

Alley Rundown - March 22 - 23 2025

Today's Bible Story: Up on the Roof (Four Friends Work Together) • Luke 5:17-26

Today's Key Question: How can you work together to help someone?

Today's Bottom Line: Work together to help someone in need.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do.* Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NIRV)

PRE-SERVICE VIDEOS (Dude Perfect)

Welcome the students and introduce yourself to the group. Set expectations for behavior during the large group. Review "Alley Cash" and bathroom procedures.

Welcome to yet another fantastic time here in the Alley! You all look good! In fact, turn to someone next to you and tell them, 'You look good.'

"I've got a fun game to kick things off this morning. It's called "Freeze Frame," and this is for everyone to play! Gather together in groups of four, then separate yourselves a bit from the other groups.

SLIDE: "The Freeze Frame"

Pause while kids do this. If there are an uneven number of kids, you can have several groups of five.

Here's how we play! I'll call out a scene or a scenario—for example, 'You're at the zoo.' It's your job, with your three other friends in your group, to act out things that you'd do at the zoo. Maybe some are animals? Maybe one's escaped and you're desperately trying not to get eaten by a puma? After 10 seconds, I'll yell out 'Freeze Frame,' and you get to freeze in that pose! Got it? Let's play!

Below is a suggested list of Freeze Frames. Feel free to add your own!

Freeze Frames

- You're at a concert with your parents
- You're taking the hardest test of your life for the strictest teacher ever
- You're on a rollercoaster but your nose starts running
- You're slowly being chased by a zombie horde
- You're on Mars when you encounter the cutest alien baby
- You've all just been splashed with mud by a truck speeding by
- You're all monkeys in a tree

Once going through a handful of Freeze Frames, have kids remain standing.

(After game.) "Crazy fun. I love that game!"

There's nothing like getting together with your friends, with people you know and like, and hanging out, is there? It's how we were created—God didn't make us to be alone, by ourselves, cut off from others. God made us to interact, to laugh, to play, and to work together to do more than we could do on our own!

What is your favorite thing to do with your friends or family? What things are super fun?

Call on a few to share their thoughts.

Those are great! Now, try this. If you had unlimited money and you and your friends or family could go anywhere and do anything, what would it be?

Call on a few to share their thoughts.

Ooh, those are nice. I might buy out a theme park so it's just me and my friends. We could be in the park all by ourselves and ride everything like 50 times each, no lines, just running from one ride to the next!

I think all those suggestions are fantastic! Doing fun things with your friends is the best! But what are the other sorts of things you can do with your friends? Study for a test? Practice a sport you all like? Or how about this?

Have you ever gotten together with your friends to take care of someone else's needs? All the things you just talked about were about what you wanted . . . things you thought would be amazing and fun. But what if you or one of your friends noticed a need that maybe you could help with? What might it look like for you and your friends to do something about someone else's needs instead of your own?

This is probably something that we don't think about too much. Sure, there might be someone you know, maybe at school, who got hurt and you helped them out. I'm not talking about just being nice to someone once in a while. I'm talking about working and cooperating with people around you and your friends and looking to help someone who really needs it.

Whenever we're faced with questions like these, I'm thankful we've got a great resource to help us find the answers. (*hold up the Bible*) This book right here is filled with all kinds of examples to help us understand and navigate the harder things in life . . . and today is no different!

The So and So Show 12:00

This man, who was completely unable to walk, was miraculously healed by Jesus that day. And he wouldn't have even gotten to the building if it hadn't been for his amazing friends.

The truth is that those guys who helped him could've said 'no.' Maybe, if the man who was unable to walk asked them to bring him, they could've ignored him or made up some excuse not to help.

But they didn't.

And on the way, when they were carrying him, they didn't give up halfway and say, 'Let's turn around, this is too hard.'

And when they got there and saw that it was packed with no way in, they didn't turn around and go back home. Friends, they never gave up. They never quit until they found a way to help their friend.

How could you and your friends be friends like that? What might that look like for you? What if you and your friends were so focused on helping someone else that you didn't give up until they experienced God's love and had their lives changed? How amazing would that be?

And you're about to head to Small Groups where you'll get a chance to talk about that and maybe even get the chance to practice that a bit with your group. As you head there, think about this:

SLIDE: Key Question

“How can you work together to help someone? Maybe you can pool some resources to pay for groceries for someone. Or invite a new friend to hang out with you at recess. If you’re not sure how you’d answer the question, don’t worry. You’ll get all sorts of time to think it through with your group. I can’t wait to hear about the ideas you come up with . . . together. Before you head out, let’s pray and thank God for giving us such great friends to help us through life. Let’s ask God to help us to work together and become friends like that, too. Let’s pray.

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

CHECK THE TIME: There should be AT LEAST 20-25 minutes for small group. If LG is running late, skip the next part, but remind kids who have offering to place it in the container.

SLIDES: Offering pics 1-4 (scroll through while describing the mission)

One way we can all work together to help others in need is through our offering! Each week in the City we collect money to support a Parkview mission that helps people in need. Starting in 2025 we are giving the money we collect to a church called La Liberté’ Church (La Lib-er-tay).

La Liberté’ Church is in the Republic of Congo which is in Africa. The kids at the church live in an area where they don’t have a lot of money, and sometimes don’t have a lot of food for their family. When the kids come to church on Sunday, they feed them a hot meal. They feed around 700 children every weekend and each meal costs \$2.00. Our goal is to help feed as many kids as we can!

SLIDE: Theme