

## ALLEY Rundown – December 6<sup>th</sup>- 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Bible Story:** Gabriel Visits Mary • *Luke 1:5-66*

**Conversation Starter:** What are your plans this Christmas?

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord.”* • *Luke 2:11 NlrV*

### PRE-SERVICE VIDEOS: *Dude Perfect*

### SLIDE: *Theme*

Hi, everyone! Welcome to the Alley]. This month, we’re discovering why we celebrate Christmas and how it’s not just about the presents or the decorations. It’s about celebrating Jesus, God’s greatest gift to us. Extra! Extra! Read all about it! God loves you so much He sent Jesus to rescue you!

And we’ve got a fun interactive game to get you in the Christmas spirit with some of the things we do to celebrate the season! We’re going to play a game of Crowd Charades, Christmas edition!

### SLIDE: *Crowd Charades*

Let’s split the room down the middle so it is the left side vs the right side. I’ll choose one player from each side to be the “guesser” while everyone else in the crowd will be the “actors”. When the guessers are ready, we will the word on the screen behind them so everyone in the room can see it except them. Then, everyone tries to get their side’s guesser to guess the word that was behind them by acting it out. Whoever guesses it first scored a point for their team, and we will choose new guessers for every round. There is no talking, only acting. Are you ready? Let’s play crowd Charades, Christmas version!

### Game Slides: #1-8

Let’s read our Memory Verse together. This is part of what the angel declared to the shepherds on the night Jesus was born! It’s great, great news! This message is recorded in the Bible in Luke chapter 2, verse 11. This is part of what the angel said:

### SLIDE: *Memory Verse*

*Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord” (Luke 2:11 NlrV).*

Have you ever received a gift that you didn’t even know you wanted until you opened it? Something so unexpected that it blew your mind?

Today, we’re going to explore a couple of times when a few different people received news that was kind of like the most surprising gift ever. It was about a plan—a really big plan—that had been in the works for, well, a long, long time! And this plan was all about Jesus coming to earth. Can you imagine being part of God’s huge plan?

As we unwrap our story today, think about this: **God always had a plan to send Jesus.** His arrival was the gift that changed everything, and it's still changing our lives today. How does knowing that God had a plan for Jesus for a long, long time make you think differently about your own plans this Christmas?

Who wants to share one plan you have for this Christmas? It could be something small or big, anything you're looking forward to.

*Allow time for the kids to share*

You've got some good plans! Now, hold on to those thoughts about your plans as we get ready to hear about God's ultimate plan. It's time to unwrap the true story of Zechariah and Elizabeth, of when the angel Gabriel visited Mary, and learn how God's greatest gift was part of a plan because God loves us so much.

**VIDEO: *The So and So Show* (11:45)**

Sometimes life surprises us with unexpected news, just like Mary was surprised when Gabriel told her about Jesus. When things feel confusing or difficult, it's important to remember that God always keeps His promises.

We can choose to trust God like Mary did. She didn't have all the answers, but she trusted God. She knew He is good, so she trusted Him. And that's something we can hold onto as well—the promise that God is good and He is always working for good, even when we can't see it.

In this Christmas season, as we celebrate Jesus, we're reminded of God's great love for us. Just as our Memory Verse for this month tells us, part of what the angel announced to the shepherds:

*Open the Bible to Luke 2:11 (NIRV) and read.*

*Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord.*

This verse isn't just a part of history; it's about God's plan for us. A plan that is good and filled with love—a plan that brought Jesus into the world.

God always had a plan to send Jesus, and that's really what we're celebrating. It's not just about the festive lights or the gifts, but it's about God's faithful love that came to us through Jesus.

As we look forward to our Christmas plans, let's ask ourselves ...

**SLIDE: *Conversation Starter***

**What are your plans this Christmas?**

Are they full of love, joy, and the peace that comes from knowing Jesus? How can we show others the kind of love Jesus shows us? Chew on this question as we head to Small Group. We'll talk more about it there.

Let's pray together and ask God to help us live out the truth of Christmas every day.

**SLIDE: Theme Background**

Lord, thank You for Your perfect plan that brought Jesus to us. Help us to trust You more and to share Your love with the people around us this Christmas. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

**CHECK THE TIME: There should be around 25 minutes for small group. If LG is running late, skip the next part, but remind kids who have offering to place it in the container.**

Our offering is going to 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.

**SLIDE: Theme**