

## Alley Rundown – July 12 - 13, 2025

**Today's Bible Story:** Pray for One Another (The Church Prays for Peter) • 1 Timothy 2:1

**Today's Key Question:** Why is it important to pray?

**Today's Bottom Line:** Pray for one another.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Our God is a God who strengthens and encourages you. May he give you the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had.* Romans 15:5, NIV

**Central Supplies:** One bag of giant marshmallows per service

**PRE-SERVICE VIDEO:** *Dude Perfect*

**SLIDE:** *Theme*

What is going on, campers! How many of you love a good hot marshmallow over the campfire? You know...when it is nice and ooey gooey and it is falling right off the stick? Delicious. How many of you love a good hot potato over the campfire? (*Confused by the lack of response*) Seriously? How about a GAME of hot potato? What if there were a way to combine these?

*\*Depending on the size of your group, this can be an all play with multiple groups or a stage game with one volunteer group.*

Let's get in groups and get this going!

*\*Introduce one giant marshmallow and start the music. Every time the music stops, the person holding the marshmallow is out and sits in place. After a few rounds, introduce a second, third, fourth marshmallow into the game to make it more complicated and exciting. The more marshmallows you use, the more kids you can play with because several get out each round. If time allows, put the winners of all the groups against each other in an epic round.*

I love that game...I just want s'more every time! This month is off to a great start I'd say! As we get going, I want you to TURN and TALK with someone next to you. When are you most likely to pray? WHY do you pray? What makes prayer difficult at times?"

*Encourage kids to group up and remind them of the questions.  
Share some answers if appropriate.*

We probably have lots of questions about prayer, right? Like...how does prayer work? DOES it work? Is prayer meant to fix everything? Does God actually hear my prayers?

Our Bible Truth today will help us as we learn what it means to live like Jesus in the way we PRAY for one another! It comes from the book of Acts in the New Testament of our Bible. The story picks up soon after Jesus resuracts and ascends back to Heaven. God sent the Holy Spirit, and the early followers of Jesus, what we call the church, grew in number daily. Now not everybody was happy to see the church growing, especially the religious leaders who had played a part in having Jesus put to death, as well as the Roman leaders who were responsible for keeping peace in the empire. As more and more believers spread the good news about Jesus, there was more and more tension with the leaders.

And on one particular occasion, King Herod, son of Herod the Great...you know, the one we talk about at Christmas with the wise men, was out to cause trouble for the followers of Jesus. Let's check out the So and So Show to learn more.

**VIDEO:** *The So and So Show* (13:59)

It was a pretty funny moment in the story when Peter's friends were praying for him, and he showed up right in the middle of their prayer! It was such an unexpected answer to prayer that they didn't believe it was him! It is like sometimes we can pray and ask God for something without actually believing God is going to do it.

If we are learning to live and love like Jesus this summer, there were many times that Jesus prayed for others. He EVEN prayed for His enemies. Peter's friends prayed for him. Paul reminded us to pray for others. It is like prayer is kind of a big deal or something!

You can also pray for others. You might feel like you have to use fancy or important words, but prayer is just opening up your heart to God and telling Him what is going on...which, by the way, He already knows. But like any relationship, your heavenly Father wants you to talk with Him! Maybe He is bringing someone to mind that is going through a hard time. Talk to God about them! Ask God to help them and to be with them. You may not see God unlock prison bars or do something dramatic, but your prayer may bring peace and comfort or wisdom and help. When you see a need, take a moment to pray for one another. That is living and loving like Jesus!

As you go to your groups today, I want you to think about this -

#### **SLIDE: Key Question**

**Why is it important to pray?** I want you to talk about what prayer is and how we can pray for one another more.' Before you go, let's pray and ask God to help us better see how important prayer is...that it really does work!

#### **SLIDE: Theme Background**

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

#### **OFFERING**

We started supporting a new organization with our offering this month. We are going to help kids and adults who live right near us! Our mission is Shady Oaks Camp for People with Disabilities in Homer Glen, IL. Their mission is to give kids and adults the same kind of camp experience that kids without disabilities can enjoy. And the cool thing is that there are people who go to church here at Parkview who attend this camp! Let's meet one right now.

#### **VIDEO: Missions Night 2 (Runtime:)**

Wow! You can see how much Shady Oaks Camp means to Richard and his mom Sallie, and LOTS of people who live around here! I'm so excited that we are raising money to help Shady Oaks provide summer camps for people with disabilities! Bring your money up if you brought it.