

ALLEY Rundown January 24th- 25th, 2025

Bible Story: Jesus Chooses Levi • *Luke 5:27-32*

Conversion Starter: What does it look like to live for God?

Bottom Line: Practice living for God.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come.* • 1 Timothy 4:8 Nlrv

PRE-SERVICE VIDEOS: *Dude Perfect*

SLIDE: *Theme*

Welcome, everyone! Can you believe we are already on Week 4 of Game Plan?

If you haven't joined us, let me bring you up to speed! This month, we're training with a Game Plan to grow stronger every day in our friendship with God. This Game Plan has four parts—talk about God, pray to God, hear from God, and live for God!

We're closing out the theme today, and we have one more thing to unpack, and it's so good! We're going to learn about how we can **practice living for God**.

This month's Memory Verse is 1 Timothy 4:8 (Nlrv).

SLIDE: *Memory Verse*

Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come. —1 Timothy 4:8 (Nlrv)

This connects to our story today. Matthew said yes to Jesus and started living for God. Training in following Jesus looks like that kind of daily yes. It's choosing to follow Him every single day. It helps right now in your choices, and it shapes your future with God.

And speaking of choices, I need some help with choices today. I'll tell you what the choices are and then tell you how to vote for them!

Okay, here's your first choice.

Choice 1:

Would you rather have unlimited jump passes at the trampoline park for a whole month, or unlimited arcade tokens for a month?

If you'd like unlimited jump passes, jump up and down! If you'd like unlimited arcade passes, pretend like you're really dramatically steering a pretend arcade car!

Pause and let the kids choose. Comment on their responses.

Okay, here's your next choice!

Choice 2:

You can only choose one this semester because they meet at the same time—robotics club or basketball team? Which one do you go with?

If you'd like to be on the robotics club, dance like a robot at your seat! If you'd like to play on the basketball team, pretend to dribble a basketball!

Pause and let the kids choose. Comment on their responses.

Wow! Here's your next choice!

Choice 3:

For your birthday, would you choose a day at a huge water park with just a few close friends, or a big backyard party with everyone invited?

If you'd rather go to the water park with a few close friends, pretend to ride a water slide at your seat! If you'd rather have a big, backyard party, pretend to flip some burgers on the grill!

Pause and let the kids choose. Comment on their responses.

Awesome! Last choice!

Choice 4:

You've been saving money for months. Do you spend it now on something small you really want, or keep saving for something bigger even later?"

If you want something really small right now, move your hands close together. If you want to save for something big later, spread your hands wide!

Pause and let the kids choose. Comment on their responses.

Awesome job! Great choices, everyone!

Here's the thing, every time you said yes to one option, you said no to the other. You can't do both. Every 'yes' takes you in one direction, and every 'no' means letting go of something else.

Every day we make choices like that—what to wear, what to say, who to hang out with. Most choices seem small, but they all build toward something bigger.

And following Jesus is a lot like that too. It's not just believing in Him, it's choosing to live His way. Saying yes to Jesus means saying no to the things that pull us away from Him.

Today, we're going to meet someone who had to make a choice like that, a man named Levi, who you might also know as Matthew. When Jesus invited him to follow Him, Matthew had to decide: hold on to what he knew ... or walk away to live for something greater. Let's check I out.

VIDEO: *The So and So Show (13:38)*

Matthew said yes to Jesus. That yes changed his daily choices. Living for God is not about being perfect. It's just choosing to say, 'Jesus, I want to follow You and do what You do.'

Here's what you can do: When you wake up each day, pray one simple line: 'Jesus, I say yes to You today. Help me live for You.'

Let's take a look at the progress we made in God's Big Story this week!

SLIDE: God's Big Story

This week, we're up here in the part of this picture of God's Big Story—the picture that says, 'Jesus' Life.' In our story today, we saw when Jesus called Matthew to follow Him.

As we saw this week, we're all like Matthew. Jesus has said to all of us: 'I want you as My friend.' God wanted us close to Him, but we had the curse of sin in the way. But God didn't let that stop Him. Jesus loves us so much that He gave His life to pay for the sin that was keeping us from being close to God. The God of the universe has picked you to be His Friend—that's been His key motivation throughout His Big Story. God worked for years and years to send us Jesus. The Jesus who wants us to be His friend would give His life to rescue us all. Our friendship means so much to Him.

Two minutes from now, you will head to group and then right back into normal life, buses, hallways, chats, and chores. Before you move, what can you start doing this week to live for God? Is it telling the truth, choosing kindness online, inviting a friend to church, or stopping listening to certain music that pulls you the wrong way? Name your two choices in your head now and be ready to share.

That's thinking about our Conversation Starter for this week.

SLIDE: Conversation Starter

What does it look like to live for God?

Let's pray before you go.

Jesus, we love You so much. Thank You that You see us, that You love us. Thank You, Jesus, that You came to help the sick people. Thank You that You died for us on a cross and then rose again so that we could be freed from sin and be Your close friend forever. We want to follow You today. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

SLIDE: SuperStart!

Wait! There's one more thing I have to tell you about, it's called Super Start! It's coming up in March and you won't want to miss this yearly event. It's an overnight event just for you - where you'll get to play games, eat, make new friends, and hear an awesome message about how much Jesus loves you. Take a look at this video.

Video: SuperStart!

You'll receive a card with all the details on your way out today. Sign up today!

SLIDE: SuperStart!

CHECK THE TIME: There should be 20-25 minutes for small group. If LG is running late, skip the next part, and ask kids to put their offering in the container on their way to small group.

OFFERING

In Parkview Kids, we want to have fun but also be the hands and feet of Jesus by helping others who are in need. This year we are collecting our offering money to help kids all the way on the other side of the world in a country in Africa called Malawi. Did you know that in this area many communities don't have access to clean water?

Slides: 5-8

We are helping a ministry called E3 which helps put in freshwater wells. Having a well with clean water right in their village means women and children don't have to travel far away to other villages to get clean water, and they don't have to walk with heavy containers of water like you see in these pictures. Children help carry water too! They have to travel so far that they have to miss school sometimes. And if they used the dirty water that is in their village, they would get very sick.

Help us raise money to provide clean water wells in the communities in Malawi who need them. We want you to go home and ask what YOU can do to raise money for these families in Africa!