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An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, June 5, 2016

Third Sunday after Pentecost – Lectionary Year C

Scripture: [Luke 7:11-17](#) [**Summary:** *Jesus lived for us.*]

Supplies Needed: *No supplies needed*

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

- Good morning.
- I have a question for you: Have you ever heard the phrase, “Jesus died for me” or “Jesus died for our sins”?
- You *have* heard that before? I’ve heard it too.
- And you know what?
- Dying is not the only thing Jesus did for us!
- So whenever you think of or hear those phrases about Jesus dying, I want you to remember another phrase to go with it.
- I want you to remember this: *Jesus lived for us.*
- Can you say that with me?
- *Jesus lived for us.*
- One more time! *Jesus lived for us.*

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

- In today’s story, Jesus is traveling when he meets a mother whose son has died.
- Not only is it a sad thing that a mother has lost her son, but, because no dad is mentioned, this means the son was taking care of his mother and was helping her to live.
- So now that her son has died, life is going to be very very difficult for the mother.

- Keeping that in mind, it seems strange that the first thing Jesus would tell the mother is, “Don’t cry.”
- But then Jesus says something even more surprising: He tells the dead son to rise.
- And then the son DOES rise up!
- Jesus brings the son back to life and then gives the son back to his mother which also gives the mother life again too!

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

- That’s a lot of life Jesus is giving in this story, don’t you think!?
- Because of the life Jesus chose to live, because Jesus paid attention to God, listened to God in prayer, and was obedient to God, then Jesus was able to do this a lot, to share and give God’s *better life* with the people around him.
- If Jesus hadn’t chosen to live this way, then the woman in today’s story and her son wouldn’t have experienced the new life that they received.
- Jesus also lived so that we, too, could know and live God’s better life
- Jesus lived so that we, too, could learn how to share God’s better way with others.
- Jesus lived so that we could live.
- So, whenever you hear those phrases about Jesus dying, I want you to remember the rest of the story about Jesus.
- I want you to remember that Jesus also LIVED so that we could live.
- And that’s the good news for today!
- Let’s close with a repeat-after-me prayer...

CLOSING Prayer

Dear God,
Dear God,

Thank you for Jesus ...
Thank you for Jesus ...

...who lived your better life...
...who lived your better life...

...and shared your better life with us.
...and shared your better life with us.

Help us to follow Jesus...
Help us to follow Jesus...

...so that we, too...
...so that we, too...

...can live and share your better life.
...can live and share your better life.

Thank you and Amen