

ALLEY Rundown – August 1st- 2nd, 2026

Bible Story: Image of God • *Genesis 1:26-30, Colossians 1:15*

Conversation Starter: What does it mean to be made in the image of God?

Monthly Memory Verse: *How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.* • Psalm 139:14 NIV

PRE-SERVICE VIDEOS: *Dude Perfect*

SLIDE: *Theme*

Hey, everyone! Welcome to The Alley! How's everyone doing today?

This month, we're starting a brand-new series called 'Masterpiece.' The full name of our series is 'Masterpiece—Made by God,' and it's all about what God says is true about you and others—that you were made with purpose, value, and meaning. You aren't an accident. You aren't random. You were created by God, the greatest Artist ever!

Our Memory Verse this month comes from Psalm 139:14. When David wrote this, he wasn't bragging about himself—he was recognizing the truth about God. He realized that the same God who created everything also created him, on purpose and with care. And the same is true for you. Every part of who you are—your personality, your talents, the way you think and feel—is part of God's amazing design. So as we learn today about being made in God's image, let this verse remind you: You're not an accident. You're God's intentional creation.

SLIDE: *Memory Verse*

How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well (Psalm 139:14 NIV).

SLIDE: *Theme*

Have you ever seen a sunset or a mountain or the ocean and thought: 'Wow. That shows something about who God is. He's amazing! He's so creative!'

Creation has a way of pointing us back to God. It shows how amazing and wonderful He is. It shows pieces of His greatness.

But what is easy to forget is this. Out of everything God made—stars and galaxies and oceans and animals—there is only one part of creation He designed in His image.

And that is people. That is you! Today, we're going back to the beginning to understand what that really means. When God created human beings, He was not just adding another part to creation. He was creating living reflections of Himself.

And when we see that clearly, it changes how we see God, how we see others, and how we see the world around us. Let's check it out.

Video: *The So and So Show* 12:19

Today we learned something incredibly important. When God created people, He made them in His image. That means every person was designed to reflect what God is like. We do not always reflect Him perfectly, but through Jesus and the Holy Spirit, the reflection becomes clearer as we follow Him.

So here's the question I want you to think about, not just right now, but all week.

SLIDE: *Conversation Starter*

What does it mean to be made in the image of God?

This is the question I want you to carry into Small Group: What does it really mean to be made in the image of God? Not just as an idea, but in your actual life. Since God created you to reflect Him, what should that look like in the way you speak, think, and treat the people around you?

Maybe it means choosing compassion when it would be easier to ignore someone. Maybe it means telling the truth even when it costs you something. Maybe it means showing patience or forgiveness or courage because that is what God is like.

And here's something important: Reflecting God doesn't mean being perfect. It means being willing. It means letting God shape your heart so the world can see Him through you. It means asking, 'How can I show what God is like in this moment, with this person, in this situation?'

So in your Small Groups today, talk about that. What does it mean that you carry the image of God? What is one step you can take this week to live that out? Let's pray together.

God, thank You for creating us in Your image. Thank You for giving every person here a purpose and a place in Your story. Help us see ourselves the way You see us. Help us reflect who You are in the way we think, speak, and act. When we make the reflection cloudy, remind us that You never give up on us. Help us show compassion, truth, courage, forgiveness, and love so the world can see You more clearly through our lives. We love You, and we want to reflect You this week. We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

CHECK THE TIME: There should be 25 minutes for small group. If LG is running late, skip the next part and just have kids bring up their money.

OFFERING

For our offering this year, We are helping a ministry called E3 which helps put in freshwater wells in Malawi. 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.

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.

Check out this video someone from our Parkview team took of kids experiencing a brand new well in their village!

Missions Video 2

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!