

ALLEY Rundown – August 9 - 10, 2025

Bible Story: Noah • *Genesis 6–9*

Conversation Starter: When is it hard to trust God?

Bottom Line: You can trust God even when you don't understand.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see.* Hebrews 11:1 (NirV)

LG SUPPLIES: 20 ball pit balls

SLIDE: Theme

Hello! Welcome to The Alley, I'm so glad you came here this week. We're in our series called 'Origin Story,' talking about knowing all about our origin story with God. But before we jump into that, let's play a game!

So, this theme has all to do with superheroes! One of the bravest superheroes is named Superman®. He is super-strong, can fly, and one of the best superheroes out there. But he has a big weakness. Does anyone know what it is?

Wait for responses.

That's right! It's kryptonite. If he gets it near him, it zaps all of his superpowers. So today I thought we could play a game called: 'Kryptonite Catch.'

Grab one of the "Kryptonite" balls and circle up the kids.

The way you play is to take this ball and toss it to a friend. But you have to quickly toss the ball to someone else. Pretty easy, right? But as you pass, I'll keep adding more and more in. Let's see if we can do it without dropping a ball for three minutes. Are you ready? Let's go!

Start the game by passing the ball and starting the timer. As the game progresses, you may need to hold some balls back. Keep playing over and over as long as time allows.

VIDEO: 3 minute timer

Good job, heroes! Those were some pretty great skills. Quick question: Have you ever thought you saw something, but you weren't really sure? Like, really not sure?

Maybe your eyes were playing tricks on you, or you had to blink a few times. Or, you might wear glasses and needed to give them a quick cleaning!

That's kind of how it feels when something happens in life that we didn't expect. When we're not really sure what's really going on . . . or we don't know what's coming next.

Have you ever felt that way? Maybe something has happened in your life and you just don't trust it will ever end. It's hard to trust when you don't understand what's going to happen at the end.

This month we're talking all about faith, which is trusting in something you can't see because of what you can see. This year we're going through some of the key stories from the Bible from cover to cover! Why? Well, God gave us the Bible so we can know about Him. So as we read the Bible and learn the stories, hopefully we'll learn more and more about Him! After all, He wants us to be His close friends!

We're going to go through God's Big Story!

SLIDE: God's Big Story

Each week, we'll take a look at a story from the Bible that tells us about God and the big story He is telling in the Bible.

This week we're still in the first book of the Bible called Genesis. (*Hold up Bible.*) So last week, we talked about how God made everything, right? From the air to all the creatures in the sea. But when it came to people, people were the highest creation of all! People were made in the image of God, which means we were created to show each other what God is like!

In the beginning, God made two people, Adam and Eve, and they chose to go their own way instead of trusting God. They sinned. Sin is anything that goes against God's way—who He is and what He said. When Adam and Eve sinned, it broke their friendship with God and the curse of sin made everything more difficult.

After that, people kept choosing their own way instead of God's way. One person who was still faithful to God was a man named Noah. Noah was God's close friend! Noah and his true story is the one we're going to look more closely at today!

VIDEO: The So and So Show (16:07)

When we think about Noah, we can remember that even though we might not know exactly what God is doing, we can trust Him. He is always good! So even if we can't see what's ahead, even when we don't understand, we can trust that He is good and He is doing something good!

Because God is always good, we can trust Him no matter what! So when we face hard things and don't understand what is happening, we can ask Him for help. We can ask Him to help us hold His hand through the difficult parts and trust He will lead us through.

As you go to your small groups, think about this question:

SLIDE: Conversation Starter

When is it hard to trust God? Maybe it's when you feel stressed about something that you have been working on for a long time. Or when you have to go and present a project at school. No matter the situation, you can trust God to see you through it. Let's talk to God right now.

SLIDE: Theme Background

God, thank You so much for this story. Please help us to be like Noah and trust You, even when we don't understand how things are going to turn out. When life gets hard or we feel confused, please help us ask for help and trust that You will do what You say You will do. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

OFFERING

In The Alley, we want to have fun but also be the hands and feet of Jesus by helping others who are in need. For the rest of 2025 we are going to help kids and adults who live right near us! We are collecting our offering for Shady Oaks Camp for People with Disabilities in Homer Glen, IL. If you were at Summer Jam, you heard a lot about Shady Oaks. Raise your hand if you have ever been to any kind of summer camp? Well, this camp is just like that one, but it is set up for kids and adults who have physical challenges. Their mission is to give these kids and adults the same kind of camp experience that kids without disabilities can enjoy. Let's check it out.

VIDEO: Missions Night 1

Wow! You can see how much fun the people who attend Shady Oaks Camp for kids and adults with disabilities have! What an amazing experience that is for them. We are raising money to support the camp in all they do for people with disabilities. Go home and see what you can do to earn money to help Shady Oaks Camp!

SLIDE: Theme