

Alley Rundown—February 20th, 2022

Today's Bible Story: All I Need Is a Miracle (Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand) • *John 6:1-13*

Today's Key Question: What do you have that you can use to help others?

Today's Bottom Line: Use what you have to help others.

Monthly Memory Verse: He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8 NIV)

CG: Dude Perfect Filler Videos

CG: SuperStart! Video Promo and Slide

ICE-BREAKER ACTIVITY: Block Party Beach Ball Toss

Supplies Needed: 24 Beach Balls (per Campus), 2 Laundry Baskets (per Campus)

“What’s happening, everyone? We’ve had so much fun so far this month as we’ve discovered more about what it means to care for the people in our neighborhoods. We have such a good day in store for you. And that day starts with . . . a block party game! This one might just get a little bit wild. I call it “Block Party Beach Ball Toss!”

SLIDE: “Block Party Beach Ball Toss”

“Here’s how it works. I have some beach balls over here and some laundry baskets over there. This will be Small Groups vs. Small Groups (or Boys vs. Girls, whichever makes the most sense for your Group). Each Team Leader will hold a laundry basket on the top of their head like this (*demonstrates*). Kids, your goal is to score a beach ball into your leader’s laundry basket. Sounds easy, but remember—with multiple beach balls and multiple baskets, you’ll be competing for beach balls! You’ll have two minutes (*or however long you choose*) to score. At the end of the time, we will see the score and possibly play a few more rounds. Everyone got it? Let’s go!”

AUDIO: Fun background Music (from your Spotify Playlist)

Have leaders not in the game counting the number of baskets. At the end of the time, report the score and play a few more rounds as time and interest allows.

“(After the game) Wow, that was some fantastic chaos! Now, let’s get started with our talk today!”

“Hey, friends! Glad to see you all here today! I have a question for you; it might feel random, but hang with me here. We’re headed somewhere with this. Okay, here’s the question: have you ever heard about a rescue story where someone uses something completely unexpected to do something pretty amazing to help someone? (See show of hands.) OK, a few of you. That’s cool.

Use the following story or choose one of your own.

“Well, back in 2016, this happened to a woman named Susan Robbins. She was driving along and her car slid on some ice on a New Hampshire highway. Her car crashed and she was left unconscious. Even worse, her car’s engine compartment started a fire. Passing motorists called 911, but the fire threatened Robbins’ life. That’s when Mark Hickey stopped on the side of the road and sprang into action to put out the fire. First, he tried to put out the fire with spare clothing but couldn’t reach the flames. So he created a fire extinguisher with another item he had in his truck—a 2-liter of Coke. He really shook up the bottle (*acting out*) and opened the cap slowly, creating a spray stream of foamy soda. Low and behold, the fire went out! He stayed with Robbins until help arrived.

"A fire extinguisher out of a 2-liter soda? Now, that is pretty resourceful! You might be asking, why did *[Name of Communicator]* share this random story. Sure, it's cool, but what does a 2-liter soda bottle fire extinguisher have to do with what we're talking about today?

"Well, glad you asked! Here's the thing: we might never extinguish a car fire with a soda bottle, but let's be honest—that could have ended really badly. But we will have times in our lives when we will face situations when someone needs help. We might look at the situation and want to help but not know where to start. It might cause us to give up, but what if we looked at the situation differently? What if we got creative and realized that what we have is exactly what someone else needs and could make a huge difference in their life?

"People have been asking these sorts of questions for thousands of years. In fact, it's that sort of question that Jesus' own disciples wondered in our story today. Let's head there now.

"We are back in the Gospels. The Gospels are the first four books of the New Testament. The authors of the Gospels wanted people like us to know more about Jesus, why He came, and how we can follow Him. Today we're in the Gospel of John.

"Now, as you dig into the Gospels, one of the things you start to notice is how Jesus was often surrounded by crowds of people. These crowds of people didn't necessarily all believe in Jesus or want to really be His follower. Some were, for sure! But many were just hanging around because they were waiting for Him to do something miraculous. Others, like some of the religious leaders, had bad motives for following Jesus. They were just waiting to catch Jesus saying or doing the wrong thing in order to get Him in trouble. People chose to follow Jesus for all sorts of reasons, but the reality was the same . . . the crowds were getting bigger. And sometimes, as we'll see today, those crowds were in need.

"Let's jump into our story with the help of this week's Episode!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 12:00)

"This story is pretty incredible, miraculous even, but if you think about it, outside of the miracle, this story would be very different without the boy. I think Jesus knew this too. The disciples probably laughed at Andrew's suggestion to use such a small amount of bread and fish, but Jesus was able to use what He had—what the boy had—to help others.

"That day, many people saw the power of Jesus through His compassion on the crowds. Jesus could have simply just sent the crowds away or said, 'They're not My problem.' But His compassion was evident to all as He provided for them. This act of compassion allowed them to stay and hear Jesus' teachings rather than have to leave and go to town to search for food.

"I am guessing that at your age, it can be easy to think that you don't have much to offer to help others. It may be tempting to just say, 'I'll help others later when I have more.' But imagine if the boy in the story had thought the same way. There are so many ways that God can take what small amount we have to offer and do something pretty amazing with it. You don't have to wait until you are older to help others. You can use what you have right here and now!

"Today as you go to groups, think about this.

SLIDE: Key Question

"What do you have that you can use to help others? Let's get really practical. Think about what you have, your talents or gifts, anything really. What you have might not feel like a lot, but just imagine what God could do with what you can offer. If you're not sure how you'd answer that question, don't worry.

You'll have a chance to chat about this with your Small Group. Before you head out, let's pray and ask God to help us figure out what we have that can be used to help others. Let's pray.

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

OFFERING:

Here in Parkview Kids, we bring our offering each week to help support (your Campus Child) learn more about Jesus just like we do here in Parkview Kids. Here's a picture of (your Campus Child)! If you brought your offering you can bring it up now as we dismiss to Small Groups.

Orland Park: Michael and Valeri, New Lenox: Daniel, Homer Glen: Victor