

ALLEY Rundown – May 23rd- 24th, 2026

Bible Story: Paul Shipwrecked • Acts 27–28:10

Conversation Starter: How do you keep trusting God when bad things happen?

Monthly Memory Verse: *Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up.* • Galatians 6:9 NIV

PRE-SERVICE VIDEOS: *Dude Perfect*

SLIDE: *Theme*

Hey, everybody! What's up? I'm really glad you're here today because today is one of those days that hits a little closer to real life.

Quick question! Raise your hand if last week was amazing, and everything went right. Okay, okay.

Now keep your hand up if literally nothing annoying, stressful, disappointing, or frustrating happened at all.

Yeah. That's what I thought ... it's almost impossible for everything to go perfectly all the time, isn't it?

Most of the time, things don't go the way we plan. Stuff piles up. People let us down. And sometimes it feels like the harder we try, the harder things get.

That's why this month, we've been on a 'TREK.' The full name of our series is 'TREK: Don't Stop, Don't Give Up—God's with You!' We've been talking about what it looks like to keep moving forward, even when the journey is rough. Not pretending things are easy. Not acting like bad stuff doesn't happen. But choosing not to quit when things get hard.

Now let's take a look at our monthly Memory Verse! Sometimes we need a reminder not to give up, even when everything in our life is going really well. Tough times can come, even when we're following the Lord, so let this Memory Verse be a reminder—don't give up, and keep going! Let's memorize it together!

SLIDE: *Memory Verse*

Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up. — Galatians 6:9 NIV

Before we jump into today's true story from the Bible, let me ask you something.

Have you ever been really confident about something? Like, 'Yeah, I've got this,' and then partway through, you realized it was way harder than you expected?

Today's story is about a follower of Jesus who started a journey and couldn't control what would happen next. And along the way, things went wrong over and over again.

The real question in the story isn't whether bad things happened or not. It's whether he would give up or keep trusting God anyway.

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! And, actually, our journey will be over next week!

We've been going through the Bible cover to cover, reading the key stories!

Why are we going through the Bible? Is it because we really want to learn more about the Bible? Well, not exactly. Part of the reason God gave us the Bible is so we can learn about Him. He could have kept who He is a secret from us, a big mystery of the universe. But He didn't! He wants us to know Him, so He gave us the Bible. So as we go through the Bible this year, we hope that we'll learn about Him!

We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible so we can learn about God!

SLIDE: God's Big Story

We're continuing our journey through the Bible! We're at the part of the Bible where Jesus had gone back to heaven, but He sent His Holy Spirit to live inside of His followers. One of Jesus' most dedicated followers was a man named Saul. You might know him as another name he went by, Paul. Let's check it out.

VIDEO: The So and So Show (12:00)

So as we wrap up today, here's what I want you to remember. Trusting God doesn't mean bad things won't happen. It doesn't mean the storm won't come or the journey will be easy. Sometimes you do everything right, and things still fall apart. Sometimes you're faithful, and the weight still gets heavier. But Paul's story reminds us that God is still at work, even when things go wrong, even when the path doesn't look the way you expected.

Paul didn't understand why the storm had to happen. He didn't choose the shipwreck. He definitely didn't choose getting bitten by a snake. But through all of it, God never left him. And because Paul kept trusting God, God used him in powerful ways, not just after the storm, but in the middle of it.

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 do you keep trusting God when bad things happen?

Today, we talked about someone who faced storm after storm, literally. Paul didn't have all the answers. He didn't know how the journey would end. But he trusted that God was still with him, even when everything around him felt out of control.

A lot of the time, our lives feel like that too. We only see the storm we're in right now. We feel the weight we're carrying. We don't always see what God is doing behind the scenes. But this story

reminds us that God sees the whole picture. He knows where the journey is headed, even when we don't.

So as you head to small groups, think honestly about what you're carrying right now. The hard stuff. The unfair stuff. The things that make trusting God feel difficult. Talk about what it looks like to keep trusting God anyway, not because everything makes sense yet, but because God is still with you in the middle of it all.

Let's pray together.

God, You see the storms we walk into and the hard things we don't choose. When bad things happen, we aren't going to give up. But we are going to look to You. Help us remember that You're still with us, even when things don't make sense yet. Give us the strength to keep trusting You and taking the next step. Holy Spirit, help us know that You are with us through it all. We love You, and we trust You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

OFFERING

Do you remember what we are raising money for this year? Yep, Clean water wells in Malawi, which is a country in Africa. 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 then they don't have to walk back with heavy containers. Let's watch a video that will show women filling their bins with clean water from a brand new well that was just installed in their village!

Missions video 1

Amazing right? Can't wait to see how these wells impact the villages in Malawi!

SUMMER JAM

And that's not all! Summer Jam is coming up very soon and we're so excited to invite you to these 3 nights jam-packed with FUN and Adventure! You won't want to miss it. Tell whoever brought you that you need to visit the Summer Jam booth after our time together today to sign up and get your t shirt! Also grab some invite cards and invite your friends! Check this out!

VIDEO: Summer Jam

SLIDE: Summer Jam