

Alley Rundown-March 21st-22nd, 2020

Bible Story: Please Forgive Me (Lost Son) • *Luke 15:11-24*

Key Question: When has someone forgiven you?

Bottom Line: Everyone needs to be forgiven.

Memory Verse: Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. (*Colossians 3:13 NIV*)

CONNECT TIME: Prodigal Pig Pick Up Game!

What You Need: Cups with P I G (1 set per Campus), toy pigs (25 pigs per team)

What You Do:

- **Set up the PIG cups.** If you want kids to be able to make “backboard” shots, set the cups next to a wall.
- **Explain** that the kids will play a basketball game called PIG, and instead of a basketball, kids will be using a toy pig. The object of the game is to have a toy pig in each PIG cup for the team to score a point.
- **To play:**
- **Split your group into two teams, lined up single file. Each team gets 25 pigs.**
- **First kid in line tries to shoot the toy pig into any cup, next kid tries, until all 3 PIG cups have a toy pig in it.**
- **First team to get toy pigs in each cup wins the round. Play enough rounds so that each kid has a chance to shoot the toy pig into the cup.**
 - **Encourage** them to be silly and go for the “trick” shots.

What You Say:

“Anyone have a guess why we used a pig instead of a basketball? (*because there is a pig in our story today*). Let’s get started with our talk today to see what a pig has to do with what we’re learning!”

PROMO: Camp Manitoqua (4th Graders) and CIY Mix (5th Graders)

“Hey 4th Graders! This is your last year to attend Camp Manitoqua. You don’t want to miss this chance to make new friends, and connect with God. Take a look at this!

CG: Camp Manitoqua Video

And finally, for all you 5th Graders, this is your chance to go to CIY Mix! Take a look!

CG: CIY Mix Video

All the information you’ll need is on these postcards (*show postcards*). Make sure you grab one on your way out today!”

Begin Rundown...

“Hey, everyone! I hope all of you are doing great. Today we’re going to take an honest look at ourselves. What things do you do that get you in trouble? Now, don’t answer it out loud. Instead, just think about it. Maybe it’s refusing to listen to your mom when she needs your help. It could be talking too much to your desk-mate in school. When your little brother starts to bother you, maybe you are quick to retaliate.”

“What is your reaction when you’re caught? Do you hide your face behind a pillow? Do you give the person talking to you the ‘stank eye’? Do you start to cry because you do not like getting in trouble?”

“Every single one of us will make poor decisions from time to time. When we get caught, we may react in different ways, but how should we react? That’s a great question. What’s great is that when we have big questions like that, we have a place we can look: the Bible! In the New Testament, we discover more about Jesus and what He has to say about . . . well . . . everything—including forgiveness.”

"Maybe you've heard about how Jesus could draw a crowd. From all walks of life, people came to be healed, to hear His teachings, and to watch His miracles. This was true of moms, kids, carpenters, tax collectors, misfits, and all sorts of people who had done wrong things. It was even true of Jewish religious leaders."

"Many of these religious leaders did not approve of the people Jesus chose to hang out with. It was their belief that if they stayed away from certain types of people, it made them closer to God. But the way Jesus lived demonstrated God's love for every single person He came in contact with."

Unfortunately, the religious leaders didn't see it that way. Jesus knew the hearts of the religious leaders, and He told them a parable, a story that helped others understand something about what it meant to follow God."

"Jesus begins the story with a father who lives on a farm with his two sons. I like to picture the farm with rolling hills filled with green grass for the herds of sheep and goats. A few big shade trees scattered throughout the property including ones surrounding a beautiful pond stocked with fish."

"However, this perfect scene all changed when the younger son made an improper demand. As Jesus told the story, the crowd leaned in to hear what the young son said. (*Read directly from Luke 15:12b*) 'Father, give me my share of the family property,' (*NIV*). In other words, the younger son was wanting his inheritance early instead of waiting until his father died to receive his share of the estate. This would have been rude and painfully disrespectful. However, the father obliged, and the son packed up all he had and traveled far away. That's what this week's episode is all about. Let's take a look to find out more!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 16:00)

"This was the story Jesus told to make a point to the crowd around Him, also known as a parable. In it the father freely gave to his son. After the son spent his inheritance and lived with pigs, he returned home to find unconditional love and forgiveness from the father. This forgiveness and love was not deserved or even expected by the son. The picture Jesus was painting was that of God's love for us."

"In this story, God is like the loving father while all of us are like the wayward, younger son. We may not be craving pig slop or spending all our inheritance, but we all mess up and make mistakes. However, God still chooses to forgive us regardless of our sin. When we turn back to God, we always find His love and forgiveness even though we don't deserve it."

"From the very beginning, this was God's plan. Sin separated us from Him, but God didn't want us to stay separated. So God had a rescue plan to pay the debt caused by sin. He sent Jesus, His only Son, to earth to pay the debt and be our Savior. It's through Jesus that God offers us forgiveness . . . all of us!"

"Forgiving others can be incredibly difficult. When it is especially hard, don't forget to lean on God. Remember how much God has forgiven you. Remember the times when you've messed up and needed forgiveness from people in your life. As you head to small group, think about this."

CG: Key Question Slide

When has someone forgiven you? Think about how it feels when someone decides to let go of a mistake you've made. It's pretty awesome, right? We get to offer that sort of forgiveness to others. But like we said, this can be hard sometimes. Let's pray right now and ask God to help us make the wise choice and forgive others just like God has forgiven us. Let's pray."

Lead group in a prayer related to what they just heard, lead offering, then dismiss kids to Small Group.

OFFERING TIME:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

"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. If you brought an offering today, you may place it in our Alley Offering Bin (point children to location of bin). If not, that's ok too. You can bring an offering next week.

CG: Alley Offering Bin JPEG

(Invite students to place their offerings in bin)

NOTE: No Worship Experience today due to Connect Time.

Dismiss to Small Groups