

ALLEY Rundown – May 31 & June 1, 2025

Today's Bible Story: I Will Follow (Live Like Jesus) • *Philippians 2:5* (Supporting: *Philippians 2:1-8*)

Today's Key Question: How can we live like Jesus?

Today's Bottom Line: Live like Jesus.

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

CAMPUS SUPPLIES: 5th grade graduation gifts (prayer journals)

CENTRAL SUPPLIES: Game Sheets

PRE-SERVICE VIDEO: *Dude Perfect*

SLIDE: *Theme*

Here in The Alley, we're always learning about God and finding out how much God loves us. We know that God loved us so much that Jesus came to be our Savior . . . and we know that Jesus showed love to everyone He met. So, this summer, we're finding out how to live and love like Jesus. We'll discover together how to: 'Live it out!' Let me hear you say that: 'Live it out!'"

Yes—so good! I love being here in The Alley in the summertime. It's kind of like we're all at summer camp together. So, I thought we could have some camp fun with a little team competition! First let me divide the room into two teams. We have the red team on this side of the room and the blue team on this side.

Today's game is called 'Leader Says.' It's a lot like 'Simon Says.' First, let me get two Small Group Leaders to join me on the stage. I'll need a leader from the red team and a leader from the blue team.

Bring up two Small Group Leaders—one from each team. Give each of them one of the printed Game Sheets. (The sheets shouldn't be the same.)

All right. When the music starts, [leaders' names] will take turns calling out things for you to do. Blue team, you're following [leader representing the blue team]. Red team, you're following [leader representing the red team]. If they say 'leader says' before they give the instruction, then you do it. But if they DON'T say 'leader says,' don't do it . . . or you'll be out! And just so you know, we'll be moving quickly—blue team, red team, blue team, red team, and so on.

Let's get started! Everyone stand up on your feet. Blue team, you're up first. Let's play 'Leader Says'!

AUDIO: *Fun, instrumental music (suggestion: "Live It Out" instrumental version)*

Comment on the action as the leaders and kids play the game, with the leaders taking turns reading statements from their Game Sheets and the kids on their team reacting. Make sure the leaders do the "leader says" motions too . . . and encourage them to keep the game moving quickly.

Okay, that was pretty tough! But you were all really good at following directions. Was there anyone who didn't mess up even once? Raise your hand if you got through the whole game without any mistakes.

It's so great to be starting a new month and a new series with all of you. We talk about Jesus a lot here at [Name of Environment], but we might wonder what it means to live like Jesus and share His love with the world. I'm so excited for the chance to take the whole month to focus on what it means to LIVE IT OUT and follow Jesus.

Quick question for you. Are there any athletes or people who enjoy playing sports in the room?

Awesome! What sort of sports do you all like to play?

Allow kids to call out their responses. Choose a few and ask the following . . .

Is there an athlete you want to play like? What would you need to do in order to play like them?

Call on another volunteer or two and ask the same questions as above.

How about music? Do we have any singers or musicians in the room?

Show of hands.

Great! What sort of music do you enjoy?

Allow kids to call out their responses. Choose a few and ask the following . . .

Is there a singer or musician you would love to sing or play like? What would you need to do in order to sing/play like them?

Call on another volunteer or two and ask the same questions.

Okay, now, let's go back to Jesus. Like we said, we talk about Jesus around here A LOT! What would it take to LIVE like Him? *(Allow for responses.)* Yes! Certainly we would have to get to know Him more, maybe learn His story better, or read His teachings, and pay attention to how He lived His life!

The truth is: it's one thing to read about Jesus, to know all sorts of verses about Jesus, and even to believe what Jesus said is true. It's a whole other thing to live like Jesus. But that might bring up some other questions for you, questions like: how can we live like Jesus if we're not completely sure how Jesus lived when He was on Earth? How can we live like Jesus when we're obviously not Jesus? . . . After all, Jesus is God. We are not. We can't do miracles like Jesus, so how can we even attempt to live like Jesus?

First of all, if you have these sorts of questions, you're in good company. Almost everyone who chooses to follow Jesus with their life ends up asking questions like these. It's important for us to think about what it really means to Live It Out and follow Jesus. Thankfully, we have a great place to start—the Bible, God's Word. Remember, the Bible is like a library of books that all point to Jesus.

When we read the Bible, we can gain some important insight to help us know Jesus and follow Him well. Let's take a look at the So and So Show.

VIDEO: The So and So Show (17:33)

You might have seen people wearing bracelets or shirts that say 'WWJD.' Does anyone know what that stands for?

Exactly! What would Jesus do? It is a great thing to ask yourself, but at the same time, it's not always a mystery. Jesus loved God and loved others . . . always. That is *always* the right decision. But as we face SPECIFIC moments and decisions in our lives, we can ask ourselves: 'What would Jesus do if He were in my shoes right now? How would HE respond to this person who's a bit frustrating? How would He talk to His mom or dad when He wasn't getting His way?' Again, it'll be hard for us to know the answer to this if we don't KNOW Jesus. So, for any of this to work, we have to get to KNOW Him. And the more we stay connected to Jesus, the more we will find that God is working in us and through us to change the world around us. That's also why Jesus sent His Holy Spirit to live inside of us—to help guide us to do what Jesus would do in our daily lives. So, if you feel a nudge to do like Jesus would do, that's very likely His Spirit inside of you! God doesn't want you to do this 'live like Jesus' stuff alone!

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

SLIDE: Key Question

How can we live like Jesus? Think about a situation you have faced lately that might have gone better if you had approached it by asking: 'What would Jesus do if He were me right now?' It's okay if a situation doesn't come to mind right away; you'll have a chance to chat about this more with your Small Group. But before you go, let's pray and ask God to give us the wisdom and strength to CHOOSE Jesus and continue to get to KNOW Him!

SLIDE: Theme Background

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

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, Summer Rally! You don't want to miss it on Sunday June 1st! I also have a lanyard to give you. Take this to the Students' booth in the lobby for a free gift!

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 booth 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!