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An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, April 21, 2019

Easter Sunday

Lectionary Year C

Scripture: [Luke 24:1-12](#) [**Summary:** *Jesus Is Among The Living*]

Supplies Needed: No supplies are needed.

ASK (a.k.a. *The On-Ramp*)

- Good morning!
- Have you ever put something where it didn't belong? [*Look for yes/no answers, here, not stories*]
- For instance, have you ever come home and were so excited to be home that you left your bag, shoes, and coat all in a lump right by the door ... [*pause*] ... Yes? No? Maybe?
- And then, a little bit later, when a friend invites you over to their place and you go running to get your stuff where you left it...and...wait a minute! It's not there – your stuff is no longer all in a lump right by the door!
- What do you think? Any guesses where your stuff went?
- That's right! A parent put your stuff away – most likely where it belongs.
- Just because you left something somewhere doesn't mean that's where it is meant to go, right?

TELL (a.k.a. *The Freeway*)

- I mention someone putting stuff where it belongs because the same thing happens in today's scripture reading.
- In the story, we hear that the disciples knew where Jesus' body had been buried.
- And so, on Sunday morning, they went to where they had left his body so that they could better prepare it for his final burial.
- Except when they arrived at the place where they had last left Jesus' body, it wasn't there...

- The disciples were pretty confused and upset by Jesus' missing body.
- But it turns out that being buried wasn't where Jesus belonged.
- Which is why God had put Jesus back where he actually belonged: Among the living.
- This is also why the angels tell the disciples, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? Jesus is not here, but has risen."

SHARE the Good News (a.k.a. *The Destination*)

- What resurrection is, and what it means, is not easily or quickly understood.
- But one thing that *is* pretty easy to understand about resurrection is that in order to see Resurrected Jesus, we have to look in the right places.
- And what today's story reminds us is that the place to look for Resurrected Jesus is among the living.
- Like...*here!* Right *here!* Among *us!*
- One of the reasons we gather for worship on Sundays – not just this Sunday, but all Sundays – is to remind each other that Jesus is among us, among the living.
- As we learn together about who Jesus was, how he paid attention to God, and what he taught us about paying attention to God, a really cool thing starts to happen.
- We start to better see how the things that Jesus knew and taught are growing and alive in us and our lives.
- And that is the Good News for today: Jesus lives! Among the living! With us!
- Let's pray. This is a repeat-after-me prayer.

CLOSING Prayer

Dear God,

Dear God,

Thank you for the gift of Jesus.

Thank you for the gift of Jesus.

Help us to know what he knew...

Help us to know what he knew...

...so that who he is...

...so that who he is...

...can live on in us.

...can live on in us.

Thank you and Amen