

Alley Rundown - November 16-17, 2019

Bible Story: Count on Me (David and Mephibosheth) • 2 Samuel 9:1-13 (Supporting: 2 Samuel 4:4)

Bottom Line: Honor others by keeping your promises.

Key Question: Why do promises matter so much?

Memory Verse: Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. (Romans 12:10 NIV)

“What’s up Alley?!?! Question for you: When was the last time you made a promise to someone? What was it? (Allow response)

“Okay follow up question to the original question. Did you keep that promise? Are you still keeping it? Will you keep it? (Allow response)

“Think about it. Have you ever noticed that a lot of us use a lot of ‘promise language’ pretty regularly? We say things like ‘I mean it’ or ‘I will’ or ‘I swear’ . . . ‘I’ll pray for you,’ ‘I’ll be there,’ ‘You can count on me.’ Or maybe we just say ‘I promise.’ I promise I’ll take out the trash, clean my room, or clean up after the dog.”

“But here’s the real question: do we mean it? When we use these words are we really intending to keep those promises? Do those promises really mean that much to us? And even if we do break a promise, is it even that big of a deal? Like, if I said to my friend, ‘Hey, I promise I’ll be over at five o’clock tomorrow to help you move but then I ended up watching a really good game on TV and didn’t make it until seven o’clock, is that a big deal? Good questions to think about, especially because we make promises to each other all of the time. The writers of the Bible have a lot to say about promises. So when we have questions about them, the Bible is a great place to start.”

“Earlier this month, we saw David when he was young teenager fighting Goliath while Saul was king of Israel. And last week, we saw that same King Saul trying to kill David because of jealousy. But we also saw a deep friendship form between David and King Saul’s son, Jonathan. Both of those names come back into play today as we look at another story from David’s life.”

“Now at this point, both Saul and Jonathan have died, and after some struggle, David has officially been crowned king of Israel. We’ll let this week’s episode pick up from there. Let’s watch!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 11:30)

“If you think about it, our lives are filled with a lot of tables. And like David, there are times where we get to decide who gets to sit at those tables with us. Know what I mean? There are the tables in our classrooms. Sometimes those tables are for the group project we are working on, and so we pick kids to sit at the table and be in our group who are the best of the best because they can help our grade out the most. What motivates us is who can sit at this table that will cost me the least? But think about David? Was he motivated by what would cost him the least? No, he wanted to show kindness, and it actually cost him something.”

“Or think about the lunch table. We often want to surround ourselves with kids that are popular or cool or funny rather than making a seat for those who don’t have anywhere to sit. We might be motivated by our reputation in front of others. But think about David. If others learned he did this for Mephibosheth, they might think he was a soft king and would no longer respect his power and authority. Again, this was a costly move for David.”

Or think about the table at your home. Maybe as a family you can have decisions about the people you invest in, care for, and give your time to. Maybe those conversations mean that you have to give up a little bit of your personal space in your house, some of your free time, or even your comfort. But just like David, there is always going to be a cost to do what is right, when you want to honor others.”

“Many years later, from David’s family line would come Jesus. Jesus entered into this world at a great cost to Himself and laid His life down for us. Why?

Because many, many years earlier, God had made a promise to send a rescuer. And God always keeps His promises. And it is because God kept His promise that every single one of us (*walk up to the table*) has a place at the King's table. We can now be the sons and daughters of the King (*sit down*).

“Today as you go to groups, I want you to think about this question

CG: Key Question Slide

“Why do promises matter so much? In a world when promises are so easily broken, how can we stand out and be people who will keep the promises we make? How can we show others how much God loves them by the way we keep our promises? You'll talk all about this in Small Group. Before we head to groups, let's pray and thank God for keeping the best promise ever—sending Jesus to be our Savior. Let's pray.

Lead group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, lead offering and worship experience, then dismiss kids 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: 5:00)

Supplies Needed: Permanent Markers, White Tablecloth (1 per service)

NOTE: This week, students will decorate a tablecloth together as a group.

Dismiss to Small Groups