

Alley Rundown - May 10 - 11 2025

Today's Bible Story: Make a Move (Miriam Takes Initiative) • *Exodus 2:1-10*

Today's Key Question: Who do you see that needs your help?

Today's Bottom Line: Look for ways to help the people you love.

Monthly Memory Verse: None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others. Philippians 2:4 (*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 The Alley! I'm so excited to be with all of you today! This can be a busy time of year with the end of school, dance recitals, after-school sports, and just getting ready for summer. It can take a lot of initiative and coordinating schedules to do anything, so we're super glad you've chosen to be here! We've got an amazing time planned, so let's get started!

As you may or may not know, this month we're 'Eye-Spying' with some challenges to test your clue-deciphering expertise—including this one I like to call 'The Close-Up Clue Quest'!

SLIDE: "The Close-Up Clue Quest" Title Slide

Here's how it works. We've loaded up five sets of super zoomed-in photos, and your job is to figure out the item in the photos before the final slide when we reveal the final image. Who thinks they have good photo-deduction skills and wants to give it a try?

Host chooses two or three volunteers to come to the front to play. Introduce the volunteers to the rest of the group.

(*To volunteers*) Alright, if you can guess the correct image on the first image, you'll get three points; second image, two points; third image, one point. If you think you know it, you can answer at any time. We'll keep track of your points. The person with the most points wins. Any questions? Great! Let's play! Here's the first image:

SLIDES: Bag of Groceries #1-3

Give volunteers a few seconds after each part of the image is revealed to try and guess the correct item.

SLIDE: Bag of Groceries Reveal #4

Great job! Yes, that is in fact a bag of groceries! You get [Number of Points]! Let's keep playing.

Continue with the remaining sets as you have time. Follow the same pattern as above.

SLIDES: Dog Bed #1-3

SLIDE: Dog Bed Reveal #4

Show slides as Host calls for them.

SLIDES: Fireplace #1-3

SLIDE: Fireplace Reveal #4

Show slides as Host calls for them.

SLIDES: Pair of Sneakers #1-3

SLIDE: Pair of Sneakers Reveal #4

Show slides as Host calls for them.

SLIDES: Box of Tissues #1-3

SLIDE: Box of Tissues Reveal #4

After game.

Great guessing, friends! You all are amazing at figuring out clues.

You all did such a great job with those image clues, which got me thinking. . . all those items were something that could meet someone's needs. I thought it might be fun for us to imagine how other everyday items might be used to help others.

I will show a slide of something you might find around your house. Then, I'd love for you to give me some ideas of how the object could be used to meet someone's need.

SLIDE: Sandwich

The first item is . . . a sandwich. How do you think a sandwich can meet someone's needs? Let's get really creative.

Sandwiches are great to offer when someone is feeling hungry. Someone might have forgotten their lunch for school, or maybe someone needs the sandwich for a snack or dinner when they get home from school. A simple sandwich can do a lot to meet someone's needs.

Let's check out another item.

Follow the same pattern for the other items as you have time.

SLIDE: Blanket: *stay warm, something to rest your head, carry a load of laundry, build a blanket fort*

SLIDE: Pack of Pencils: *write a note, hold up a person's hair, classwork, draw a picture for someone*

SLIDE: Hand mirror

A hand-mirror, how might a mirror like this be used to help someone?

Communicator gives kids a chance to answer.

Those were some great ideas. But what happens if you take a different angle on this hand-mirror. What if it's not the mirror itself but what you see when you look into the mirror . . . in other words . . . YOU!?"

As we think about seeing the needs of others around us, sometimes we'll see problems that we know exactly how to solve, like offering a hungry friend some of our lunch. Other times, the problems might seem HUGE and overwhelming, like a friend going through a hard time at home or in a big argument with their brother or sister. What happens then? How should you respond? Do you just give up, or could there be a better way?

These are some important questions for us to think about. Thankfully, when we have important questions, we have a great place to start to find some great answers. Remember, the Bible was written by all sorts of real people who experienced God in real life. God inspired them to write down what they learned so others could learn to trust God, too. Our story today is no exception.

The So and So Show 15:29

Throughout this story, we hear about all sorts of needs that needed someone to help solve them. The Israelites were enslaved. Families were being impacted by the Pharaoh. Jochebed and Miriam needed a plan to rescue their baby boy. Even Pharaoh's daughter needed help taking care of the baby once she found him. Thankfully, all those needs were met . . .

Jochebed came up with a plan to save her son's life. Miriam quickly ran to the princess to ensure her brother's safety. The princess allowed Miriam to get Jochebed to take care of the baby. And eventually, through this baby, who the princess named Moses, God rescued the Israelites from their enslavement in Egypt.

Each time there was a need, someone saw the need and chose to do something about it. That's what we've been talking about this month, Initiative.

SLIDE: Initiative

Remember, initiative is seeing what needs to be done and doing it. Just like Jochebed and Miriam, one of the best ways to practice initiative is to start with the people close to you—like your family and friends. Maybe you see how your mom could use some help cleaning up around your home, so you grab a broom and start sweeping the kitchen floor. Or maybe a friend is struggling in math class, and because math is your best subject, you reach out and ask if you can help them start to understand. There are all sorts of ways you can take initiative to help people in your life.

And, of course, be sure to pray and ask God to help you keep your eyes open for the needs of those around you. . . just like Jesus did. When we follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live in us so we don't have to do it on our own."

Before you head to Small Groups, take a moment to think about this:

SLIDE: Key Question Slide

Who do you see that needs your help? Maybe it's a family member or friend, a neighbor or someone on your sports team. Think about the ways you can meet their needs, even if it just means you tell a trusted adult who could help. You'll get the chance to talk all about this in Small Group. Before you head there, let's take a second and pray together. Let's ask God to help us see the needs of people around us and give us some ideas of how we can help. Let's pray."

SLIDE: Theme Background

Lead group in a prayer related to what they just heard.

CHECK THE TIME: There should be 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 5-8 (scroll through while describing the mission)

Each week in the City, we collect money to support a Parkview mission that helps people in need. We are giving the money we collect to a church called La Liberte' Church (La Lib-er-tay).

La Liberte' Church is in the Republic of Congo which is in Africa. Here are some pictures of the great work the church is doing to teach kids about Jesus. 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