

ALLEY Rundown – June 20th- 21st, 2026

Bible Story: The Story of the Lost Son • *Luke 15:11-32*

Conversation Starter: What is the requirement to be in God's kingdom?

Monthly Memory Verse: *"May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven."* • Matthew 6:10 NIV

PRE-SERVICE VIDEOS: DUDE PERFECT

SLIDE: Theme

Welcome back to Kingdom Quest, everyone! I'm so glad you're here! We've been learning about God's kingdom all month long, and the full title of our series this month is Kingdom Quest—Seeking the Greatest Treasure.

So, what is God's kingdom? Well, God is good, kind, just, trustworthy, and patient—among other things! And His kingdom is anywhere where He reigns. The kingdom is where the ways of the King are the way things run! God wants to spread His good kingdom everywhere! And that's what we're going to learn about today in today's Bible Story.

But before we get started learning more about God's kingdom, I need to see how awake you are. Let's warm up with a quick crowd check. If you're feeling at least 50% awake, let me hear you make some noise!

(Pause while kids respond.)

Okay, okay ... that's decent. But if you're feeling 80% awake, let me hear a louder shout!

(Pause while kids respond.)

Nice! Alright, if you're 100% awake and ready for some fun, I want you to give me your best shout on the count of three. Ready? One ... two ... three!

(Pause while kids respond.)

Beautiful. Now let's get moving for a second. Everybody, stand up for a micro warm-up.

Here's what I want: On the count of three, everyone take TWO giant sliding steps to the right, like you're ice skating. Ready? One ... two ... three ... SLIDE!

(Pause while kids slide to the right.)

Nice! Now back to the left. One ... two ... three ... SLIDE!

(Pause while kids slide to the left.)

That was impressive! You can take a seat.

I want to take a minute to look at our Memory Verse for this month. When Jesus gave this prayer to His followers, He wasn't just teaching people what to say—He was teaching them what God's heart is like. He wanted them to understand that God's kingdom isn't distant or exclusive. It's something God wants to bring into our world, our lives, and the places where we feel lost or unsure. We can actually pray, 'May your kingdom come.'

SLIDE: Memory Verse

May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven'
(Matthew 6:10 NIV).

I love this verse because it reminds us that following Jesus is more than just believing something; it's inviting God to shape our hearts, our choices, and our world. When we pray this, we're saying, 'God, I want Your goodness here. I want Your ways to guide my life. I want what matters to You to matter to me.'

God is good, kind, just, trustworthy, and patient—among other things! And His kingdom is anywhere where He reigns. The kingdom is where the ways of the King are the way things run! And we want Him to spread that good kingdom everywhere.

As we get started talking about God's kingdom, I've got a question for you: Has anyone here ever made a choice that felt like the best idea ever ... until about three seconds later when you realized, 'Oh ... I have made a terrible mistake'?

Yeah, same. Maybe you decided to jump off the swing mid-air ... and you didn't stick the landing so well. Or you told your sibling, 'Go ahead, you can borrow my stuff,' and immediately regretted everything. Or you ate something spicy and tried to pretend you were totally fine.

Well, today's Bible Story starts with Jesus telling a story about a guy who made a HUGE decision. Like a, 'Who told you this was a good idea?'-level decision. Every person listening to Jesus tell this story was probably like: 'Buddy ... no. Stop. Turn back. Abort the mission!'

But did he turn back? Nope! He went ALL-IN on the bad idea. He committed. He doubled down. He took it to Level 100.

And what happened next? Well ... let's just say it got interesting.

VIDEO: The So and So Show (11:25)

Today's Bible Story shows us something huge about God. Whether someone runs away like the younger son or stands on the outside like the older son, our heavenly Father moves toward both of them. He doesn't wait for them to fix everything or earn their way back. He goes out to meet them because His heart is for people to come home. That's who God is—a Father who welcomes, restores, and celebrates.

Before we head to Small Groups, I want to leave you with one last question to think about.

SLIDE: Conversation Starter

“What is the requirement to be in God’s kingdom?”

In the story Jesus told, there were two sons who couldn’t have been more different. One ran away and made a huge mess. The other stayed close but still didn’t understand his father’s heart. And yet the father went out to *both* of them. He didn’t wait for perfect behavior. He didn’t wait for the right words. He didn’t wait for them to earn anything. He simply invited them home.

A lot of us grow up thinking we have to check certain boxes or achieve certain things before God will want us. But Jesus’ story pushes us to rethink that. It raises a real, honest question: What actually makes someone part of God’s kingdom? Is it being good enough? Is it getting everything right? Is it never messing up? Or ... is it something else entirely?

The reality is, God comes to us. Will we receive His grace and love? Because if we do, He will change us from the inside out.

As you go to Small Groups, talk about it. Share what you really think. Listen to each other. Ask questions. This is the kind of conversation where God can show you something new.

Let’s pray together, friends.

God, thank You for showing us what Your heart is really like. Thank You for being the kind of Savior who runs toward us when we’re far away and invites us close when we feel like we don’t belong. Thank You for making a way for us to be part of God’s kingdom, not because we earned it, but because You love us. Help us trust that there is always a place for us at Your table. Help us see others the way You do. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.

OFFERING

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