

ALLEY Rundown – June 28-29, 2025

Today's Bible Story: Come Together (Peter and Cornelius) • *Romans 15:7*

Today's Key Question: How does it feel to be accepted?

Today's Bottom Line: Accept one another

Monthly Memory Verse: *As you deal with one another, you should think and act as Jesus did.*
Philippians 2:5 (NIV)

Central Supplies: Camp Bingo Cards (1 per kid)

Campus Supplies: Pens or pencils

PRE-SERVICE VIDEO: Dude Perfect

SLIDE: Theme

Rise and shine, campers! Can you believe it is the last day of June?! But not to worry . . . we still have four more weeks of Camp Live It Out. We're learning to live like Jesus all summer long! We have so much more fun in store . . . and I have an all-play to get everyone started today. You will all need one of these papers and something to write with. This is 'Camper Bingo'!

SLIDE: Camper Bingo

Host passes out Camp Bingo Cards and something to write with it.

Alright, on this bingo card, you have a lot of interesting things about camp . . . has slept in a tent, knows how to use a compass, has cooked a marshmallow over a fire . . . but these are not for you to fill out for yourself. This isn't about what YOU have done. It's about everyone else!

When I say go, it is up to you to go and find someone who has done one of these things. You can have another person sign their name on one box, and then you have to move on to a new person. See how many you can get before I call time! Got it? Let's go!

AUDIO: Fun background music

Here are two options for how to play this game:

Option 1: Play for a set time and see who has the most.

Option 2: Play true bingo rules until someone gets a row/column/diagonal.

That was so much fun! I hope you met someone new today, too!

SLIDE: Theme Background

All month long, we're talking about what it looks like to LIVE IT OUT and love like Jesus! And as we get started today, think about a time you felt included and welcomed . . . like a time when you went to a new school or made a new sports team or dance troupe . . . how did those people make you feel like you were one of the group?

As you're thinking about that, let me share about a moment from my own life . . .

Tell a personal story of a time you felt welcomed. Maybe you moved schools, states, etc. when you were younger and experienced being welcomed by a group of kids.

When I was growing up, my dad worked in churches. Every so often, he would take a job at a different church. This meant that my mom, sister, and I would have to start going to that church, too. When I was in second grade, we moved churches. I was so nervous. I wondered if I'd find kids my age who I could be friends with. And if there were kids my age, I wondered if I'd like them. . . or they'd like me.

Well, the first week we were there, the church hosted a mid-week dinner for everyone. My family showed up, and I noticed a group of guys all sitting together at one of the tables. I didn't know them, so of course I sat with my parents and sister. But not too long into dinner, one of them came over to me and invited me to sit with them. I couldn't believe it! My parents said I could go. I picked up my plate of food and joined them. They were the nicest. We ended up becoming really good friends, and, in fact, all these years later, I'm still friends with a lot those kids. They really made me feel welcomed.

Have you ever experienced something like that?

If there is time, take some responses from the kids and have them share about a time when someone made them feel welcomed.

Everyone loves to feel like they're welcomed and belong. In fact, did you know that feeling accepted and welcomed is one of the most important feelings in the world? People who feel like they belong end up being more successful in life. But if that's true, why do people so often choose to keep others at a distance? Why are we sometimes so quick to not fully include new people into our friend groups? Wouldn't we want others to experience that same feeling of acceptance, too? How can we remember how important it is to make others feel welcomed and beyond that . . . actually make them feel like they're accepted and belong?

Like we say a lot here, the best place to look when we have big questions like this the Bible. The Bible is full of stories and wisdom and letters that all point to God and God's amazing love. God wants every one of us to feel like we are loved and belong, which is why God sent Jesus to make sure we all have an opportunity to be with God forever. Let's head to the Bible now and see what it has to say about God and God's great love.

VIDEO: The So and So Show (13:54)

I'd like to say that after this moment at Cornelius' house with Peter everything from here was all kumbaya and campfires. But the truth is some of the Jewish people would end up having a really hard time accepting the Gentiles . . . and some Gentiles would have a really hard time with the Jewish people. But, in spite their many differences, the one common bond they all had was Jesus. They were welcomed in and through Jesus and Jesus alone. He is what they had in common, and He is enough. And the same is true for us.

My guess is that you have found yourself in a situation—maybe even here at church—where you feel different from somebody else. And sometimes those differences can drive us apart. But the beautiful thing is that no matter where we are coming from, no matter what our stories are . . . we also are welcomed in and through Jesus. AND because of this, we can now go LIVE IT OUT and love like Jesus. We do this when we accept one another the way He accepts us. You don't have to agree with everyone, but you can still treat them with love and respect and accept them because they're made in the image of God, too!

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

SLIDE: Key Question

How does it feel to be accepted? Think about a time when you truly felt accepted by other people and how it made all the difference. Maybe even think about some people you know who might need to feel welcomed into your group to feel like they belong. You'll talk all about this and more in Small Group. But before you go, let's pray and thank God for accepting us through Jesus!

SLIDE: Theme Background

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

Each week since the beginning of 2025 we have been collecting money to support a Parkview mission that helps people in need.

- Who remembers the name of the church we are collecting for? (*La Liberte' Church (La Lib-er-tay)*).
- Who remembers where the church is located? (*In the Congo in Africa*)

Well guess what? This is the last week we are sending our offering to the Congo. Starting next week through the rest of the year we will begin to support a new mission right here in our area. If you were at Summer Jam you know what the mission is. Does anyone remember? Shady Oaks Camp right here in Homer Glen, IL!

And before we go, I have a message from Pastor Fred who pastors La Liberte Church in the Congo. He wants to say THANK YOU for all the offering you guys worked so hard to give them!

Great job Parkview Kids!!