

Alley Rundown- May 18-19, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Speak Now (Peter Says That Jesus Is the Messiah) • *Matthew 16:13-20*

Today's Key Question: Who do you talk to about God?

Today's Bottom Line: Practice talking about God.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come.* 1 Timothy 4:8 (NirV)

Need 5th Grade Graduation Gifts (Prayer Journals)

PRE-SERVICE VIDEOS: *Dude Perfect*

SLIDE: *Theme*

Hey, everyone! It's great to see you all again, and I have to say, this is one of my favorite times of the week. I love spending time teaching and learning and figuring out direction for tough questions. It's awesome.

If I asked you who the GOAT was in basketball, who would you say? No, not an actual goat . . . the Greatest Of All Time, GOAT. Who do you think?

Allow responses.

Hmm. It's a tough debate. I think your answer would depend on how old you are. Let's take a look at some other GOATs and see who you pick!

Show the following slides, and have kids vote and debate on who they think is the GOAT in each particular area.

Encourage the kids to call out someone different if they don't agree with the options. Slides come up as the Communicator asks for them.

SLIDE(S): *Lebron James / Michael Jordan*
SLIDE(S): *Venus Williams / Serena Williams*
SLIDE(S): *Tom Brady / Patrick Mahomes*
SLIDE(S): *Ronaldo / Messi*
SLIDE(S): *Babe Ruth / Shohei Ohtani*
SLIDE(S): *Captain America / Iron Man*
SLIDE(S): *Batman / Superman*
SLIDE(S): *Bert / Ernie*

Ooh. Hot debate between puppets. You know they're not real, right? And Bert has a unibrow? That should make him the GOAT by default.

Have you ever wondered what makes someone the GOAT? I guess there are a lot of things we could judge that by. Most of these are because of some great accomplishments. Others for being cooler than the other one. Others because it's just the right choice, like Captain America.

Crazy enough, but debates like these raged in biblical times as well. Not about superheroes or ballplayers—but about God.

People argued all the time. What rules should we follow? Which commandment is the greatest of all time? Whose god was stronger than other people's gods? Or who really was in charge around here?

When it comes to the GOAT of all GOATs, you may think it's Jesus. But how do you know that? He said He is the Son of God . . . but what does that really mean? You weren't there, and all you have is this book (*hold up the Bible*), and this person (*point to yourself*) telling you things.

How do you know? And if you *do* know, how do you talk about Jesus to someone who believes exactly the opposite? How do you talk to others about God and what God is doing in your life? Yeah. It's a big one today. Thankfully, what we read in the Bible can offer us some direction. Let's go there now.

VIDEO: The So and So Show (15:20)

In time, Jesus would let everyone know who He is through His miracles, teaching, preaching, correcting church leaders, overturning tables, loving His enemies, and lighting the way.

And now we're in a position to do the same. We can talk to others about Jesus. About God. About the things we've experienced and the things we've seen and heard.

But how do you do that, especially now when the world is so divided? It seems like conversations are out the window if someone disagrees with you.

Simple. Practice. Everyone's terrible at something the first time. But the more you do it, the easier it will get.

You can practice by telling people what Jesus means to you. You can practice talking about God as part of everyday conversation with your family and friends. When you choose to talk about God, it reminds you to keep your eyes open and see what God is doing . . . and helps other people see who God is and how God is working, too.

God wants us to grow and continue to learn about who God is—and at the same time, God wants that for everyone else as well. God wants a relationship with everyone, and one way that others will know God is by hearing us—you and me—talk about God!

But for some of us . . . actually all of us . . . that will take practice. We can even practice doing that here in our groups, with one another.

5th Grade Presentation:

Well, it's a very special day for our 5th graders, They are moving out of Parkview Kids and into Parkview Students! In fact, let's bring them up right now.

(Call all current 5th graders up to the front)

We are so excited for our 5th Graders here in the Alley to move up to Parkview Students. We have loved having you here in Parkview Kids! We will miss you tremendously, but we believe God is just getting started on your faith story. He has great plans for your life. I can't wait to see/hear all about how you continue to grow in your walk with Jesus! We love you guys!

(Call up 5th Graders, give them their prayer journals, and pray that God would continue to use them and bless them as they move up to Student Ministry.)

Also 5th graders, Parkview Students has a super cool event to welcome you! You don't want to miss it on Sunday June 2nd!

(Pass out postcards about the event to all of the 5th graders)

CG: Summer JAM Slide

And that's not all!

Summer Jam is coming up very soon and we're so excited to invite you to these 3 nights jam-packed with FUN and Adventure! You won't want to miss it. Tell whoever brought you that you need to visit the Summer Jam Tent after our time together today to sign up and get your t-shirt! And 5th graders, you can sign up to volunteer!

Before you head to small groups, make sure to stop and drop your offering in the container if you have it!