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An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, November 15, 2015

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary Year B

Scripture: [Mark 13:1-8](#) [**Summary:** *Jesus helps the disciples remember what to admire*]

Supplies Needed: Some building blocks already constructed into a tower of some sort (Lego bricks or Megablocks will work best). You will also want a bag to hide the building (at first). Finally, you might consider talking to one or two of the more outspoken children before worship and encourage them to disagree with you once you claim playing with the building blocks was fun for everyone.

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

- Good morning!
- So, I brought some building blocks and thought maybe we could play with them today.
- [*pull out already made building, then show it off. Point out how great it is, what nice colors it has, and its architectural superiority to other buildings*]
- So that's my building! Isn't it fantastically great?!? [*put the building back in bag*]
- So – what do you think? Didn't you just have the best time playing with those building blocks? That was just great fun, wasn't it? [*this is where you want the students to tell you that you're wrong*]
- What do you mean you didn't have fun? I thought that was the best building ever! (Hopefully they say something like: *But we didn't get to play with any of the blocks!*)
- You mean playing with the blocks would have been more fun than admiring what the building looked like – no matter how great it was? (yes!)
- In other words, I should've cared more about what you wanted to do rather than caring so much about my building? (Yes!)
- Ah – well ... good point! Also, thank you for your help, patience, and insight. We'll play with the building bricks after worship, I promise!

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

- In today's scripture story, there was a disciple who was really excited about how great the building was that he and Jesus were in – just like I was excited about my building
- Jesus, though, tells his disciple to not get too excited because at some point, that building was going to get taken apart.
- The disciple isn't too happy to hear this because he really liked that building – again, just like I really liked my building.

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

- What Jesus wants his disciple to understand is that the disciple doesn't need to pay attention to the building OR the taking apart of the building.
- Instead, it would be best for the disciple to pay attention to God
- Because, if the disciple pays attention to God instead of a building, then the disciple will know how to build the kind of world that God wants for us
- A kind of world that admires healing and caring for others
- A kind of world that admires people more than buildings – which is actually the same thing you were helping me learn just a few minutes earlier.
- And, when we hear about that kind of world and know that we want to help God build that kind of world, then today's story is a reminder to us, too.
- A reminder that when we keep paying attention to God, then we will know from God how we can best help with building God's kind of world.
- 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 reminds us...

...who reminds us...

...to pay attention to you...

...to pay attention to you...

...so that we can help build...

...so that we can help build...

...your kind of world.

...your kind of world.

Thank you and amen