. As they fled, the Israelites would have been guided by God in the form of a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. God allowed them to flee from an encroaching Egyptian army through a divided Red Sea! From firsthand experience, they would have seen the power of God. However, when they heard about the giants, the entire assembly was ready to run the other direction in fear—all except Caleb and Joshua. It’s as if they forgot what God was capable of doing for them. Caleb and Joshua knew if God was on their side, even the most terrifying situation could be resolved in victory.”

“It isn’t easy being the only one to have courage. Caleb and Joshua were ready to take on giants while the entire Israelite nation stood back in fear. The two men did what was unpopular, but they did what was right. They trusted God no matter what. This is just like Jesus. Throughout His entire ministry, Jesus stood against the popular ideas of what it meant to follow God. It is our responsibility to follow Jesus’ example as we stand up for what’s right—even when it’s scary, even when we are the only ones showing courage.”

“But standing up to a crowd is difficult, especially when your friends are part of that crowd. You know, when your friends are talking about someone behind their back, or when they are plotting to hurt someone's feelings. Someone must stand up for what's right! What if that someone was you?”

“I'm not trying to oversimplify this by making it sound easy. Trust me. This is very hard to do. It's important to remember Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us along the way. We don't have to do this alone. As we wrap up our time, think about this question . . .”

CG: Key Question Slide

“How can you be brave, even when others are afraid?” It's a great question to think upon. And if you need some ideas, don't worry. You'll get the chance to talk about this in Small Group. Before you head out, let's all pray together and ask God for the courage to stand up for what's right. Let's pray.”

Lead group in a prayer related to what they just heard, lead offering and Worship Experience, then dismiss to small group.

OFFERING TIME:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

CG: MOHI JPEG

“Offering Time is important here in the Alley, because it gives you all an opportunity to worship God by giving your money generously. Here at *(your campus)*, we give our offering to help support *(your campus child)* in Kenya. Our offering goes to show kindness to them by buying clothes, and food, and other materials they may need. We have a picture of MOHI where *(campus child)* goes to school! If you brought an offering today, you may place it in our Alley Offering Bin *(point children to location of bin)*

CG: Alley Offering Bin JPEG

...when the video plays. If not, that's ok too. You can bring an offering next week. The Bible tells us this about bringing our offerings to Him...”

CG: Offering Verse JPEG (Acts 20:35)

(Invite students to place their offerings in bin)

CG: Worship Experience Video (Runtime: 3:00)

Supplies Needed: Note Cards, Pens, “Prayer Request” and “Praise Report” Bags

NOTE: This week, students will fill out prayer requests (“Please Jesus”) and praise reports (“Thank You Jesus”)

Dismiss to Small Groups