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An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, November 29, 2015

1st Sunday in Advent - Lectionary Year C

**Scripture:** [Luke 21:25-36](#)

[ **Summary:** *Scary things remind us to seek God's help and direction* ]

**Supplies Needed:** No supplies needed; however, feel free to substitute a topic for "golf" that you might be more comfortable saying you can give advice about

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

- Good morning!
- To get started today, I have a question to ask you.
- Let's say someone wants to help you out with something, but it's not something that you are interested in.
- Like your golf swing. I can help you with your golf swing.
- But, and this important, do you even play golf?
- No? So how likely are you to *really* listen to my advice about your golf swing, then?
- Not very much, right?
- However, someday you just might go out and play golf.
- And when you do, you might also find out how hard it is to hit that little itty bitty ball far AND straight!
- THEN you might want my advice, right?
- And that's how it goes with lots of things in life
- For some of us, we really can't hear how to do something better until we try it out and see how much we don't know about it

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

- So in today's scripture story, Jesus is telling his disciples that the same thing is true for why some people might choose to pay attention to God

- They might think they are ok without paying attention to God...until they experience pain, injustice, violence, and lots of other scary and unpleasant results that happen when we try living life on our own.
- Then, Jesus says, when these scary things happen, especially in a big way, like wars and disasters, that's when people are ready to say, "You know what? The way we do this doesn't work. We need to do it a different way."
- It is during these scary times, then, that Jesus is saying the world is (more) ready to hear about God's better way -- just like you are more ready to hear about improving your golf swing once you've been on the golf course.

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

- Today is the first Sunday in Advent
- It is the time of the year leading up to Christmas in which we prepare to receive Jesus – who shows us and teaches us God's better way
- Then, as we learn God's better way from Jesus, we can join Jesus in showing, offering, and teaching God's better way to a world that is more and more ready to listen.
- And that is 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 shows us how to live...**

...who shows us how to live...

**...your better way...**

...your better way...

**...and then share it...**

...and then share it...

**...with this hurting world.**

...with this hurting world.

**Amen**