

ALLEY Rundown – November 8th- 9th, 2025

Bible Story: Jonah • *Jonah 1–3*

Conversion Starter: What keeps people from doing what's best?

Monthly Memory Verse: *Those who trust in the LORD will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.* Isaiah 40:31 (NirV)

Central LG Supplies: *Bingo cards*

Campus Supplies: *Pens*

Pre-Service Videos: *Dude Perfect*

SLIDE: *Theme*

Hey, everyone! Welcome to Bedrock—where we're building confidence, block by block. I'm so glad you're here. We've got a ton planned, so make sure you're ready to jump in and have some fun.

Before we go any further, let's kick things off with a game. And trust me, you don't have to be athletic or know any random Bible facts—this one is for everyone. It's called Human Bingo!

Here's how it works. Each of you will get a bingo card filled with random descriptions—like 'has been to another state,' 'has a pet,' or 'likes pizza.' Your mission? Move around the room, talk to as many different people as you can, and get someone's name in each square. Try to fill every space with a different person! You can use a person's back to bear down on and help you write!

First one to get five in a row yell 'Bingo!' If you finish early, keep helping other people fill up their cards. Let me give everyone a bingo card and something to write with!

Give each kid a bingo card and a pen. Explain any additional rules as needed.

Okay, is everyone ready? *(Make sure everyone has a bingo card and a pen.)* Great! On your mark, get set ... GO!

Walk around with the Small Group Leaders, encouraging connections and jumping in on the fun.

Okay! Bring it back in. Give yourselves a round of applause—if you learned something new about somebody, let them know!

I love seeing all the connections and the energy in this room. You know, one of the hardest things in life isn't always what you do, but why you do it. Sometimes, even when we know what's best, we don't actually do it.

Our story today is about a guy who ran in the exact opposite direction from what God told him to do. But before we dive into our story, let me tell you about something amazing we're doing this year! We're going through the key stories of the Bible from cover to cover!

We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible! (*Gesture to slide.*)

SLIDE: God's Big Story

Let me bring you up to speed on where we've been in God's Big Story so far!

So you might remember that in the very beginning, God made everything! He made the world, the animals, people ... everything! God made the first people for the same reason He made all people—to be His close, close friends. But sadly, the first people God made chose to turn away from Him and sin. God wanted people to be close to Him, but they couldn't anymore! It was so sad.

And awful things happened to the world too. Pain, sickness, and death entered into it.

But God didn't want to leave things that way! So He put His rescue plan in motion right from the start!

God was going to rescue everything through a family! God chose a man named Abraham and promised that his family would bless the whole world. Many years later, Abraham's great-grandson Joseph ended up in Egypt. After some hard times, God helped Joseph become a super-important leader there! Joseph saved his whole family by bringing them to Egypt. But hundreds of years passed. God grew and grew His people. A new Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, came along. He didn't know about Joseph. He saw how many of God's people there were, he got scared, and he started being mean to them.

God's people cried out to God for help. He answered! God brought His people out of Egypt into a beautiful home He had for them—the Promised Land!

After some time living in the Promised Land, God's people wanted a king like the other nations around them. God gave them a king, and then many more kings (and one queen) followed. Sadly, the nation of God's people split in two—into the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah.

During this time, there were prophets in both kingdoms who spoke and taught on God's behalf. God would guide and direct the prophets to tell others about Him and His heart.

And that's where we are in God's Big Story. Let's check it out.

VIDEO: The So and So Show (10:26)

The story of Jonah isn't just a story about running away or about giant fish and ancient cities. It's about what happens when we let fear, anger, or pride make us forget who God is and what He can do. Jonah knew all about God, but he struggled to believe that God's ways were really best—especially when they felt impossible or unfair. And honestly, that's something we all wrestle with. It's easy to want to do our own thing, to run from what's hard, or to believe that some people just aren't worth our effort or God's love. But God keeps inviting us back. He's patient, and He's always ready to give second chances—not just to 'them,' but to us too.

This week, maybe you'll face something that feels impossible. Maybe it's a challenge at home, at school, or inside your own heart. Maybe you'll feel like running the other way or giving up. When that moment comes, remember Jonah. Remember that God's love is bigger than your biggest mistake, and His power is greater than whatever stands in your way. You can have confidence—not because you

have all the answers, but because God is with you and for you. The question we're left with is the same one Jonah had to face:

SLIDE: Conversation Starter

What keeps people from doing what's best?

SLIDE: Theme Background

Let's chew on that question as we head to our Small Groups. Now, let's pray together.

God, sometimes it's easier to run away than to trust You—especially when things feel impossible or when we don't want to do what's right. Thank You that You never give up on us, even when we mess up or when we're afraid. Give us courage to follow You. Help us believe that Your ways are best, so we always follow them. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Now we want to tell you about a special event that's coming up THIS FRIDAY!

SLIDE: Alley After Hours

We have an extremely fun night planned just for you on Friday, November 14th. Alley After Hours is ONLY for 4th and 5th graders and we are taking over the whole church!

It's one epic night of jumpy's, a glow room, epic ball, crafts, and prizes! Just bring yourself, all your friends and some money to buy candy and slushies, too. And the best part is - we will have an end of the night battle between 4th and 5th graders to see which one of our mystery leaders will be slimed!

It will be a night you won't want to miss, so register online today and be sure to tell your friends so they can register, too. You can grab a postcard on your way out!

OFFERING

We started supporting a new organization with our offering. 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.

SLIDES: Shady Oaks 1-3

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.