

ALLEY Rundown – November 9 - 10, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Give a Little Bit (Widow of Zarephath) • 1 Kings 17:7-16

Today's Key Question: What do you have to give?

Today's Bottom Line: You always have something to give.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Every good and perfect gift is from God. James 1:17a (NIRV)*

PRE-SERVICE VIDEOS: *Dude Perfect*

SLIDE: *Theme*

Hey, everyone! So good to be together again today. Let's start off with a game today. It's a simple Improv Gift-Giving game. I need two volunteers who think they have some acting skills to show you how it works. Anyone up for a challenge?

Choose two volunteers and bring them up

Okay, you (*choosing one volunteer*) will be the gift-giver. And you (*choosing the other volunteer*) are going to be the gift-receiver. Since you are the one getting the gift, I need you to put your back to the screen and not look at what it says. In just a moment, a gift is going to appear on the screen. Our gift-giver will act out giving this gift to the other person. They will have to guess what they're being given. No help from anyone else, please! And no talking from the gift-giver!

Here we go with the first gift.

SLIDE: *A polaroid camera*

The gift-receiver guesses until they get it right or until they get some help from the Communicator or audience. The Communicator chooses two new volunteers for each new word.

SLIDE: *Golf clubs*

SLIDE: *A new car*

SLIDE: *A miniature horse*

SLIDE: *A sweater*

SLIDE: *Tickets to an amusement park*

You all did a nice job with that! I've never seen so many amazing—yet fake—gifts in my life!

Now, while it can be super fun to give pretend gifts in a game, you might be wondering: why are we playing a game like that? Glad you asked. You might remember that this month we're talking about what it means to show generosity because of how generous God was with us. Jesus was like God's Special Delivery, and as a response to that, we can share God's love with others through how we are generous with them.

But maybe you've wondered something like I have. Have you ever felt like you don't have anything to give or don't know how to be generous? Me too. It can be tricky when you're either not sure what to give someone you love or you actually might not have much to give. How can we trust God in these moments and consider how we might be generous with others?

These really are some great questions that we should be asking when it comes to the idea of generosity. Thankfully, throughout the whole Bible we see people back then talk about generosity and what it could look like for us . . . even now. Let's check out one of those moments now.

VIDEO: The So and So Show (14:24)

When it comes to giving, it can be easy to compare yourself to other people and feel like you don't have much. Think about that widow in our story. . . she only had a little flour and oil, yet she still was able to be generous with it.

Even if you don't have a lot of 'stuff,' you can still be generous, too. No matter who you are or what you have, God has given you things you can share with others. Maybe it's something as basic as food or water. Maybe it's a kind smile or a listening ear. Maybe you can give your time or energy to help others. You can always lend an encouraging word or a good attitude.

And we don't have to do this on our own. Our model for all of this was Jesus, who showed us so many amazing ways to give. And the Holy Spirit will be with us when we choose generosity. No matter who you are . . . what is going on . . . or what you have, God has given you something that you can share with others!

It's like our verse says for this month. *Every good and perfect gift is from God.* James 1:17a

SLIDE: Memory Verse

As you go to your groups today, think about this:

SLIDE: Key Question

What do you have to give? Take some time to think about what God may have given you that you might be able to give to others in a time of need. And don't worry if you're having a hard time thinking about what you might have to give; you'll have a chance to chat about all of this with your friends in Small Group. Before you go, let's pray and ask God to help us be generous and creative with our generosity!

SLIDE: Theme Background

Leader leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard.

OFFERING:

We are collecting money for an organization called Hope Mobility. It provides wheelchairs to people with physical challenges in Africa. But they provide a lot more than just wheelchairs. Check out this video.

VIDEO: Michael's Story 2

Our focus will be raising money for wheelchairs for kids. Each pediatric wheelchair costs \$275 and we will see how many wheelchairs we can purchase to help kids in Africa!

SLIDE: Theme