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An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, May 17, 2015 Seventh Sunday of Easter Lectionary Year B

Scripture: John 17:6-19

[Summary: The sequence of God, Jesus, and disciples]

Supplies Needed: No supplies needed

ASK (a.k.a <u>The On-Ramp</u>)

- · Good morning!
- To get started, I'm going to say 2 things and then I want you to tell me what you think the 3rd thing will be. Ready?
- 10, 20, ___ (30!)
- Yes, "30" very good. Here's another one:
- A, B, ___ (C!)
- Yes "c" very good. You're good at this. One more:
- Friday, Saturday, ____ (Sunday!)
- Yes, "Sunday" well done again!

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

- The fancy word we use to describe three or more things that are in a row is called a sequence.
- You were able to know what was next in the sequence because you knew the sequence, you were familiar with it.
- In the scripture story for today, Jesus is praying for his disciples. And in that prayer, we hear a sequence.
- Here's what that sequence is: God gives Jesus words to share. Jesus gives those words to the disciples to share. The disciples are then to give those words to other people to share.

• So after Jesus talks about this sequence in his prayer, he then prays for his disciples, that God would be with them as they share what they've received.

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

- And guess what? The disciples did pretty well with sharing the words that Jesus had shared with them.
- They told stories about Jesus and they shared what Jesus said so well that 2000 years later we still know a lot of these words that Jesus shared with the disciples.
- Basically, what happened is that the disciples told their disciples, who told their disciples, who told their disciples and so on and so on until your parents heard these words and wanted you to hear these words too.
- And it takes some time to learn these ideas and words, but the good news is that we have all these people here to help us think about and talk about and know these stories and words of Jesus.
- What these means, of course, is that we YOU are part of this sequence that Jesus is praying about in today's scripture story.
- So let's end where we started, with you telling me what comes next: God, Jesus, disciples, ____ (me / us!)
- That's right, you and me and all of us are part of the sequence of sharing the good news.
- So let's keep learning about Jesus so that then we can share what he teaches with others.
- 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 receives your words...
- ...who receives your words...
- ...and shared it with the disciples...
- ...and shared it with the disciples...
- ...who shared it with other disciples...
- ...who shared it with other disciples...
- ...until we received it.
- ...until we received it.

Help us to share it, too.

Help us to share it, too.

Amen