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Written by Nathanael Vissia

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An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, January 18, 2015

2nd Sunday in Epiphany

Lectionary Year B

Scripture: [John 1:43-51](#) [**Summary:** *Jesus promises to shine God's light.*]

Supplies Needed: No supplies needed

ASK / Demonstration (a.k.a [The On-Ramp](#))

- Good morning!
- I would like to talk with you about windows. Why do you think we have windows? [*To see into something; to see out of something*]
- Well...why is that useful? [*Because it allows us to see where otherwise there would just be a wall*]
- Oh! So like the windows here in the sanctuary help us see outside and because we can see outside, the sunlight can get inside!
- Well, then, windows are pretty good and useful things , aren't they!?

TELL (a.k.a [The Freeway](#))

- In today's scripture story, Philip is telling his friend Nathanael about Jesus.
- Nathanael isn't sure that he's as excited about Jesus as Philip is, but Nathanael *does* agree to go and meet Jesus
- When Jesus and Nathanael meet, Jesus says some things that lets Nathanael know that Jesus really understands him.
- It is almost like Jesus can see into Nathanael's brain and read the thoughts he is thinking.
- Nathanael thinks that is pretty cool.
- But then Jesus tells him, "If you think that's cool, just wait until I help you see *heaven* open up!"
- Nathanael agrees that would be even better and chooses to follow Jesus.

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

- What Jesus meant by “seeing heaven open up” is that if Nathanael or Philip or anyone else chooses to follow Jesus and learn what Jesus is teaching them, then they will be better able to see God.
- It's almost as though by following Jesus, Jesus becomes a window that helps the disciples to see God where, on their own, they wouldn't be able to see God very well or at all.
- Then, as they learn what Jesus is teaching them, the disciples learn how to also become windows that let God's light shine through them which, in turn, helps even more people be able to see God.
- And guess what!? It's not just the first disciples that could learn this.
- We, too, can choose to follow Jesus and learn what he taught the disciples about God.
- And as we do this, we will also learn how to be a window that shines God's light into the world and helps other people see God better.
- And that's the good news for today.
- Let's pray.
- This is a repeat-after-me prayer.

CLOSING Prayer

Dear God,

Dear God,

Thank you for Jesus...

Thank you for Jesus...

...who lets your light...

...who lets your light...

...shine through him him...

...shine through him him...

...which helps us see You better.

...which helps us see You better.

Please help us...

Please help us...

...to do the same.

...to do the same.

Amen