

ALLEY Rundown – April 11th- 12th, 2026

Bible Story: On the Road to Emmaus • *Luke 24:13-35*

Conversation Starter: How does knowing that Jesus is alive bring you joy?

Monthly Memory Verse: *Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!* • Philippians 4:4 NIV

PRE-SERVICE VIDEOS: *Dude Perfect*

SLIDE: *Theme*

What's up, everybody! Welcome to The Alley, the best place to be on the weekend! I'm so glad you're here because we're keeping the Block Party going! All month long, we're celebrating Jesus and the kind of joy that never runs out. Our theme for the month is: 'Block Party—Celebrating Jesus and Joy That Never Ends!'

You might've had candy joy ... but that only lasts until the candy's gone. You might've had weekend joy ... but that just disappears when homework shows up. But the joy we're talking about? It's bigger. It lasts. And it comes from Jesus.

Alright, Block Party people ... It's time to kick things off with a game that's all about discovering something hidden, piece by piece. Kind of like the story we're diving into today. And since it's the week after Easter, we still have candy on the brain!

So this game is called ... Zoom In- candy edition!

Now here's how the game works: We will show a picture of a candy, but just a small piece of it. Let's see if you can Name that candy as we zoom in and show more and more of it!

VIDEO: *Zoom in Candy Edition!*

Here's what I love about this game: at the beginning, you can't see the whole picture. You only see tiny pieces. And honestly, life feels like that a lot. Sometimes we only see the small story—things like what went wrong today, what stressed us out, or what didn't make sense.

But when more of the picture gets revealed, you start to understand what's really going on.

And that's exactly what today's true story from the Bible is all about: two people who were confused and sad after Jesus died. That's the only piece of the story they were seeing, and they didn't even understand it. But as they walked along the road ... they discovered God was working on a bigger story the whole time.

Before we move on, here's something super important we're going to remember all month long. It's our Memory Verse, and it's a reminder that joy isn't something we have to force or fake. Joy comes from knowing Jesus, trusting Him, and remembering that our story is part of something much bigger.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful! —Philippians 4:4 (NirV).

Alright, question for you. Have you ever had one of those days where something goes wrong, or something happened that's just really annoying, and the first thing you want to do is talk to your best friend about it? Maybe we message them, or call, or talk to them in person.

We've all had moments like this—moments that feel small but are still kind of frustrating or confusing. Moments when you're trying to figure out what's going on and you just want someone else to talk to about it.

But here's what's cool: the two people in today's Bible Story? They knew exactly what that felt like. They were wondering what was going to happen. They had hopes about Jesus—who He was and what He came to do. And they were wondering what was going to happen. These two friends had no clue what was about to happen. But someone unexpected was about to walk right into their conversation—someone who would connect all the pieces and show them a story so much bigger than they ever imagined.

And that's where our true story from the Bible begins. But before we get into our true story from the Bible today, let me tell you about something amazing we've been doing all year! We're reading the key stories of the Bible from cover to cover!

We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible together so we can learn about God! (*Gesture to slide.*)

SLIDE: God's Big Story

We're continuing on through our journey through the Bible. Today's story actually happened on the very same day Jesus rose from the dead—that very first Easter Sunday! Let's check it out.

VIDEO: The So and So Show

Here's the thing the Emmaus story shows us: Even when your world feels small and is filled with stuff you don't understand ... There is always something bigger happening underneath. The bigger story is this: Jesus gave His life so that you could be His friend forever. And then He rose from the dead! Jesus is alive! And He goes with you through everything.

But that's not the whole story. One day, Jesus is coming back, and He is going to make everything right again. God is going to end pain, sickness, and death—forever! And you will live with Him forever in a place where there is no more crying, or sadness, or pain!

So you can have joy, real joy, not because every day is perfect or because everything magically works out ... but because Jesus is alive, because Jesus is with you, because that big story is true, and because God is working toward it!

So as we wrap up today, here's what I want you to remember: You can have joy because there's a bigger story. Not just the small story you see in the moment ... but God's big story that's been true the

whole time. Even when your day feels confusing, frustrating, or not what you expected, Jesus is alive, and He is walking with you every step of the way.

Before we head to small groups, I want to leave you with one last question to think about. It's our Conversation Starter for today!

SLIDE: Conversation Starter

How does knowing that Jesus is alive bring you joy?

As you go to small group, talk about it. Be honest. Share what gets in the way of seeing the bigger story and talk about how you can look for Jesus in the middle of your week, even if it's messy. Because when you remember Jesus is alive, He's with you, and that He is working in the best story ever, joy starts showing up in places you didn't expect.

Let's pray together.

Jesus, we praise You! You are alive! Thank You for going with us through every step of our lives, even when we don't always see it. When our days feel small or confusing, remind us that there's a bigger story, Your story, and that You're right there with us in the middle of ours. Help us look for You this week. Help us trust You. And help us find joy knowing that You're with us in every step we take, and You are working toward the best story ever. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

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!

SLIDE: Theme Background